

New Language

Article 6.7

Educational Technology/Distributed Learning

(bold text indicates new language)

6.7.1 Distributed learning includes, but is not limited to, print based education courses, online or web-based instruction, video-conferencing, teleconferencing, instructional video and audio tapes, hybrid or mixed-mode programs and courses.

6.7.2 In developing and offering distributed learning programs and course, the employer will plan in collaboration with the department or functional area and the employee(s) who will develop and/ or deliver the program or course.

For the purposes of this article departments or functional areas are defined as the operational or administrative sub-division of an institution within which an employee is appointed and assigned workload and may include geographic limitations.

6.7.3 Subject to mutual agreement, the local parties may develop criteria for the determination of the appropriate release time for the development, delivery and revision of distributed learning programs or courses. To the extent that they contain provisions that address release time and workload for the development, delivery and revision of distributed learning programs or courses, local letters of understanding shall apply.

6.7.4 The employer will provide the necessary technological and human resources for employees assigned to develop and deliver the program and courses.

6.7.5 The employer will provide the necessary and appropriate training in the use of relevant educational technology for employees assigned to deliver distributed learning programs and courses.

6.7.6 Employees delivering distributed learning programs/courses shall not be required to provide technical support to students taking distributed learning courses.

6.7.7 Employees shall not be required to deliver distributed learning programs / courses from their home. Employees delivering or developing distributed learning courses shall be provided with office space and the appropriate technology to support them in their work.

6.7.8 Where an employee has been assigned an online course and agrees to the employer's request to teach all or part of that course from home, the employer shall provide the appropriate technology and pay for the reasonable and approved costs of delivering those courses from home.

6.7.9 No regular employee will be laid off as a direct result of the introduction of distributed learning or education technology.