



TO: ACCET Institutions Offering Intensive English Programs

From: Judy Hendrickson, Interim Executive Director

Date: April 15, 2020

RE: Further ACCET Guidance – COVID-19 Additional Temporary Flexibilities

As promised, ACCET is closely monitoring the situation regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) and providing our member institutions additional guidance as it becomes available. To that end, ACCET is notifying institutions offering Intensive English Programs (IEPs) of the following additional guidance and temporary flexibilities during the COVID-19 threat (the period of March 5, 2020 – June 1, 2020):

**Additional Temporary Flexibilities for Institutions Offering Intensive English Programs:**

- **Temporary Change to Full Course of Study Requirement:** Allow institutions offering temporary distance learning (online instruction) to waive the full course of study requirements for F and M students if not all courses will be offered by the institution as a direct result of COVID-19. Note that institutions are directed to report this information to SEVP in the institutions' procedural change documents.

**Additional IDL Webinars:**

ACCET staff will conduct additional free webinars on IDL best practices and the IDL program approval process to member institutions offering Intensive English Programs (IEP), as follows:

- IDL Webinar #2 - Best Practices (**Friday, April 24 at 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm EDT**)
- IDL Webinar #3 - Preparing the ACCET IDL Streamlined Application (**Friday May 1 at 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm EDT**)

**NOTE:** If you registered for the IDL webinar on April 13th, you do **NOT** need to register again. A confirmation will be sent to you with the new link. If this is your first IDL webinar, please e-mail Christina D'Antoni at [cdantoni@acct.org](mailto:cdantoni@acct.org) with your name and affiliated institution, and she will e-mail you a confirmation.

**Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act):**

ACCET is alerting institutions to federal funding available through the recently enacted Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), including the following:

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- Small businesses (e.g. ACCET institutions) may be eligible to apply for loans through the “*Paycheck Protection Program*” by submitting applications through Small Business Administration (SBA) Participating Lenders.

ACCET will continue to provide information to ACCET institutions as warranted. Additional resources that institutions may find useful regarding COVID-19 include the following:

- <https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- <https://who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

In the meantime, you are invited to contact ACCET staff for additional guidance, including:

- IDL program applications – Cristina Rodarte ([crodarte@accet.org](mailto:crodarte@accet.org))
- IDL webinars – John Shaheen ([jshaheen@accet.org](mailto:jshaheen@accet.org)) and Mary Clare DiGiacomo ([mcdigiacom@accet.org](mailto:mcdigiacom@accet.org))

We appreciate all that you are doing to support and assist your students during this difficult and unprecedented time.

Sincerely,



Judy Hendrickson  
Interim Executive Director