

Policy Title: Distance Education

Impact: Instruction

Responsibility: Office of Instruction

Effective Date: 1/22/2025

Revised Date:

Reviewed Date:

Relates to Procedure: 3.08.10

Legal Citation(s): US Department of Education - 34 CFR. §600.2, 34 §CFR 602.17(g)

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) Distance Education Policy, Standard 2.G.7

I. Policy Statement

North Idaho College (NIC) is committed to student success by providing educational opportunities that meet the needs of all students. In alignment with the mission of the college, online learning utilizes educational technology in order to increase access and provide flexible scheduling opportunities for students to pursue lifelong learning.

Every student enrolled in an online learning course will have access to all the academic support services available to students enrolled in face-to-face courses. Online and hybrid courses will reflect the same learning outcomes and rigor as equivalent face-to-face courses.

II. Overview and Purpose

The North Idaho College Distance Education Policy and Procedure establishes guidelines for the purpose of ensuring the consistency and quality of online learning to achieve student success and promote educational excellence.

North Idaho College online courses are required to fall under the U.S. Department of Education's definition of distance education and are subject to all federal requirements for distance education.

III. Scope

This policy and procedure apply to all courses identified as Online Learning.

IV. Definitions

“Educational Technology” – Technology used for instruction (e.g. website, learning management system, textbook integration, mobile application, lecture capture, web conferencing, streaming media).

“Hybrid” – A course that combines face-to-face and online instruction. A substantial portion of the course learning activities (typically 30-70%) are delivered online.

“Online” – Courses taught online with no set meeting time.

“Online Learning” – Courses identified as “Hybrid” or “Online” in the North Idaho College catalog.