The Center for Distance Education (CDE) is a service unit of the University and extends educational opportunities to individuals through a variety of learning options in non-traditional program formats. CDE provides leadership, coordination, and assistance in implementing distance education programs offered by Mississippi State University. The mission of CDE is to engage people in achieving their lifelong educational goals through dynamic partnerships, targeted programming, innovative technology, and quality customer service.

CDE is committed to working with faculty and staff to promote distance education. CDE assists with the facilitation and delivery of distance education programs and certificates at the graduate and undergraduate levels. All distance courses and programs offered through Mississippi State University are fully accredited and possess the same rigor and standards of the traditional campus. Delivery methods offered include completely online and hybrid. Distance classes include an instructional support fee, distance fees which may vary by course, and tuition & required fees. The instructional support fee and distance fees will be collected as part of registration. CDE also specializes in customer service for all distance education students.