

ONLINE LEARNING QUALITY REVIEW STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

September 18, 2009

9:00 to 9:30

Puget Sound ESD

Multidistrict Online Provider Approval Criteria



- Legislative guidelines
- Sources
- Criteria categories
- Approval process
- Timeline

Legislation

- Accredited by NAAS or another national, regional or state accreditation program listed by OSPI after consultation with WaCOL
- Alignment with state academic standards
- Require that all teachers be certificated in accordance with WA state law
- High school courses must be eligible for high school credit
 - Awarding of credit remains the responsibility of the school districts
- Other approval criteria
- Website information
 - Overall instructional program
 - Content of individual online courses and school programs
 - Registration process
 - Teacher qualifications
 - Student-to-teacher ratios
 - Course completion rates and definitions
 - Other evaluative and comparative information

Sources for Criteria

- iNACOL's National Standards of Quality for Online Courses and Online Teaching
- Keeping Pace with Online Learning 2008
 - ▣ Other states with legislated provider approval criteria and processes
- Digital Learning Commons
- Various other online and educational resources

Categories for Approval Criteria

1. Course content and instructional design
 - ▣ Course goals and outcomes
 - ▣ Course materials and organization
 - ▣ Student engagement
2. Classroom management
3. Student assessment
4. Course evaluation and management
5. Student support
6. Mentor support
7. Technology
 - ▣ Ease in navigation
 - ▣ Technology requirements
 - ▣ Tech support
8. Staff Development and support
9. Program Management

Thoughts and Ideas



- Other sources to consult?
- Any elements missing that would help ensure quality?
- How will these categories function as a tool for providers and reviewers?

Approval Process

- Teams of reviewers selected for their expertise and experience; training mandatory
- Online process with documents and scoring forms/rubrics; multiple reviewers for each application
- Completed applications only; ability to prepare online over time
- DLD compiles and distributes applications to reviewers; available to reviewers for assistance; compiles results for additional OSPI review
- Applicants notified of decisions; feedback provided

Timeline

- *July – August:* Research and initial iterations of the criteria
- *August – November:* Online Learning Advisory Committee feedback
- *August – December:* Adopt by Rule process
- *September – January:* Recruit and train application reviewers
- *December, January:* Criteria and process on website
- *January:* Providers submit applications
- *February:* Application packets reviewed
- *March:* Reviewer input compiled and recommendations made
- *April 1:* Decisions made on first round of approved multidistrict online providers
- *April – May:* Applicants notified and approved providers posted on the website for 2010 school year
- *April – May:* Appeals process
- *November 1, 2010 ongoing:* Approval decisions announced