E-Commerce Credit Card Processing Model

Individual University merchant location
A University e-commerce site, which sells goods or services to customers via a Web site. A merchant that accepts payment cards must have an Internet Merchant Account with a credit card processor.

Payment Gateway
Operated by a third-party provider, the payment gateway provides a secure interface between your e-commerce site and the credit card processor.

Credit Card processor
A financial institution that establishes an account with the customer, the merchant, and processes payment authorizations and payments. The credit card processor provides authorization to the University merchant that a given customer account is active and that the proposed purchase does not exceed the customer's limit. The Credit card processor also provides electronic transfer of payments to the merchant’s account, and is then reimbursed by the issuer via the transfer of electronic funds over the payment gateway.