



DoDEA REGULATION 2010.01

ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Originating Division:	Education Directorate
Effective:	October 28, 2016
Reissues:	2010.1, "Department of Defense Education Activity Accreditation Program," July 21, 2008
Approved by:	Thomas M. Brady, Director

Purpose: This issuance implements policy, assigns responsibilities, and provides direction for a purposeful and meaningful continuous improvement process pursuant to the accreditation program. The Department of Defense Education Activity districts and schools accreditation program will assure the development and maintenance of high standards of excellence, the continued improvement of educational programs, and the effectiveness of instruction through a systematic approach.

SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

1.1. APPLICABILITY. This regulation applies to the Office of the Director, DoDEA; the Principal Deputy Director and Associate Director for Academics, DoDEA; the Associate Director for Financial and Business Operations, DoDEA; the Chief of Staff, DoDEA; the Director for Student Excellence, DoDEA Americas (formerly the Director, Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools, and Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Cuba (DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba)); the Director for Student Excellence, DoDEA Europe (formerly the Director, Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Europe (DoDDS-E)); the Director for Student Excellence, DoDEA Pacific (formerly the Director, Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Pacific, and Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools, Guam (DoDDS-P/DDESS-Guam)); (referred to collectively in this issuance as "DoDEA Region Directors for Student Excellence"); and all DoDEA Region, District, and Community Superintendents, School Administrators, Teachers, and Support Staff.

1.2. POLICY. It is DoDEA policy that:

- a. All DoDEA districts are required to achieve and maintain accredited status by a regional accreditation organization for elementary and secondary schools, as approved by the United States Department of Education and identified by DoDEA.
- b. All DoDEA districts and schools are required to maintain a continuous improvement process, based on current best practices while incorporating the standards and protocols of a regional accreditation organization.

SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR ACADEMICS (ADA). The ADA, under the authority, direction, and control of the Director, DoDEA, exercises overall responsibility for the implementation of this regulation.

2.2. HEADQUARTERS ACCREDITATION PROGRAM MANAGER. The DoDEA Headquarters Accreditation Program Manager, under the authority, direction, and control of the ADA:

- a. Ensures that the DoDEA Accreditation Program is implemented according to this regulation and the standards of the regional accreditation organization identified by DoDEA.
- b. Reviews and summarize all reports from the regional accreditation organization and prepare briefings for the ADA.
- c. Serves as primary liaison to the regional accreditation organization.
- d. Coordinates all meetings between DoDEA Headquarters and the regional accreditation organization.
- e. Ensures DoDEA is represented at the regional accreditation organization's meetings.
- f. Ensures training is provided, as needed, on the standards, protocols, and procedures of the regional accreditation organization.
- g. Ensures districts and schools integrate the continuous improvement process into the accreditation process which includes the development and maintenance of an improvement plan.

2.3. DODEA REGION DIRECTORS FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE. The DoDEA Region Directors of Student Excellence:

- a. Ensure that the continuous improvement and accreditation programs are implemented with fidelity at the district level.
- b. Provide leadership to and support of the districts' continuous improvement and accreditation processes.
- c. Provide assistance and oversight to districts in all continuous improvement and accreditation program required activities.
- d. Review the reports from the regional accreditation organization and ensure the requirements are addressed by the district.

e. Ensure training is provided for all region, district, and school employees in continuous improvement and accreditation.

2.4. DODEA DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS. The DoDEA District Superintendents:

a. Ensure that the continuous improvement and accreditation programs are implemented with fidelity at the district and school level.

b. Provide leadership to and support of the districts' and schools' continuous improvement and accreditation processes.

c. Provide assistance and oversight to schools in all continuous improvement and accreditation program required activities.

d. Review the reports from the regional accreditation organization and ensure the requirements are addressed.

e. Provide professional and logistical assistance to the accreditation teams visiting the district and schools.

f. Ensure full compliance with the DoDEA Educator Licensure Program Regulation.

2.5. DODEA SCHOOL PRINCIPALS. The DoDEA School Principals:

a. Ensure that the continuous improvement and accreditation programs are implemented with fidelity.

b. Provide leadership to and support of the continuous improvement and accreditation processes.

c. Ensure that all educators are in possession of a current, valid certificate for the positions to which assigned in accordance with the DoDEA Educator Licensure Program Regulation, and Section 552a of Title 5, U.S.C.

2.6. DODEA SCHOOL STAFF. The DoDEA School Staff:

a. Participates in the development and implementation of the continuous improvement plan.

b. Provides professional expertise, experience, and assistance to continuous improvement and accreditation processes.

c. Maintains a valid DoDEA license and provide the DoDEA Headquarters Licensure Unit with a complete and legible copy of all transcripts and current certificates. DoDEA licenses must accurately reflect the areas qualified to teach; in accordance with the DoDEA Educator Licensure Program Regulation.

GLOSSARY

G.1. ACRONYMS.

ADA	Associate Director for Academics
DoD	Department of Defense
DoDEA	Department of Defense Education Activity
DoDDS-E	Department of Defense Dependents Schools – Europe
DoDDS-P	Department of Defense Dependents Schools – Pacific
DDESS	Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools
U.S.C.	United States Code

G.2. DEFINITIONS.

accreditation. A voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools, and designed primarily to distinguish schools adhering to a set of educational standards.

accreditation standards. An accountability framework for institutions that first and foremost seeks to ensure that the institutions offer well-developed programs that prepare students for the next grade level, college, and/or career, and second, requires institutions to assess continually and show success in meeting established objectives.

accreditation team. A group of educators that conduct the accreditation visit, led by trained and certified regional accreditation organization personnel.

continuous improvement. Any institutional- or instructional-improvement process that unfolds progressively and is sustained over extended periods of time. The process encompasses the general belief that improvement is not something that starts and stops, but is something that requires an organizational or professional commitment to an ongoing process of learning, self-reflection, adaptation, and growth.

improvement plan. A plan created that identifies goals, objectives, assessment measures, strategies, activities, and supporting research, as well as identifying stakeholder responsibilities.

school staff. Everyone who works at a school.

stakeholder. A person or group that has an investment or interest in something (e.g. teacher, student, parent).

support staff. People who work for an organization to keep it running and to support the people who are involved in the organization's main business (e.g., custodian, cafeteria worker, administrative assistant).

REFERENCE

DoDEA Regulation 5000.9, "Educator Licensure Program," July 16, 2007
United States Code, Title 5, Section 552a