I. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND SPONSORSHIP

Institutional Accreditation

1.01 Except as provided in the following sentence, an educational sponsor must be a post-secondary academic institution accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) and must award graduates of the program a baccalaureate or graduate degree upon completion of the program. For associate degree programs that applied for accreditation or were accredited prior to January 1, 2018, an educational sponsor must be a post-secondary academic institution accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency that is recognized by the USDE. These programs may continue to award graduates of the program an associate degree as long as they remain accredited by the CoARC.

Evidence of Compliance:
- Documentation of current accreditation status;
- Documentation of authorization by a state agency to provide a post-secondary education program (if applicable).

*Interpretive Guideline:*
A copy of the most current institutional accreditation certificate or letter denoting accreditation status must be submitted with the self-study or Letter of Intent Application. There are additional questions relating to institutional accreditation status and authority under applicable state laws to provide postsecondary education in the Application for Accreditation Services. The sponsor is responsible for notifying the CoARC of any adverse change in its institutional accreditation status as per CoARC Policy 1.07.

Consortium

1.02 When more than one institution (e.g., consortium) is sponsoring a program, at least one of the members of the consortium must meet the requirements in Standard 1.01. The consortium must be capable of providing all resources necessary for the program. The responsibilities of each member must be clearly documented in a formal affiliation agreement or memorandum of understanding, which delineates responsibility for all aspects of the program including instruction, supervision of students, resources, reporting, governance and lines of authority.

Evidence of Compliance:
- Duly executed consortium agreement, contract or memorandum of understanding;
- One or more organizational charts indicating the program’s relationship to the components of the consortium, clearly depicting how the program reports to or is supervised by the various components of the consortium.