Notice to Unaccredited Institutions approved by the Bureau before January 1, 2015 and offering one or more degree programs

As required by CEC 94885.1, unaccredited schools approved by the Bureau before January 1, 2015 that are offering at least one degree program must show evidence of having achieved accreditation candidacy or pre-accreditation status by July 1, 2017.

As defined by 5 CCR 70000(s), accreditation candidacy or pre-accreditation means that an institution has submitted a completed application for initial accreditation with the required fee, which was accepted by the accreditor.

Senate Bill 1192 resulted in the addition of CEC 94885.1(d)(1)&(2) permitting the Bureau to grant an institution's request for an extension of time, not to exceed two years, to achieve pre-candidacy or accreditation.

The Bureau has developed the following process for institutions wishing to request an extension of time:

All requests for extensions must be made in writing, to the Bureau's Education Administrator. The Bureau will consider those requests from institutions that demonstrate they are making strong progress toward obtaining accreditation, per CEC 94885.1(d)(1). Institutions must include the following in their request:

- An amended accreditation plan adequately identifying why pre-accreditation, accreditation candidacy, or accreditation outlined in the original plan submitted to the Bureau was not achieved

- Active steps the institution is taking to comply with the requirements of CEC 94885.1

- Documentation from an accrediting agency demonstrating the institution's likely ability to meet the requirements of CEC 94885.1

The Bureau will accept requests for extensions between June 1st and June 30th, 2017, since institutions have until July 1, 2017 to achieve pre-candidacy.

Each request will be reviewed by a committee of Education Specialists and will be evaluated on its own merit. Recommendations for approval or denial of extensions will be provided to the Bureau Chief who will make the final decision.