



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 208
[2015 Senate Bill 511]

**Creation of the Distance Learning
Authorization Board**

2015 Wisconsin Act 208 creates a Distance Learning Authorization (DLA) Board that is attached to the Higher Educational Aids Board and consists of the following members:

- The president of the University of Wisconsin System or his or her designee.
- The Technical College Board Director appointed under s. 38.04 (2), Stats., or his or her designee.
- The president of the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities or his or her designee.
- The executive secretary of the Educational Approval Board.
- One person representing Wisconsin tribal colleges.

The DLA Board is created in order to enter into an interstate reciprocity agreement related to state authorization and oversight of distance education programs. An agreement proposed for entry by the board must undergo passive review by the Joint Committee on Finance prior to entering the agreement.

If the DLA Board enters an agreement, the Board must conduct a number of authorization, oversight, and administrative duties related to the provision of distance education programs in Wisconsin. A distance education program is defined as “the offering of courses for credit to students in another jurisdiction that will lead to a degree or certificate from the institution offering the course, but also includes noncredit courses and field experiences offered as part of the program.”

Effective date: March 3, 2016

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature’s Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.