

HB 1716 -- VIRTUAL EDUCATION

SPONSOR: Lichtenegger

This bill adds approved virtual institutions to the Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program that are recognized as a qualifying institution by a gubernatorial executive order issued before August 28, 2016 and through a memorandum of understanding between the State of Missouri and the approved virtual institution.

An approved virtual institution must be organized as a nonprofit institution; accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education; have established and continuously maintained a physical campus or location of operation in Missouri; maintain at least 25 full-time Missouri employees, at least half of which must be faculty or administrators engaged in Missouri operations; enroll at least 1000 Missouri residents as degree or certificate seeking students; and maintain a governing body or advisory board based in Missouri with oversight of Missouri operations.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 1254 (2015).