

Regular & Substantive Interaction (RSI) in the Online Classroom

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How do you measure the depth or quality of interactions in your online courses?



Students, write your response!

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Education that uses technology to deliver instruction to students who are separated from the instructor(s) and to support regular and substantive interaction between the students and the instructor(s), either synchronously or asynchronously.

- [Code of Federal Regulations § 600.2](#)

Education that... supports *regular and substantive interaction* between the instructor and the students...



an occasion when two or more people communicate with or react to each other

happening or doing something often

having real importance or value

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1.

Substantive Interaction

How do you measure the depth or quality of interactions in your online courses?



Students, write your response!

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How do you measure the depth or quality of interactions in your online courses?

Panelists:

What activities do you use most frequently to ensure substantive interaction?

(4) For purposes of this definition, substantive interaction is engaging students in teaching, learning, and assessment, consistent with the content under discussion, and also includes at least two of the following—

- (i) Providing direct instruction;
- (ii) Assessing or providing feedback on a student's coursework;
- (iii) Providing information or responding to questions about the content of a course or competency;
- (iv) Facilitating a group discussion regarding the content of a course or competency; or
- (v) Other instructional activities approved by the institution's or program's accrediting agency.

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2.

Regular Interaction

How frequently do you feel you need to engage with students to ensure their success?



Students, write your response!

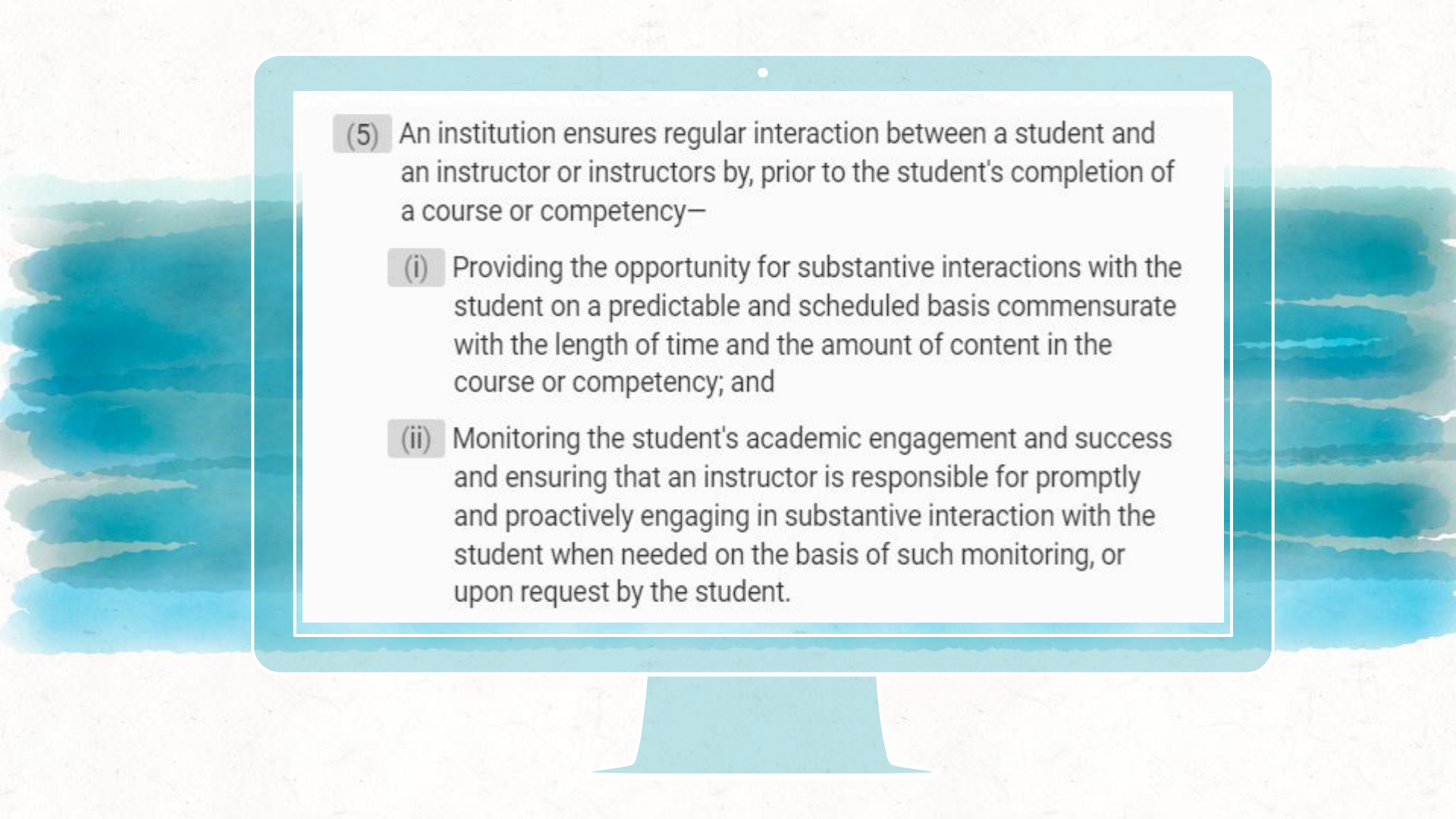
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How frequently do you feel you need to engage with students to ensure their success?

Panelists:

When thinking of your in-person courses, how often do you have a meaningful interaction with those students?

How do you ensure comparable interactions with your online students?

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- (5) An institution ensures regular interaction between a student and an instructor or instructors by, prior to the student's completion of a course or competency—
 - (i) Providing the opportunity for substantive interactions with the student on a predictable and scheduled basis commensurate with the length of time and the amount of content in the course or competency; and
 - (ii) Monitoring the student's academic engagement and success and ensuring that an instructor is responsible for promptly and proactively engaging in substantive interaction with the student when needed on the basis of such monitoring, or upon request by the student.

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3.

Putting RSI Into Practice

Share your thoughts

- What's your biggest challenge in achieving regular and substantive interaction?
- What type of support do you feel would most help you implement effective RSI?
- What is one thing you could add to or change in your course to improve RSI?