

UAMS Academic Affairs Policy – 2.2.15



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

Policy: University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Division of Academic Affairs
Subject: Verification of Student Identity for Distance Education Courses
Number: 2.2.15

Date Approved (Council of Deans, Provost): April 13, 2026
Date Effective: April 13, 2026
Last Review/Revision: April 13, 2026
Next Review/Revision: April 13, 2028

PURPOSE:

To establish formal processes for verifying the identity of students enrolled in distance courses, ensuring compliance with federal regulations (including required student notifications), and guaranteeing that the student who registers for a course is the same student who participates in and receives the academic credit.

SCOPE:

This policy applies to all credit-bearing academic unit courses offered through distance education technology (e.g., Blackboard, O2, etc.) courses administered by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS).

POLICY:

Required Student Identity Verification:

UAMS is committed to protecting student privacy while ensuring academic integrity in all distance education courses. All academic units offering such courses must verify the identity of the students enrolled through at least one of the following means:

1. Verification is established through a secure login and passcode process unique to the student, such as the official UAMS Single Sign-On (SSO) credentials.
2. Proctored Examinations: Verification is established through a physically proctored examination setting where the student's photo identification is checked.

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3. Virtual Proctored Examinations: Verification is established through technologies that use secure virtual and/or automated proctoring, which may include student photo identification checks, video, or other identity authentication measures (e.g., Respondus Monitor, or similar UAMS-approved software).

4. New or Other Technologies and Practices: Verification is established through new or other technologies and practices that are effective in verifying the identity of students, provided they are approved by the UAMS Teaching & Learning Support Committee (TLSC) to ensure compliance and privacy protection.

Disclosure of Fees Mandate:

UAMS must notify students at the time of registration or enrollment of any projected additional charges associated with the verification of student identity, such as separate fees charged for proctoring services.