



ACCREDITING BUREAU OF HEALTH EDUCATION SCHOOLS
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To: ABHES-Accredited Institutions and Programs
Recognized Accrediting Agencies
State Departments of Education
Kay Gilcher, U.S. Department of Education
Interested Parties

From: Carol Moneymaker, Executive Director

Date: July 19, 2012

Subject: Call for Comment on Proposed Revisions to ABHES Bylaws

A number of the seats on the board of directors (the “Commission”) of the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) are defined to require the individual holding the seat to have specific qualifications. These include Elected Seat 5 and Appointed Seat 1.

Commission seats are specifically defined in order to assure that the ABHES Commission has appropriate representation from critical communities of interest and to meet certain recognition criteria of the U.S. Department of Education (Department). In the case of each of the seats noted above, the present ABHES Bylaws definitions are more restrictive than is required by the U.S. Department of Education for recognition.

This proposal is consistent with the definitions for Elected Seat 5 and Appointed Seat 1 to the Department’s recognition criteria and in doing so will make it possible for slightly broader groups of individuals to meet the eligibility criteria for these seats. As a result ABHES will have access to additional highly qualified individuals for possible service on the Commission.

The proposed Bylaws amendments follow. Language to be removed from the current Bylaws is shown as ~~strikethrough~~ and language to be added is underlined in red.

All interested parties are invited to comment on the proposed changes no later than **August 20, 2012**, by e-mail to me at cmoneymaker@abhes.org, or by mail or facsimile to the ABHES office.

PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

Section 4.5.1. Specific Elected Seats and Qualifications.

- (a) **Elected Seat 5 – Educator in Specialty Area.** Must be ~~currently and primarily employed in~~ currently or recently directly engaged in a significant manner in an academic position at a postsecondary institution accredited by an agency recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education in a health-care related field for which ABHES is recognized as a programmatic accreditor by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

Section 4.6.1. Specific Appointed Seats and Qualifications.

- (a) **Appointed Seat 1 - Practitioner in Specialty Area.** Must be ~~currently and primarily employed~~ currently or recently directly engaged in a significant manner as a health-care related specialist in a field for which ABHES is recognized as a programmatic accreditor by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.