

November 15, 2017

COA updates and Fall 2017.

- In order to facilitate collection of job placement data on the Annual Report as prescribed in Standard 11.3.3, a survey done at graduation time will be accepted as within 6 months. Responses of 'no data available' will be counted as 'not employed'.

Directory data will be updated twice a year. Updates to employment rates will be accepted until June 1 and reported in the updated directory.

- A change to Standard 6.9.8 which requires inspection of funeral home locations is as follows: Inspection of off-campus instructional sites is to be completed before instruction starts and at least every **3** years for locations used on a continuous basis. (change from 2 years)

Institution is responsible to create any checklist used for inspections (COA does not dictate the content of the checklist)

- Student participation in funerals recordkeeping may be maintained electronically.

Program is to decide what documentation is acceptable to verify student participation.

- ABFSE office provides NBE pass rates for DL students. This info is to be disclosed by programs reporting students who complete 50% or more of coursework completed via DL.
- Programs offering DL will be expected to demonstrate the USDE requirement of 'regular and substantive interaction' between faculty and students.
- More work is necessary to define graduation benchmarks for evaluation and expectations for offering the bachelor degree. Efforts will be made to incorporate the DL expectations into the basic text of the standards v. separate treatment in Appendix E.
- Currently, negative accreditation decisions (i.e. Probation and Show Cause) are reported on the ABFSE website and to USDE, regulatory agencies and associations. However, the content of the decision letter is shared only with the school. (ABFSE office is to explain the content in response to direct inquiries)

Effective immediately, complete decision letters for negative action must be available via a link on the accreditor website for schools where ABFSE serves as gatekeeper for Title IV funds (private, single purpose schools). This is a USDE requirement. Suggestions exist that the full text of all accreditation decision letters be made public. Stay tuned.