NWCCU uses a <u>template</u> or online form to collect the required information for items iv and v for the teach-out agreements. Please contact Commission staff for templates and additional details.

Circumstances that Require a Teach-Out Plan

The Code of Federal Regulations requires that an institution submit a teach-out plan to NWCCU in the event of any of the following:

- 1. United States Department of Education (USDE) notifies NWCCU of an emergency action or action to limit, suspend, or terminate institutional participation in federal financial aid; or
- 2. NWCCU acts to withdraw, terminate, or suspend the accreditation or candidacy status of institution; or
- 3. a state authorization to provide an educational program has been or will be revoked; or
- 4. an institution notifies NWCCU that it intends to cease operations; or
- 5. an institution notifies NWCCU that it intends to close one or more locations that provide 100% of at least one degree program; or
- 6. an institution notifies NWCCU that it will cease instruction in one or more degree programs before all students have a reasonable opportunity to graduate.

Early Notification

The institution is required to provide written notice to NWCCU, the USDE, and appropriate state agencies as soon as it is aware of a circumstance that requires a teach-out plan.

Submission of Teach-Out Plans and Teach-Out Agreements

The institution must submit teach-out plans and teach-out agreements to NWCCU for review and approval prior to implementation. The institution must identify an estimated teach-out period during which time it will complete the teach-out plan and any teach-out agreement(s). The length of the teach-out period could range from 12 to 18 months for a plan based solely on transfers to other institutions to 24 to 26 months for a traditional teach out of a closing academic program. NWCCU may approve a longer teach-out period when the institution provides evidence that an extended period is warranted to equitably allow for students

Standards for Accreditation, Policies, and federal and state regulations. A teach-out period may not extend beyond the date that an institution holds legal authorization or degree granting authority.

An institution that plans to teach out some or all of its own students must demonstrate the ability to do so. The institution may elect to enter in to a teach-out agreement(s) with other institutions that have candidate (preaccreditation) or accreditation status with an accrediting agency recognized by the USDE NWCCU has the discretion to require the institution to enter into a teach-out agreement(s) with institutions other than those proposed.

Review and Action on Teach-Out Plans and Teach-Out Agreements

In accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations, NWCCU will review the teach-out plan to ensure it meets its Standards for Accreditation, Bigibility Requirements, and Policies. NWCCU will seek to ensure

out plan. If the institution enters into one or more teach-out agreements, the website disclosure must name the teach-out partner institution along with copies of the teach-out agreements and any additional information that may be helpful to students that transfer to the teach-out institution.