



Distance Education Policy

Scope of This Policy

The USDE gives accrediting agencies the authority to accredit programs offered solely by distance education.

Policy

The COCA accredits osteopathic medical schools and encourages all its accredited schools to be innovative and to use multiple methods of instruction to deliver their curriculum. The COCA, however, does not accredit stand-alone online medical school programs. The COCA believes that the science and art of osteopathic medicine must be gained by direct, in-person interaction with instructors and clinical education supervisors. For this reason, the COCA will not accredit programs offered solely by distance education as defined at 34 CFR §602.3.