On October 29, 2010, the federal government published a rule requiring institutions of higher education that participate in Title IV funding and operate in multiple states via distance learning to comply with whatever "authorization to operate" regulations are in place in those states where the institution has enrolled students or is otherwise active based on state definitions. On July 12, 2011, the District Court of the District of Columbia vacated the requirement for state authorization from the federal rule and this decision was upheld on appeal. State laws, however, still require that universities and colleges be authorized to operate prior to offering distance learning.

CCSU must, therefore, comply with specific authorization to operate in each state in which it is active, as that term is defined by each state.

Currently, CCSU is in compliance with and authorized to offer distance education to students living in the following states:

- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Massachusetts
- Mississippi
- Montana
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin

CCSU is not authorized and cannot offer distance education to students living in the following states:

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arkansas
- District of Columbia
- Hawaii
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Maryland
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- New Mexico
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Rhode Island
- Utah
- Wyoming
Additionally, institutions delivering courses by distance education are required to provide students or prospective students with contact information for filing complaints with the State approval or licensing entity in the student’s state of residency and any other relevant State official or agency that would appropriately handle a student’s complaint (regulation 34 C.F.R. § 600.9(a)(1)). The State Contact Information in the linked list has been collected by the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO), and will be updated as additional information becomes available:

SHEEO provides further resources relating to state authorization of distance education at http://www.sheeo.org/stateauth/stateauth-home.htm.