



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR SCHOOLS NO LONGER REQUIRED TO CERTIFY

Pursuant to § 23.1-219 (D) No postsecondary school shall be required to obtain another certification from the Council to operate in the Commonwealth if it (i) was formed, chartered, or established in the Commonwealth or chartered by an Act of Congress; (ii) has maintained its main campus continuously in the Commonwealth for at least 20 calendar years under its current ownership; (iii) was continuously approved or authorized to confer or grant academic or professional degrees by the Council, the Board of Education, or an act of the General Assembly during those 20 years; and (iv) is fully accredited by an accrediting agency that is recognized by and has met the criteria for Title IV eligibility of the U.S. Department of Education.

If a SCHEV-certified institution believes it qualifies for an exemption from certification under § 23.1-219(D) of the *Code of Virginia*, it must submit a written request with supporting documentation showing it meets all four criteria outlined in the statute. This request should be submitted at least 90 days before the institution's 20th anniversary of SCHEV certification.

1. Proof of Formation or Charter in the Commonwealth or by Act of Congress:

- A copy of the original charter, articles of incorporation, or other legal documentation establishing the institution.

2. Evidence of Continuous Presence in the Commonwealth:

- Documentation confirming that the institution's main campus has remained in Virginia under its current ownership for at least 20 consecutive calendar years.

3. Authorization to Confer Degrees:

- Records showing continuous certification or authorization to confer academic or professional degrees by SCHEV.

4. Accreditation Status:

- A current accreditation letter or certificate from a U.S. Department of Education-recognized accrediting agency that meets Title IV eligibility criteria.

Note: Once all materials are received, your request will be processed, and you will be notified of the determination. If additional information is needed during the review, we will contact you directly.

Mail written request and supporting documents to:

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
Attn: Private Postsecondary Education
101 N. 14th Street, 9th Floor, James Monroe Building
Richmond, VA 23219