



CENTRAL FLORIDA HIGHER EDUCATION ALLIANCE
P.O. Box 160518
Altamonte Springs, FL 32716-0518

website: www.cfhea.org

e-mail: info@cfhea.org

Regional Accreditation

Regional accreditation is the most widely and respected form of college accreditation in the United States. Regional accreditation exists to assure the quality of an education offered at one college is equivalent to the quality of an education offered at another college.

To be regionally accredited, colleges and universities must meet the standards set forth by the accrediting agency. Regional accreditation is important because it tells you that standards have been met in the design and delivery of the education you are considering.

The 6 regional accrediting agencies are:

1. Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSACS)
2. New England Association of Colleges and Schools (NEACS)
3. North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCAS)
4. Northwest Association of Colleges and Schools (NASC)
5. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
6. Western Association of Colleges and Schools (WASC)

Each agency oversees the colleges and universities that operate in its geographic region. No one regional agency is rated better than another. Regional accreditation is an important consideration when choosing which college to attend. From a student's perspective, there is a great advantage in the fact that regionally accredited colleges and universities recognize each other's degrees and transfer credits.

To verify a college or university's accreditation, contact the Office of Postsecondary Education and the Council of Higher Education Accreditation:

<http://www.ope.ed.gov/accreditation/Search.asp>

The Central Florida Higher Education Alliance serves as an educational resource to the community. The Alliance is comprised only of regionally accredited colleges and universities.

Building Educational Partnerships in Central Florida