



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

May 4, 2020

To: Nebraska Public School Superintendents, Non-Public School Superintendents, and ESU Administrators

CC: State Board of Education, Commissioner's Cabinet, and NDE Leadership

RE: End of Year Report and Affidavit Process for Rule 10 Accredited School Systems, 2019-2020

Greetings.

This email expands on the process outlined in my communication on April 23 regarding Rule 10 accreditation, which can be found here: <https://cdn.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/NDE-Rule-10-Accreditation-and-Summer-Learning.pdf>

Below outlines two action steps you need to complete once your school calendar concludes.

School systems that do not meet the Rule 10 instructional hours requirements should submit an affidavit to the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) after the district/system school year calendar concludes. Schools will submit completed affidavits no later than June 30, 2020. If your school has chosen to prepare their own affidavit up to this point, you may upload it in addition to the completion of the NDE form.

As a follow up to the "Continuity of Learning Plan," we are asking you to submit a response to the question "How did you serve students and address equity needs through your continuity of learning plan?" found in the survey below. This response should be a brief, high-level summary of your district/system plan. Links to webpages, Google Sites, and documents are permissible.

Also included in the survey link is a "Rule 10 checklist" of specific regulations which identify any aspects of the regulations that were difficult to fulfill after you began operation without students in attendance centers. For items identified as difficult to fulfill, we will ask you to provide a brief description of what the NDE should consider regarding this aspect of the regulation for the 2020 – 2021 school year. The identification of these items will in no way affect your accreditation. However, submitting items 1 and 2 is a requirement of this year's process.

In summary:

1. Submit an affidavit if the instructional hours requirements were not met (which we expect in light of the circumstances).
2. Respond to the continuity of learning plan follow-up question, review the “Rule 10 checklist,” and identify items that were difficult to fulfill.

The NDE will not request any additional information related to Rule 10 accreditation unless a school were to identify the need for a waiver and/or modification under section 13 for issues that are a result of circumstances outside those created by the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Please contact Brad Dirksen (brad.dirksen@nebraska.gov) with questions related to Rule 10 accreditation.

[Link to access the End of Year Report and Affidavit Process for Rule 10 Accredited School Systems, 2019-2020.](#)

Thanks.

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education