

17. Policy on Contracting with Non-U.S. Institutions

In their efforts to meet demands for educational opportunities and services in other nations, DETC accredited institutions located in the U.S.A. may find it beneficial to enter into contractual arrangements with other appropriately accredited* educational institutions located outside of the U.S.A.

At a minimum, any such contractual arrangements must comply with following:

1. The DETC institution remains ultimately responsible for any activity carried out in its name by any parties to a contractual agreement, and DETC standards and policies apply fully to any contractual arrangement, unless a specific written waiver is granted by the Commission.
2. The nature of the arrangement and the duties and responsibilities of each party will be set out clearly for the Accrediting Commission and the public, with special attention being given to activities that are within the scope of DETC accreditation, such as advertising, recruitment, instruction, assessment of learning, student services, assignment of grades, record keeping and other tasks that are the normal purview of accreditation standards.
3. The DETC institution must demonstrate that personnel of the non-U.S. institution are qualified to perform their duties on behalf of the DETC institution. The DETC institution is responsible for conducting appropriate oversight of all activities carried out in the DETC institution's name.
4. If a DETC on-site visit is impractical, the DETC institution must provide convincing evidence of the qualifications and reputation of the non-U.S. institution, with special attention given to its ability to conduct distance learning as applicable and to perform activities assigned to it that are within the scope of DETC accreditation standards (recruitment, instruction, etc.).
5. The DETC institution must have in place measures, resources, plans, and procedures that will ensure that all students will continue to receive the education and training they were promised under the contractual arrangement, even if the business arrangements between the DETC institution and the non-U.S. institution are subsequently terminated.
6. DETC institution's contractual agreements must be submitted to the Commission for review and approval in advance of their implementation. If the Accrediting Commission approves the agreement, the approval will be for a fixed period, and thereafter will be periodically reviewed by the Commission on a schedule it chooses.
7. The DETC institution must report annually on the activities concerning any contractual arrangements with non-U.S.A. institutions on DETC Form E.6. or 7. Annual Report. In addition, the DETC institution must annually report **separately** on the outcomes for the students and graduates enrolled under the terms of any non-U.S. institution contracts. The outcomes measures are listed in DETC Policy C.14. Policy on Student Achievement and Satisfaction.

* Accredited by agencies that are recognized by the United States Secretary of Education and/or the Council on Higher Education Accreditation or, for non-U.S. institutions, an accepted foreign equivalent that is listed in the *International Handbook of Universities* (available at www.palgrave.com).