

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION**

RULE 84

**REGULATIONS FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNITS**

**TITLE 92, NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE,
CHAPTER 84**

**HEARING DRAFT
JANUARY 10, 2012**

**State of Nebraska
Department of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509**



TITLE 92 - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CHAPTER 84 – REGULATIONS FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNITS

NUMERICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUBJECT	STATUTORY AUTHORITY	CODE SECTION
General Information <u>Provisions</u>	79-318, 79-1204	001
Definitions	79-318, 79-1204	002
General Provisions <u>Requirements for Operation</u>	79-318, 79-1204	003
Procedures for Accreditation	79-318, 79-1204	004
Staff	79-318, 79-1204	005
Informational Reports	79-318, 79-1204	006
<u>ESU Improvement and Evaluation</u>	79-318, 79-1204	007 <u>6</u>
Audits	79-318, 79-1204	008 <u>7</u>
Core Services	79-318, 79-1204	009 <u>8</u>
<u>Appendix A: Annual Accreditation Compliance Report</u>		

TITLE 92 - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
 CHAPTER 84 – REGULATIONS FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNITS

ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUBJECT	STATUTORY AUTHORITY	CODE SECTION
Audits	79-318, 79-1204	008 <u>7</u>
Core Services	79-318, 79-1204	009 <u>8</u>
Definitions	79-318, 79-1204	002
<u>ESU Improvement and Evaluation</u>	79-318, 79-1204	007 <u>6</u>
General Information <u>Provisions</u>	79-318, 79-1204	001
Informational Reports	79-318, 79-1204	006
Procedures for Accreditation	79-318, 79-1204	004
General Provisions <u>Requirements for Operation</u>	79-318, 79-1204	003
Staff	79-318, 79-1204	005
<u>Appendix A: Annual Accreditation Compliance Report</u>		

TITLE 92 – NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CHAPTER 84 – REGULATIONS FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNITS

001 General Information Provisions

001.01 Statutory Authority. Sections 79-318(6) and 79-1204(4) of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska (R.R.S.) direct the State Board of Education to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the accreditation of educational service units.

~~001.02 Scope and Application of this Chapter Accreditation Classification.~~ This Chapter provides rules and regulations for the accreditation of educational service units. These rules are intended to assist educational service units and local school districts in making decisions that will Accredited educational service units shall comply with all of the provisions of this Chapter. Educational service units shall be classified as accredited if they meet all of the requirements of this Chapter. All of the statements herein are requirements of accredited educational service units and are intended to enable the resources of the state to be used efficiently to support the approved or accredited school systems districts in this state. Further, the intent of this Chapter is to establish the minimal level of performance for accreditation which shall be required of the Nebraska educational service unit.

001.03 Accreditation Requirement. Educational service units, as providers of educational services, are required to be accredited under the provisions of this Chapter. These provisions are intended to assure that accredited educational service units provide accountability to taxpayers; assist and cooperate with school districts to provide equitable and adequate educational opportunities statewide; and provide quality educational programs and services to school districts.

001.04 Implementation of this Chapter. This Chapter will initially be used during the 2012-2013 school year to determine future accreditation status.

001.035 The Role and Mission of the Educational Service Units. Section 79-1204 R.R.S. states, in part, that Educational Service Units shall:

~~001.03A~~ 05A Act primarily as service agencies in providing core services and services identified and requested by member school districts;

~~001.03B~~ As providers of educational services, meet minimum accreditation standards set by the State Board of Education that will:
(Incorporated into Section 001.02)

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

~~001.03B1~~ Provide for accountability to taxpayers; *(Incorporated into Section 001.03)*

~~001.03B2~~ Assure that educational service units are assisting and cooperating with school districts to provide for equitable and adequate educational opportunities statewide; and *(Incorporated into Section 001.03)*

~~001.03B3~~ Assure a level of quality in educational programs and services provided to school districts by the educational service units. *(Incorporated into Section 001.03)*

~~001.03C~~ 05B Provide for economy, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness in the cooperative delivery of educational services;

~~001.03D~~ 05C Provide educational services through leadership, research, and development in elementary and secondary education;

~~001.03E~~ 05D Act in a cooperative and supportive role with the State Department of Education and school districts in development and implementation of long-range plans, strategies, and goals for the enhancement of educational opportunities in elementary and secondary education; and

~~001.03F~~ 05E Serve, when appropriate and as funds become available, as a repository, clearinghouse, and administrator of federal, state, and private funds on behalf of school districts which choose to participate in special programs, projects, or grants in order to enhance the quality of education in Nebraska schools.

~~001.04~~ 06 Property Tax Funds. Section 79-1242 R.R.S. specifies, in part, that funds generated from the property tax levy shall only be used for purposes approved by representatives of two-thirds of the member school districts in an educational service unit, representing a majority of the students in those member school districts.

~~001.05~~ 07 Contract Services. Section 79-1204 R.R.S. specifies, in part, that educational service units may contract to provide services to:

~~001.05A~~ 07A Nonmember public school districts;

~~001.05B~~ 07B Nonpublic school systems;

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

001.05G 07C Other educational service units; and

001.05D 07D Other political subdivisions, under the Interlocal Cooperation Act and the Joint Public Agency Act.

001.06 08 Regulation of Schools. Section 79-1204 R.R.S. specifies, in part, that Educational service units shall not regulate school districts unless specifically provided pursuant to law.

002 Definitions. As used in this Chapter:

002.01 Accreditation/ or accredited shall mean a level of recognition by the State Board of Education which establishes that the educational service unit has met all provisions and requirements of this Chapter.

002.02 Board shall mean the State Board of Education.

002.03 Collaboration shall mean a systemic process in which individuals and agencies work together to achieve common goals.

002.03 04 Commissioner shall mean the State Commissioner of Education.

002.05 Core services shall mean services that are provided by educational service units to all member school districts and that are in the following service areas in order of priority:

002.05A Staff development, which shall include access to staff development related to improving the achievement of students in poverty and students with diverse backgrounds;

002.05B Technology, including distance education services; and

002.05C Instructional materials services.

002.04 06 Department shall mean the State Department of Education, which is comprised of the State Board of Education and the State Commissioner of Education.

002.05 07 ESU shall mean ~~Nebraska~~ an educational service unit of the State of Nebraska.

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

002.06 08 ESU Board shall mean the governing board of the educational service unit as defined and described in Section 79-1217 R.R.S.

002.09 ESU Coordinating Council shall mean the political subdivision composed of one administrator from each educational service unit, as described in Section 79-1245 R.R.S.

002.10 ESU Services shall mean educational services that are supported by sources other than the state appropriation for core services, such as property tax levy funds or grant funds.

002.07 11 Member School District shall mean any school district which is a member of an educational service unit pursuant to Section 79-1203 R.R.S.

002.08 12 Teaching Responsibility shall have the same meaning as “teach” as defined in Section 79-101(12) R.R.S.

003 General Provisions Requirements for Operation

003.01 Collaboration and Accountability. When carrying out the duties described in Sections 001.05B and 001.05D, the ESU shall engage in collaboration as defined in Section 002.03. When carrying out the duties described in Section 001.05D such collaboration shall include, but is not limited to, working together with the ESU Coordinating Council and supporting accountability for student achievement in school districts.

003.02 The Advisory Committee Core Services. The selection of the advisory committee shall be determined by a process mutually acceptable to the ESU and member school districts. The ESU shall provide core services to all member school districts. The provision of core services shall include, but is not limited to, access to statewide core service initiatives as established by the ESU Coordinating Council in collaboration with the Department and requested by member districts as being necessary services.

003.02A The ESU Advisory Committee shall be a group composed of representatives of each class of member districts in the educational service unit as defined in section 79-102 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska (R.R.S.). Each ESU administrator shall serve as a member of the ESU Coordinating Council as established by Section 79-1245 R.R.S.

003.02A1 The ESU administrator or his or her designee shall participate in two jointly established meetings with representatives

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

of the Department and the ESU Coordinating Council annually to establish the focus and coordination of necessary core services based on priorities and on needs that are identified through the analysis of data.

~~003.02B~~ The advisory committee shall provide recommendations for educational services to the ESU board, including recommendations for the approval or disapproval of applications by a member school districts for funds to provide core services for itself in a cost-efficient manner. Each ESU administrator shall designate staff members to participate in professional development related to statewide core services initiatives and planning.

~~003.02C~~ The advisory committee shall meet at least four times each school year.

~~003.02D~~ The advisory committee shall meet to review the program of services being conducted by the ESU board and to discuss and plan changes and further refinement of that program of services.

~~003.04~~ 03 ESU Services. The ESU shall ~~may~~ provide educational ESU services as identified and requested by member school districts through the advisory committee and approved by the ESU board as permitted by the Educational Service Units Act.

003.04 Accountability Reporting.

~~003.03~~04A Annual Report. Pursuant to Section 79-1228 R.R.S., An annual written program report on the various programs of service to schools for the past year shall be provided by each educational service unit to the ESU boards, ESU to member school districts and to the Department in written or electronic form by November 1 of each year.

003.04B Informational Reports. The ESU shall submit informational reports as required by the Commissioner or his or her designee on or before the due date(s) and with all requested information, including required signatures. (Moved from Sections 006.01 and 006.03)

003.04C If an ESU fails to submit an informational report on or before the due date, the Commissioner or his or her designee may issue official notice of such failure by certified mail to the president of the ESU board and to the administrator. If the delinquent report is not received by the

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

Commissioner or his or her designee within thirty days of the date which the notice is postmarked, the Commissioner or his or her designee may recommend to the State Board of Education that the ESU not be accredited for the remainder of the accreditation period. This action shall be subject to the procedures outlined in Section 004.07. (Moved from Section 006.04)

003.04 05 Written Policies. The ESU board shall adopt a comprehensive set of written policies governing the organization and operation of the ESU which shall include, but not be limited to:

003.0405A A policy establishing the process by which the ESU provides services and calculates the cost.

003.0405B A policy establishing the process by which member and ~~non-~~member nonmember schools request and pay for services.

003.0405C A policy governing the supervision, assignment and evaluation of ESU employees when they are serving on the instructional or service faculty of a school.

003.04D ~~A policy providing for the advisory committee to propose and evaluate ESU programs and services.~~

003.04E 05D A policy providing ~~the equivalent of at least two days annually of professional growth to all ESU professional staff~~ for in-service for all ESU staff that is aligned with the ESU's priorities as established in the continuous improvement process outlined in Section 006 of this Chapter.

003.04F 05E A policy indicating the written policies will be available for review upon request at the administrative office of the ESU.

004 Procedures for Accreditation

004.01 ~~The period of accreditation shall be for one year from July 1 to June 30.~~

004.02 ~~An ESU shall either be accredited for the entire period of accreditation or not accredited for the entire period of accreditation, Accreditation shall be based on it's the ESU's performance during the immediate preceding period of accreditation. The ESU shall complete and submit on or before November 1 of~~

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

each year the Annual Accreditation Compliance Report in Appendix A of this Chapter. (Revised and moved from Section 004.07)

004.03 02 To receive accreditation status, the ESU shall comply with all provisions of this Chapter as verified by the Department.

~~004.04~~ Any violations from the provisions of this Chapter which remain uncorrected or which first occur on or after February 1 during a period of accreditation will be considered for the purpose of this Chapter to have existed during the entire period of accreditation.

~~004.05~~ Any violation from the provisions of this Chapter which is corrected prior to February 1, properly reported thus to the Department, and acknowledged by the Department, will be considered for the purposes of this Chapter to have not existed during that entire period of accreditation.

004.03 Violations. In determining the future accreditation status of an ESU, each failure to meet a numbered regulation constitutes a separate violation which, if not corrected, will result in a recommendation to the Board for probation or loss of accreditation. (Revised from Sections 004.04 and 004.05)

004.04 Reporting Violations. The ESU shall report any existing violations to the Department on its Annual Accreditation Compliance Report (Appendix A). (Revised from Section 004.05)

004.05 Correction of Violations. An ESU will have until February 1 to correct violations or to prepare a written plan for correction of a violation that existed at the time of submission of the Annual Accreditation Compliance Report. Written evidence of the correction of the violation(s) or a written plan developed in accordance with Section 004.05A must be submitted to the Department. (Revised from Section 004.05)

004.05A An ESU having an uncorrected violation may submit a written plan to the Department by February 1 for correcting the violation before the following school year. Such plans may be approved by the Board if evidence provided indicates that the violation occurred after August 1, and the violation could not reasonably be corrected immediately before or during the current school year. Written evidence of the correction must be submitted to the Department by the following September 1.

004.06 Effect on Violations on an ESU. An ESU is required by state statute to be accredited. If, after consultation with the ESU administrator and staff, the

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

Commissioner determines that an ESU has any uncorrected violations, he or she shall make the applicable following recommendations to the Board:

004.06A An ESU having an uncorrected violation of a requirement with no written plan under Section 004.05A shall be recommended for ACCREDITATION ON PROBATION for the following school year.

004.06B An ESU having a written plan under Section 004.05A and having the same uncorrected violation after September 1 shall be recommended for ACCREDITATION ON PROBATION for the current school year.

004.06C An ESU receiving ACCREDITATION ON PROBATION designation and continuing to have the same uncorrected violation after February 1 shall be recommended for NONACCREDITATION for the following school year and shall be subject to the loss of authority to operate.

~~004.06 Each ESU will cooperate fully with the Department by hosting the on-site visitation for the purpose of verifying compliance with this Chapter. (Incorporated into Section 006)~~

~~004.07 The ESU shall complete and submit on or before November 1 of each year an application for accreditation to the Department on forms prescribed by the Department. (Revised and moved to Section 004.01)~~

~~004.08 The Department shall notify each ESU by April 15 of its intention to recommend that an ESU be accredited or not accredited for the subsequent year. The ESU shall be notified by certified mail to the chief administrator and to the president of the ESU board whenever the Department intends to recommend to the Board that the ESU not be accredited.~~

~~004.08A Within 21 calendar days of the ESU's receipt of the notice of the Department's intention to recommend to the Board that the ESU not be accredited, the ESU may make a written request for a review by the Commissioner. Following the review, the Commissioner shall:~~

~~004.08A1 Notify the ESU by certified mail that, based upon the review, (s)he will recommend that the ESU not be accredited, or~~

~~004.08A2 Notify the ESU by certified mail that, based upon the review, (s)he will recommend that the ESU be accredited.~~

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

~~004.08B~~ Within 30 calendar days of receipt of the notice of the Commissioner's intention to recommend that the ESU not be accredited, the ESU may request in writing a hearing before the Board. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the hearing procedures of 92 NAC 61, including provisions of that Chapter relating to evidence.

004.07 Provisions for Notice and Hearing.

004.07A When the Commissioner makes a recommendation to the Board for an ESU to be placed on probation or for denial or revocation of accreditation, notice of the recommendation and of the right to request a hearing shall be given to the ESU by certified mail sent at least 30 calendar days prior to the date of the Board meeting at which the recommendation is to be considered. Copies will be sent to the ESU administrator and to the presiding officer of the ESU board, if known. This notice shall specify the basis for the recommendation.

004.07B If the ESU notifies the Commissioner at least seven (7) days prior to the date the recommendation is to be considered by the Board that it requests a hearing, the Board shall schedule a hearing date.

004.07C All hearings arising under this Chapter shall be conducted in accordance with the hearing procedures of 92 NAC 61.

004.08 Action by the Board. Upon review of the Commissioner's recommendation, and following any hearing, the Board shall make a determination of the future accreditation status of the ESU and shall inform the ESU in writing of its determination.

005 Staff

005.01 The ESU board shall employ a chief administrator who shall hold a Nebraska Administrative Certificate endorsed as a superintendent pursuant to 92 NAC 21. (*Moved and revised from 005.01B*)

~~005.01A~~ The chief administrator of the ESU who is first employed before January 2, 1989 shall hold a valid Nebraska Professional Administrative Certificate pursuant to 92 NAC 21.

~~005.01B~~ The chief administrator of the ESU who is first employed after January 2, 1989 shall hold a superintendent endorsement on his/her valid Nebraska Professional Administrative Certificate pursuant to 92 NAC 21.

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

005.02 All ESU staff who have teaching responsibilities for students shall hold valid Nebraska teaching or administrative certificates pursuant to 92 NAC 21.

005.02A Computed on a full-time equivalency basis, a minimum of 90 percent of the ESU's teaching assignments shall be in areas for which assigned teachers hold certificates having appropriate endorsements pursuant to 92 NAC 24.

~~005.03~~ Teaching assignments shall be made only to ESU teachers who hold valid Nebraska teaching certificates having appropriate endorsements, provided such endorsements are being offered by a Nebraska standard institution of higher education.

~~005.03A~~ Each certificated instructional staff member who is inappropriately assigned shall constitute a violation of this Chapter.

~~005.03B~~ The ESU will be allowed one inappropriate assignment violation per period of accreditation.

005.04 03 Special service certificate holders shall be limited to providing those services specified on their Nebraska Special Services Certificate.

005.04 Evaluation Policies and Procedures for Certificated Staff. The ESU shall have written board policies and procedures for the evaluation of certificated employees that are filed with the Department and approved by the Commissioner or his or her designee.

005.04A The policies and procedures shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

005.04A1 Annual written communication of the evaluation process to those being evaluated;

005.04A2 A description of the duration and frequency of observations and written evaluations for probationary and permanent certificated employees;

005.04A3 Specific ESU-defined evaluation criteria, which include, at the minimum:

005.04A3a Instructional performance (applicable to teachers only),

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

005.04A3b Classroom organization and management (applicable to teachers only), and

005.04A3c Personal and professional conduct.

005.04A4 Provision for written communication and documentation to the evaluated certificated employee specifying all noted deficiencies, specific means for the correction of the noted deficiency, and an adequate timeline for implementing the concrete suggestions for improvement;

005.04A5 Provision for the certificated employee to offer a written response to the evaluation; and

005.04A6 A description of the ESU plan for training evaluators.

005.04B The Commissioner or his or her designee shall approve the policies and procedures if they are in compliance with the requirements in Sections 005.04A1 through 005.04A6 and shall notify the ESU of approval in writing. Such approval shall remain in effect until there is a change in the policies or procedures by the ESU, or an amendment of state law or regulations relating to such approval.

005.04C In the event an ESU changes, or is required by law or regulation to change, its approved policies or procedures for certificated employee evaluation, it shall resubmit the revised policies and procedures to the Commissioner or his or her designee for reapproval.

005.04D If the Commissioner or his or her designee determines that the policies and procedures of the ESU are out of compliance with the provisions of this Chapter, the Commissioner or his or her designee shall notify the ESU in writing. The ESU may resubmit amended policies and procedures or may appeal such determination to the Board pursuant to the procedures set forth in 92 NAC 61.

005.05 All evaluators, with the exception of the ESU board when it evaluates the administrator, shall possess a valid Nebraska Administrative Certificate and shall be trained to use the evaluation system used in the ESU.

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

~~006—Informational Reports (Moved to Section 003.04B)~~

~~006.01~~ The ESU shall submit informational reports as required by the Department. *(Incorporated into Section 003.04B)*

~~006.02~~ All reports required of ESU's shall be made on forms prescribed and furnished by the Department.

~~006.03~~ Any report required by the Department shall be submitted on or before the due date and with all requested information, including required signatures. *(Incorporated into Section 003.04B)*

~~006.04~~ Any ESU which fails to submit a report on or before the due date shall cause the Department to issue official notice of such failure by certified mail to the president of the ESU board and to the chief administrator. If the delinquent report is not received by the Department within thirty days of the date which the notice is postmarked, the Department shall recommend to the Board that the ESU not be accredited for the remainder of the accreditation period. This action shall be subject to the procedures outlined in ~~004.08~~. *(Moved to Section 003.04C)*

~~007—Evaluation 006 ESU Improvement and Evaluation~~

~~007.01~~ Each ESU shall conduct a comprehensive evaluation of its programs and services at least once in every seven year period using models approved by the Department and as scheduled by the Department. 006.01 The ESU shall develop and implement a continuous improvement process to promote quality learning, equity, and accountability. The ESU's improvement process shall include, but is not limited to, the following activities within each five-year period:

~~007.01A~~ The evaluation shall include an on-site visitation by an external team. The membership of the team shall be mutually agreed upon by the chief administrator of the ESU and the Department. 006.01A Review and update of a mission and vision statement.

006.01B On-going collection and analysis of aggregate data about student performance, programs, core services and services, demographics, and school district satisfaction;

006.01C Identification of annual improvement goals based on the data identified in Section 006.01B;

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

006.01D Development and implementation of a plan that includes procedures, strategies, or actions to achieve goals; and

006.01E Annual evaluation of progress toward improvement goals.

006.02 The ESU continuous improvement process shall include an on-site visitation by an external team to review the process. The external team shall be made up of a minimum of five (5) persons, not employed by the ESU or in schools served by the ESU. The chair of the external team shall be assigned by the Commissioner or his or her designee with remaining membership of the team agreed upon by the ESU administrator and the Commissioner or his or her designee. A copy of the external team's written report, including recommendations, shall be provided to the Department. The external team visits shall be conducted at least once each five years.

006.02A The AdvancED Quality Assurance Review (QAR) may be used by the ESU to fulfill the requirement for an on-site visitation if all of the requirements of Section 006.02 of this Chapter are met.

~~007.01B The External Team shall be a group of persons, not employed by the ESU or in schools served by the ESU, who conduct the on-site evaluation visit as required by this Rule. (Revised and moved to 006.02)~~

008—Audits ~~007 Audits~~

~~008.01 007.01 The ESU shall conduct an~~ cause an annual independent audit of all its books, accounts, records, and affairs to be made as required by Section 79-1229(2) R.R.S. annually using a licensed independent auditor or the Auditor of Public Accounts.

~~008.02 007.02 A copy of the annual audit report shall be provided to each member public school system on request and to the Department. The original copy of the audit shall be filed in the office of the Auditor of Public Accounts, as required by Section 79-1229(2) R.R.S., and copies of the audit shall be provided to each member school district on request and to the Department.~~

009—Core Services ~~008 Core Services~~

~~009.01 008.01 Provision of Core Services. Except as provided in Section 009.02, c~~ Core services shall be provided by educational service units the ESU to all member school districts. Core services shall be defined by each educational service unit ESU as follows:

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

~~009.01A~~ 008.01A Core services shall be within the following service areas in order of priority: Staff development, which shall include staff development related to improving the achievement of all students including the achievement of students in poverty and students with diverse backgrounds; technology, including distance education services; and instructional materials services;

~~009.01B~~ 008.01B Core services shall improve teaching and student learning by focusing on enhancing school improvement efforts, meeting statewide requirements including but not limited to accountability requirements, and achieving statewide goals in the state's system of elementary and secondary education;

~~009.01C~~ 008.01C Core services shall provide schools with access to services that:

~~009.01C1~~ 008.01C1 the educational ~~service unit~~ ESU and its member school districts have identified as necessary services;

~~009.01C2~~ 008.01C2 are difficult, if not impossible, for most individual school districts to effectively and efficiently provide with their own personnel and financial resources;

~~009.01C3~~ 008.01C3 can be efficiently provided by each ~~educational service unit~~ ESU to its member school districts; and

~~009.01C4~~ 008.01C4 can be adequately funded to ensure that the service is provided equitably to the state's public school districts;

~~009.01D~~ 008.01D Core services shall be designed so that the effectiveness and efficiency of the service can be evaluated on a statewide basis; and

~~009.01E~~ 008.01E Core services shall be provided by the ~~educational service unit~~ ESU in a manner that minimizes the costs of administration or service delivery to member school districts.

~~009.02 Funds for Core Services. Funds appropriated for core services shall be distributed proportionally to each educational service unit by the State Department of Education on or before August 1 of each school fiscal year based on the fall membership in member districts in the preceding school fiscal year, although no educational service unit will receive less than 2.5% of the total funds~~

TITLE 92
CHAPTER 84

~~allocated. Funds distributed pursuant to this section shall be used for core services with the approval of representatives of two-thirds of the member school districts, representing a majority of the students in those member school districts. If a member school district provides evidence satisfactory to the educational service unit that the district will provide core services for itself in a cost-efficient manner, the educational service unit may distribute funds directly to the district to be used for providing core services, or if all member school districts within the boundaries of an educational service unit together provide evidence satisfactory to the State Department of Education that the districts will provide core services for themselves in a more cost-efficient manner than the educational service unit, the department shall distribute funds directly to the districts to be used for providing core services.~~

~~009.02A Satisfactory evidence that a member district will provide cost-efficient core services for itself shall be submitted to the ESU according to a uniform application procedure adopted by all ESU boards. It shall include a description of the proposed core services, a budget, a description of delivery methods, and summative evaluation.~~

~~009.02B Applications for funds to be used by member districts to provide their own cost-efficient core services shall be reviewed by the ESU Advisory Committee. The Committee recommendations for approval or disapproval shall be presented to the ESU Board for final action.~~

ANNUAL ACCREDITATION COMPLIANCE REPORT
-AND-
APPLICATION FOR CLASSIFICATION AS AN ACCREDITED ESU FOR 20__-20__
UNDER RULE 84 (Regulations for the Accreditation of Educational Service Units)

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NUMBER: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip code: _____.

The Educational Service Unit complies with the following provisions of law and regulation and hereby applies for accreditation for 20__-20__:

Rule 84 Reference		Yes	No
003.02	Does the ESU provide core services to all member districts, including access to statewide core service initiatives as established by the ESU Coordinating Council in collaboration with the Department of Education and requested by member districts?		
003.02A	Does the ESU administrator serve as a member of the ESU Coordinating Council?		
003.02A1	Did the ESU administrator or designee participate in two meetings jointly established between the ESU Coordinating Council and the Department of Education during the past school year?		
003.02B	Does the ESU have staff designated to participate in professional development activities related to statewide core services initiatives and planning established during the meetings designated in Section 003.02A1?		
003.03	Does the ESU provide ESU services as permitted by the ESU Act?		
003.04A	Is the annual written program report on the various programs of service to schools for the past year provided to member school districts and to the Department by November 1 of each year? (Please enclose a copy of the annual written program report if not already mailed or indicate the weblink to access the report electronically.)		
003.04B	Are all informational reports as required by the Commissioner or his or her designee submitted, i.e. Personnel Report?		
003.05	Has the ESU board adopted a comprehensive set of written policies in accordance with Sections 003.05A through 003.05E that govern the organization and operation of the ESU?		

Rule 84 Reference		Yes	No
005.01	Does the chief administrator hold a Nebraska Administrative Certificate with an endorsement for superintendent?		
005.02	Do all ESU staff who have teaching responsibilities for students hold valid Nebraska teaching certificates pursuant to 92 NAC 21?		
005.02A	Are at least 90% of the teaching assignments, when computed on a full-time equivalency basis, assigned to appropriately endorsed teachers?		
005.03	Are special service certificate holders limited to providing those services specified on their Nebraska Special Services Certificate?		
005.04B	Is the current evaluation policy for certificated staff approved and on file with the Department of Education?		
006.02	Has the ESU conducted a comprehensive evaluation of its continuous improvement process to promote quality learning, equity, and accountability and external visit in the past five-year period?		
	The date of the last on-site visitation by an external team was:		
	We anticipate the next scheduled visit will be:		
007.02	Has a copy of the annual audit report been provided to each member school district on request and to the Department?		
008.01	Does the ESU provide core services to all member school districts?		

We presently meet the accreditation provisions in Title 92, Chapter 84 with the following exceptions:

I have referred to Rule 84 and hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein is correct and complete.

Signature of Administrator

Date

**Retain a photocopy of the completed, signed form.
Return the original to the Department of Education**