



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

**Oregon Student Access Commission
Office of Degree Authorization**

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www.oregonstudentaid.gov/ODA

Waldorf College

Laura Friesenborg

June 13, 2012

Dear Ms. Friesenborg:

The Office of Degree Authorization has completed review of Waldorf College's application and made a determination based on validity of the degrees offered for use in Oregon.

This letter constitutes as approval to offer online degree programs and courses for college credit to students in Oregon. This approval is for the following online degree programs:

Bachelors in Business Administration
Bachelors in Criminal Justice
Bachelors in Fire Science Administration
Bachelors in Organizational Leadership
Bachelors in Psychology

This approval is valid until **June 30, 2014**, contingent on ongoing compliance, with all relevant Oregon standards for post-secondary education, by the school, its programs, faculty and any third-party representatives operating on behalf of the school. We expect to see significant changes in state approval and oversight of online and distance learning programs in the next few years, and will provide up-to-date information to approved schools on an on-going basis. We will keep you informed of any interim changes that may have an impact on your program or students during this current approval period.

State approval with exemption from evaluation is restricted to:

1. Colleges and universities with regional or certain specific program accreditations which render the degree valid for use as an academic credential in Oregon.
2. Degree programs which are purely online and do not include any activities that would constitute "assistance in Oregon". *See attachment for definition and clarification.*
3. Degree programs and courses which meet all standards for professional education and preparation for licensure under Oregon law.

Any school planning to offer degree programs intended or implied to lead to licensing in a professional field is expected to contact the appropriate Oregon licensing board for additional information. Failure to do so may jeopardize approval and compliance with Oregon statutes and regulations.

This approval does not apply to any degree program that transcends the scope and expectations of individual online study from the students' home computer. Any activity,

whether conducted individually or as a group, that occurs at a site Oregon in order to fulfill course or degree requirements would render this program ineligible from approval for exempt status. Such activities include (1) face-to-face meetings with students in Oregon, (2) meetings of students at any location in Oregon whether facilitated or not, or (3) internships, practicum, or other credits earned at a site in Oregon outside of the students' online learning.

Although recruiting of students in Oregon establishes "physical presence" under rule, we do allow approved schools to recruit students in Oregon provided they adhere to the conditions listed in Oregon Administrative Rules under *OAR 583-030-0005*

All schools approved by ODA are required to complete and return an annual report, and to respond to requests for information regarding enrollment of Oregon students in online and placement programs.

We are always pleased when institutions of good quality serve the educational needs of our state and its citizens. We appreciate your good faith effort to provide the appropriate information for this review and look forward to the success of your graduates in Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Diallo".

Jennifer Diallo
Director, Office of Degree Authorization

Attachment

Definition and Clarification of the term "assistance in Oregon":

Oregon law prohibits exemption from ODA oversight for online programs offered by degree-granting institutions, when any of the programs offered online will engage students in learning activities or assessments beyond the scope of an individual student's interaction via a personal home computer with faculty and staff of a college outside the state. Schools must seek 'authorization' rather than 'exempt status' if they intend to offer courses or programs that include any expectation for student participation or assessment beyond this individual student-to-faculty/staff interaction. This prohibition extends to courses or programs that require students in Oregon to meet with another student or group of students, or to interact with another person at a location in Oregon, to conduct fieldwork, engage in a practicum, intern/externship, to complete a supervised placement, or any other activity that would be included under the following definitions in Oregon Administrative Rules

(23) "Person assisting a school" means any person or organization helping the school or its students or clients by acting as educator or intermediary or provider of communication technology or by acting in any other way that helps the school offer or effectuate its services in Oregon, regardless of whether the person assisting has a contract or compensation. "Person assisting a school: includes but is not limited to: advertiser, recruiter, admissions agent, course registrar, advisor, teacher, mentor, tutor, supervisor of an internship or practicum, occasional speaker, seminar leader, informal discussion leader, student host for group activity, evaluator, member of a thesis or study committee, publisher of educational materials, operator of a radio station, internet service provider or a cable or broadcast television station.

(24) "Practicum" means that portion of a degree program that involves a supervised field placement in a professional or workplace environment. For purposes of these rules, also includes "internship."