# Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI) Approaches and Tools

**U.S. Department of Education** requires institutions “ensure there is regular and substantive interaction between students and instructors” in distance education courses. 34 CFR 600.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RSI Element</th>
<th>Approaches</th>
<th>Tools</th>
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</table>
| **Direct Instruction** | • Demonstration  
• Guided Practice  
• Lecture/Presentation (Narration/Description)  
• Modeling  
• Overall Course Design | Audio Recording ([D2L](https://d2l.mtsu.edu), [Panopto](https://www.panopto.com))  
[D2L Discussion Board Posts](https://d2l.mtsu.edu)  
[H5P Activities](https://h5p.org)  
Handouts  
Presentation Slideshow  
Simulations  
Video Recording ([D2L](https://d2l.mtsu.edu), [Panopto](https://www.panopto.com), [Stream](https://stream.lms.com))  
Web Conferencing ([Zoom](https://zoom.us), [Microsoft Teams](https://teams.microsoft.com))  
Whiteboards (Microsoft, [Zoom](https://zoom.us)) |
| **Feedback** | Meaningful Feedback Model  
• POPSTAR: Personalized, Opportunity for improvement, Positive, Specific, Timely, Actionable, and Respectful  
Assessment Activities  
• Homework  
• Quizzes/Exams  
• Discussion Boards | D2L Discussion Board Assessment Comments or Posts  
D2L Dropbox Comments (Text, Audio/Video Recording)  
D2L Intelligent Agents  
D2L Quiz Question Feedback  
Microsoft Office Track Changes/Comments Rubrics |
| **Responding to Questions** | • Discussion Boards  
• Email/Messaging  
• News Announcements  
• Office Hours | D2L Course Q&A Discussion Board  
D2L News Announcements  
Email/Messaging (Teams Chat Channels)  
Web Conferencing for Virtual Office Hours ([Zoom](https://zoom.us)/[Microsoft Teams](https://teams.microsoft.com)) |
| **Facilitating Group Discussion** | Evidence of Instructor Presence/Interaction  
• Guiding Discussion through Additional Prompts/Questions  
• Initiating Prompts  
• Responding to Student Posts (Selective Response)  
• Summarizing Key Ideas | D2L Discussion Board  
D2L Groups Area  
Flip (formerly known as FlipGrid)  
Messaging ([Microsoft](https://microsoft.com) Teams Chat Channels)  
Social Annotation Tools ([Hypothes.is](https://hypothes.is), [Perusall](https://perusall.com)) |
| **Other Activities** | • Internships  
• Field Experiences  
• Service Learning/Experiential Learning | D2L Dropbox  
D2L ePortfolio  
Collaborative Spaces ([Microsoft OneDrive](https://onedrive.microsoft.com))  
Web Conferencing ([Zoom](https://zoom.us)/[Microsoft Teams](https://teams.microsoft.com)) |