Dear Colleague,

I am writing to remind you that the temporary waiver for the use of distance education as an alternate delivery method expires on December 31, 2020. This temporary waiver approved by the United States Department of Education (USDE), Office of Postsecondary Education in March 2020 has not been extended as of the date of this email communication.

MSCHE institutions that decide to continue offering 50% or more of an educational program in distance education beyond December 31, 2020, and do not currently have distance education within their scope of accreditation, will need to submit a substantive change request. The substantive change request must be received by the Commission in accordance with MSCHE’s Substantive Change Policy and Procedures and Substantive Change Guidelines no later than November 1, 2020, in order for distance education to be added to an institution’s scope of accreditation by January 1, 2020.

Additional information, is available through an FAQ for COVID-related distance education on the Commission website. However, if you have any questions, you are strongly advised to reach out to your MSCHE Vice President for Institutional Field Relations.

Sincerely,

Ms. Carmella Smith
Director for Substantive Change