

In accordance with Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) [Policy No. 2:05:00:00](#) and [Guideline A-070](#), Pellissippi State Community College recognizes the opportunities for delivering quality education through the use of modern telecommunication and computer technology and encourages departments to take advantage of such opportunities in carrying out their program goals. In the implementation of such instructional delivery there must be adequate controls to assure quality in instruction and management.

I. Definition

Distance education occurs when there is physical separation of the teacher and learner and when communication and instruction take place through, or are supported by, any technological means such as telephone, radio, television, computers, satellite delivery, interactive video, or any combination of present and future telecommunication technologies.

Distance learning does not include traditional classroom or laboratory courses which may use or require computers, audio visual or other materials as part of or in support of education.

II. Standards of Quality

Courses offered through distance learning must meet the same quality standards maintained in regular credit and non-credit instruction. Specifically, courses taught in this mode must meet quality standards set forth in college policies relative to course review and approval, faculty evaluation, student performance, teacher-student interaction, and support services.

III. Records

No distinction shall be made between student credit hours generated through distance learning and those generated through on-campus instruction.

IV. Teaching Load Equivalent

Distance learning courses count as part of a faculty member's regular teaching load. The amount of load is determined by the Vice President of Learning and the Academic Department Dean and must be approved by the President. The Vice President of Learning in consultation with each department will determine appropriate class size for distance learning courses.

V. Contracts

The College contracts with each faculty member developing distance education courses in accordance with TBR [Guideline A-075](#) and its appendices at www.tbr.edu/policies.

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