

November 18-19, 2021

ITEM 197-114-R1121

Request for Authorization to Revise Board of Regents Policies 301.5 – Transfer of Credits; MUS and Community Colleges; 301.5.1 – System of Controls; and 320.3 – Recognition; Canadian Public Institutions

THAT

That the Montana Board of Regents adopts the recommended revisions to Board of Regents Policies 301.5 – Transfer of Credits; MUS and Community Colleges; 301.5.1 – System of Controls; and 320.3 – Recognition; Canadian Public Institutions

EXPLANATION

1. US Department of Education rules that went into effect in July 2021 remove the designation of certain institutional accrediting bodies as “regional accreditors”.
 2. Current MUS transfer policy requires, at minimum, that campuses apply transfer credits from “regionally accredited” institutions towards the free elective requirements of degree programs, recognizing that these institution’s accreditation procedures are similar in rigor to those applied to MUS campuses (which are all accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, one of the seven accreditation agencies formerly recognized as regional accreditors).
 3. This change would remove the term “regional” from policy and instead list out the seven accrediting agencies.
 4. Campuses retain the ability to accept and apply credits from institutions that are not accredited by one of these seven agencies, provided there is evidence of academic quality in the institution’s faculty and program of study.
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ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment #1: Draft proposed revisions to Policy 301.5
- Attachment #2: Draft proposed revisions to Policy 301.5.1
- Attachment #3: Draft proposed revisions to Policy 320.3