

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to nonpublic postsecondary educational
 3 institutions; amending s. 1005.32, F.S.; revising the
 4 criteria for licensure by means of accreditation for an
 5 independent postsecondary educational institution;
 6 requiring institutions to be accredited by agencies that
 7 have specified standards substantially equivalent to
 8 licensure standards of the Commission for Independent
 9 Education; deleting the requirement that an institution be
 10 a Florida corporation; requiring an institution to file
 11 with the commission site visit reports prepared by its
 12 accrediting agency; providing an effective date.

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 14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 16 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1005.32, Florida
 17 Statutes, is amended, present subsection (3) is renumbered as
 18 subsection (4) and amended, subsections (4) through (7) are
 19 renumbered as subsections (5) through (8), respectively, and a
 20 new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

21 1005.32 Licensure by means of accreditation.--

22 (1) An independent postsecondary educational institution
 23 that meets the following criteria may apply for a license by
 24 means of accreditation from the commission:

25 (a) The institution has operated legally in this state for
 26 at least 5 consecutive years.

27 (b) The institution holds institutional accreditation by
 28 an accrediting agency evaluated and approved by the commission

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29 | as having reporting, organizational, and operating standards
 30 | substantially equivalent to the commission's licensure
 31 | standards.

32 | (c) The institution has no unresolved complaints or
 33 | actions in the past 12 months.

34 | (d) The institution meets minimum requirements for
 35 | financial responsibility as determined by the commission.

36 | ~~(e) The institution is a Florida corporation.~~

37 | (3) Beginning January 1, 2010, in order to maintain a
 38 | license by means of accreditation, each licensed institution
 39 | shall provide the commission with any site visit reports
 40 | prepared by its accrediting agency for visits made to any of the
 41 | licensed institution's Florida locations.

42 | (4)~~(3)~~ The commission may not require an institution
 43 | granted a license by means of accreditation to submit reports
 44 | that differ from the reports required by its accrediting
 45 | association, except as provided in subsection (3) and except
 46 | that each institution must file with the commission an annual
 47 | audit report and follow the commission's requirements for
 48 | orderly closing, including provisions for trainout or refunds
 49 | and arranging for the proper disposition of student and
 50 | institutional records.

51 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.