

University of Nebraska at Omaha
Distance Education
Fee Distribution Policy
Revised February, 2008

Distance Education Definition:

Distance education (DE) is a formal educational process in which the majority of the instruction occurs when student and instructor are not in the same place as the same time. Instruction may be synchronous or asynchronous. Distance education may employ correspondence study, or audio, video, or computer technologies. (North Central Accreditation)

Distance Education Program Definitions:

- **Distance Learning Program** - A program in which students are geographically separate from the teacher and other students for all required program activities. The program includes synchronous and/or asynchronous instruction.
- **Low Residency Distance Learning Program** - A program in which students are geographically separate from the teacher and other students for a majority of required program activities. However, some on-site attendance is required. The program includes synchronous and/or asynchronous instruction.

UNO Approved Distance Education Programs:

Each college will be asked annually to submit their list of approved programs to the Manager of Distance Education. The list will be reviewed by the DE Advisory Council, the Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Assessment and approved by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. A program is considered any grouping of credit courses that support completion of a major, minor, endorsement, and certificate, area of concentration or degree via distance education.

Distance Education Course:

Those courses scheduled with an 820+, 850+, or a 900+ section number. The break down of deliver method is:

820 - 829	Synchronous (audio/video)
850 – 859	Asynchronous (computer mediated)
901 –919	*On-Campus Receiving Distance Site (requires use of transmission equipment in a DE room)

Nonresident Distance Education Differential Tuition

Description:

- Non-resident DE differential tuition is set annually by the college offering the program/course. In accordance with the Board of Regents resolution, the rate is based on what the market will bear. It is recommended that the rate be determined after reviewing tuition and fees of major competitors.
- The purpose of the Non-Resident Distance Education differential tuition is to provide resources that will be used to support delivery of Distance Education programs.
- Non-resident distance education differential tuition is assessed to all non-resident students taking distance education courses each semester, including those in the Metropolitan Advantage program.

Distribution Plan:

Non-resident differential tuition

In accordance with a Board of Regents resolution, all income from differential tuition is returned to the college producing the credit hours and must be used to directly support that college's priority distance education programming. Non-resident distance education differential tuition may be used to support faculty salaries.

Distance Education Course Fee (\$25/credit hour)

Description:

- The fee is charged at \$25/credit hour for each Distance Education course.
- Distance Education Fee income must be used to provide direct services and support to distance education programs.
- All students enrolled in a distance education course are assessed this fee

- The Distance Education Fee is assessed to students each semester.
- All students are assessed this fee regardless of their class standing or residency status.
- It is a non-refundable fee.

Distribution Plan:

The goal of this plan is to channel funds directly to colleges' approved priority programs, while still leaving money available for program development or restructuring.

Twenty of the twenty-five dollar per credit hour fee generated from approved DE priority programs will be returned to the college* generating the a course aligned with a priority program.

Ten dollars of the twenty-five dollar per credit hour fee generated from courses that are **NOT** part of an approved priority program will be returned to the college generating the course. The remaining funds will be used by ITS/DE to support mini-grants for DE courses/programs and other DE infrastructure such as development of online course evaluation and testing.

*In circumstances where the faculty salary is paid by Continuing Studies, the income generated from the DE Course fee is returned to CPACS using the plan from above.