

Authenticating the Identity of Distance Learning Students

SECURITY

VBG's Vocal-ID™ Service uses the student's own voice, combined with existing logon credentials, to provide secure, multi-factor protection when online. Teachers can be assured that their students are participating in courses and are actually taking their own exams.

CONVENIENCE

Students no longer have to go to proctoring centers for exams, nor do they need to print affidavits, have them signed and notarized, and send them in to school. 100% of courses and exams can be taken from the convenience of the student's home or place of work.

COMPLIANCE

Vocal-ID™ helps to address requirements established by the August 14, 2008 Higher Education Act Reauthorization for distance education. According to an American Council on Education Analysis of HEA:

"Institutions that offer distance education must establish that a student registered for a distance education course is the same student who completes and receives credit for it."

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www.voicebiogroup.com

Voice Biometrics Group (VBG) Vocal-ID™ Service Assures Identity

Thanks to the proliferation of distance learning in recent years, students no longer need to physically attend classes to obtain degrees from thousands of universities and colleges around the world. Distance learning is often more convenient and less expensive for many students, and educational institutions can leverage scarce and valuable resources into additional sources of revenue. However, distance learning is not without its problems:

- ▶ Exam cheating is greatly increased when students are taking exams at home or are being monitored by proctors who don't know them.
- ▶ Also, instructors have no way of knowing if their students are actually spending time online to learn course materials. With new financial aid guidelines, this is becoming a more pressing issue to address.
- ▶ Identity and Access Management (IAM) issues continue to be at the forefront of higher education IT administration concerns. New regulations must be met, and a variety of IT security programs need to be put in place, to deal with identity theft in distance learning.

About Vocal-ID™

VBG's Vocal-ID™ Service is a fully hosted and managed service offering on-demand authentication at any point in the distance learning course or exam.

Enrollment

VBG uses sophisticated voice biometric software to create voice prints for distance learning students. Students call our toll-free number, or we call them at their registered phone number. Our automated, one-time enrollment process takes less than a minute. We are also able to support a number of different languages and application scenarios.

Verification

Students are automatically called at random points in their online session using a simple web service call to our platform. We prompt students to speak for a few seconds in order to verify their identity and continue with the course or exam.

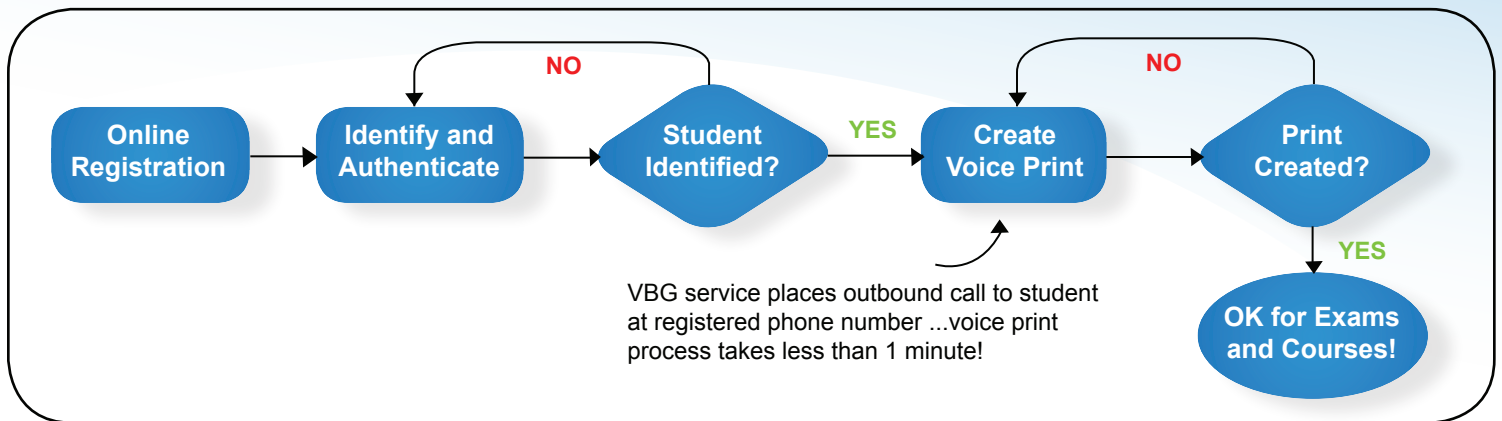


Everyone Wins. Student, faculty, and school administrators all benefit from the Vocal-ID™ system:

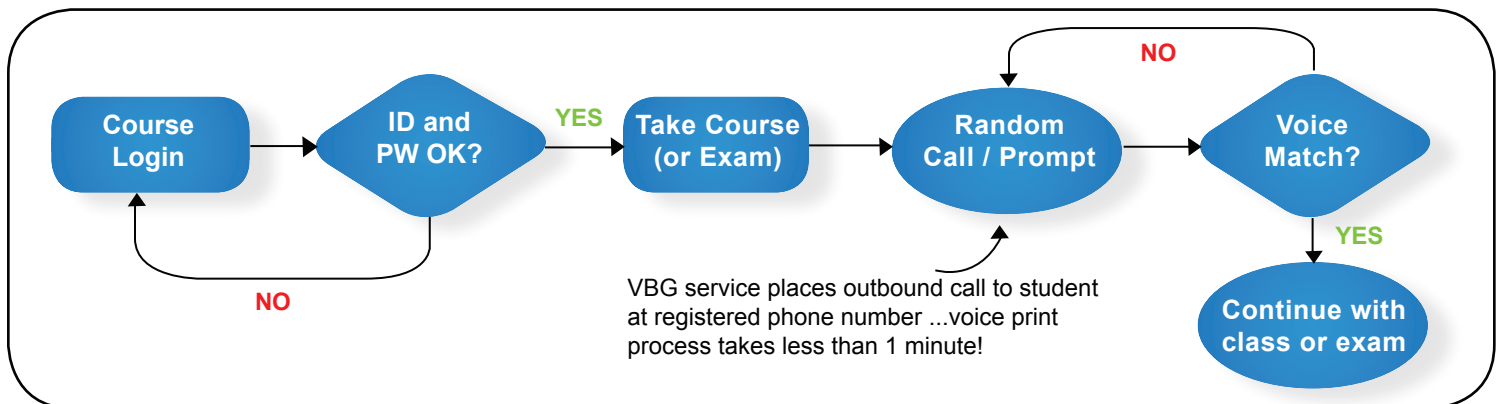
- ▶ Students don't need to travel to test centers or bring signed coursework to notary agents. This saves them both time and money.
- ▶ Faculty members have the assurance that the proper students are actually the ones taking their classes and exams.
- ▶ School administrators have a secure mechanism to meet new federal guidelines for financial aid. And, we protect against student identity theft too!

Vocal-ID™ Technical Information

One-Time Course Enrollment Process



Subsequent Coursework or Exams



Our Call Technology

VBG's voice enrollment and verification processes are fully automated and scripted by our IVR system. There is nothing for the student to learn or remember: our scripts manage the entire process! And, we have the capacity to handle hundreds of thousands of calls per day.

First, we place an outbound call to students during the registration process to create their voice print. Subsequently, we place random calls during courses and exams. Within a few seconds, we can verify the student's identity. Our multi-factor security process assures administrators that the actual student is logged in and taking courses and exams — a must for meeting HEA requirements for distance learning!

CORE TECHNOLOGY

The foundation of VBG's technology is our VMM-1 multi-mode voice biometric engine. The VMM-1 engine uses multiple decision algorithms to ensure highly accurate and reliable voice print matches. And, VBG's high volume web request processor can support millions of requests per day.

EXPERIENCE

VBG's team has been developing hosted voice authentication solutions in the U.S. since 2005 — we have more experience with this unique approach than anyone else. In addition to distance learning schools, we have customer deployments in banks, financial institutions and pharmaceutical research companies.

OPEN STANDARDS

Our service platform uses only commonly accepted components, such as Apache Tomcat, XML, Java, VoiceXML, and MySQL databases. These are the same components that power many of today's largest Internet organizations.

VOCAL-ID™ SYSTEM FEATURES

- ▶ Integrates with Blackboard, Sakai, Moodle, and other LMS platforms
- ▶ XML, VoiceXML, Java, and .NET APIs
- ▶ Fully programmable IVR functions to suit any class or exam scenario
- ▶ Configurable security settings
- ▶ Active alerting and anti-fraud features
- ▶ Web-based administration and reporting console
- ▶ Full logging and audit trail for all student activities

