



SARA Overview and Update

State Authorization
Reciprocity Agreements
for Distance Education

Louisiana Board of Regents
eLearning Conference

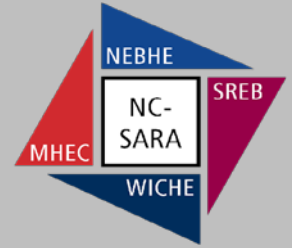
April 10, 2018



National Council for
State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements

A voluntary, regional approach to state oversight of distance education

Presenter



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I'm not sure I
understand
SARA



Goals



SARA establishes a **state-level reciprocity process** that supports the nation in efforts to increase the educational attainment of its people by making state authorization:

- **more efficient, effective, and uniform** in regard to necessary and reasonable standards of practice that could span states;
- **more effective** in dealing with quality and integrity issues that have arisen in some online/distance education offerings; and
- **less costly** for states and institutions and, thereby, the students they serve.

SARA: A negotiated compromise

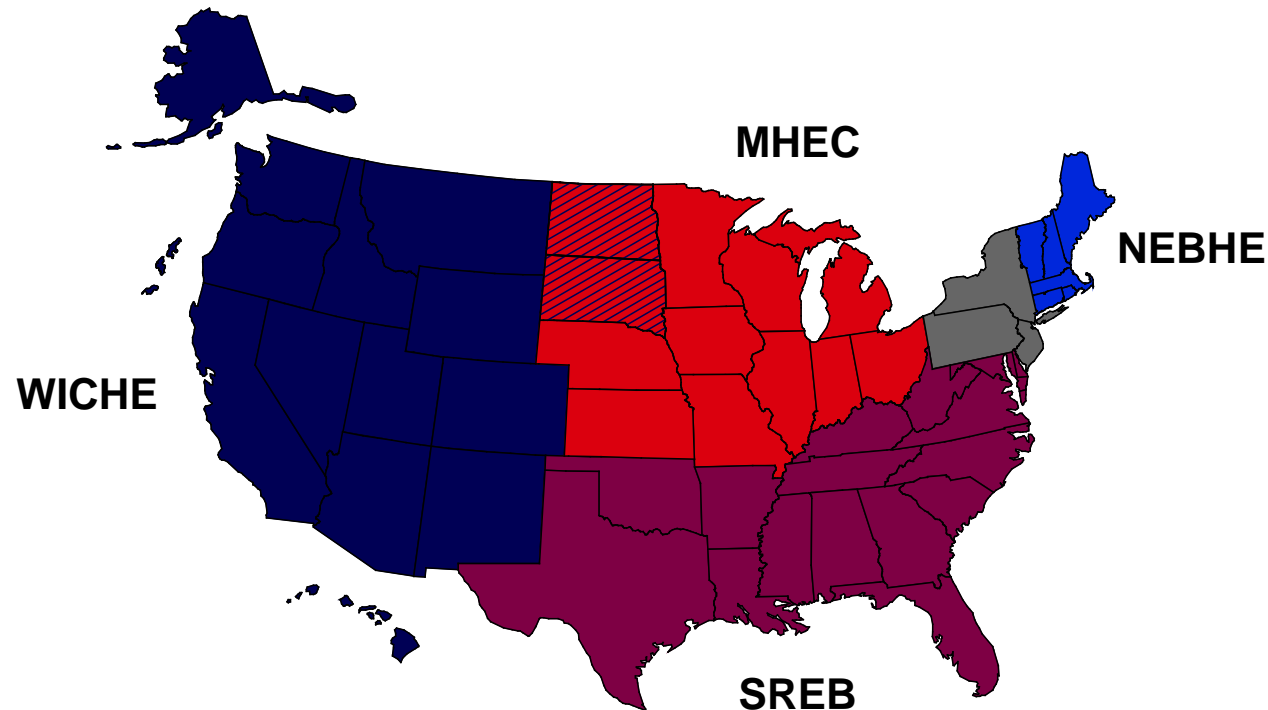


- Institutions' goals
- Regulators' concerns
- Others
 - Accreditors
 - Regional compacts
 - National commission

The SARA Solution



A nation-wide system of reciprocity administered by the **four existing regional compacts**.



Benefits to States



- Expands educational offerings to residents.
- Allows SARA states to focus on their home-state institutions.
- Maintains state regulation of on-the-ground instruction offered by out-of-state institutions.
- Other SARA states helps resolve complaints.
- Reduces costs for institutions.
- No fees charged to states to participate in SARA.

Benefits to Institutions



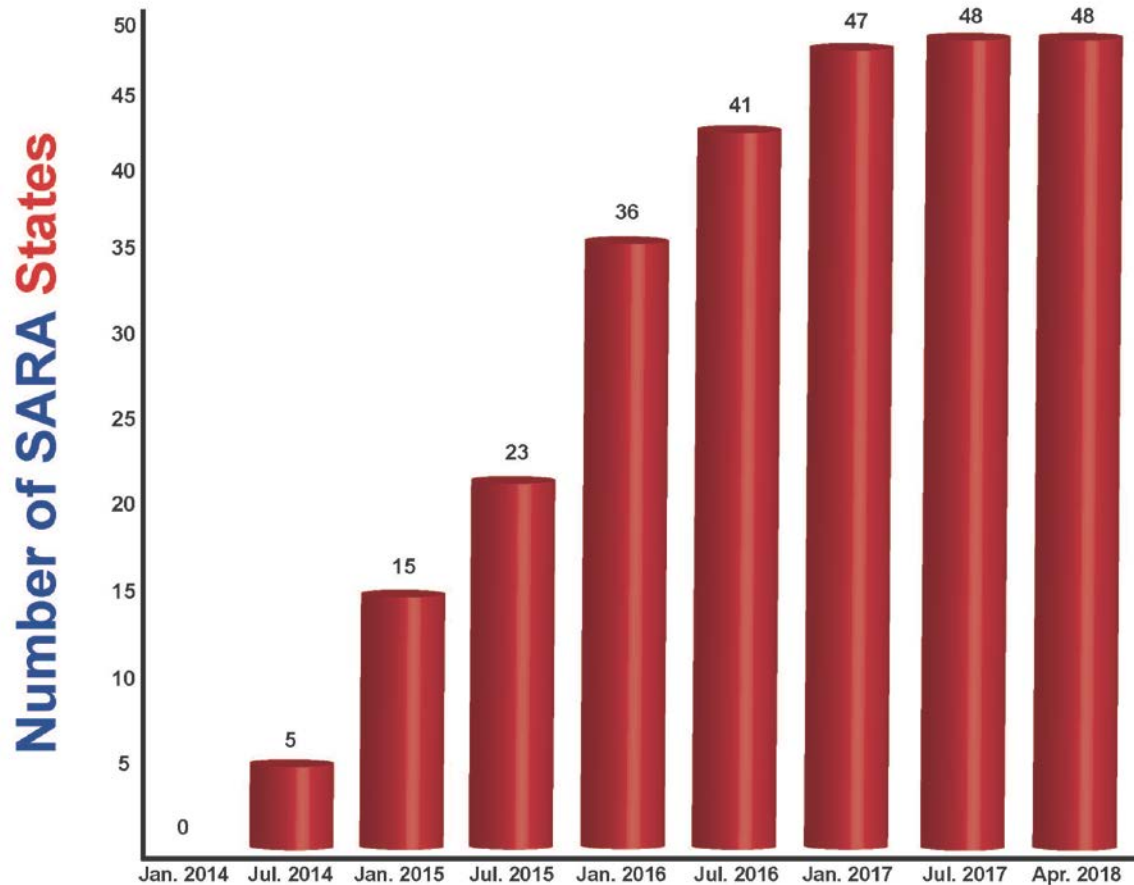
- Enables **more efficient provision of distance education** to a broader market.
- Reduces number of applications to other states.
- Reduces number of other-state regulations to monitor for changes.
- **Reduces costs.**
- Reduced costs = potentially lower fees for students.

Benefits to Students



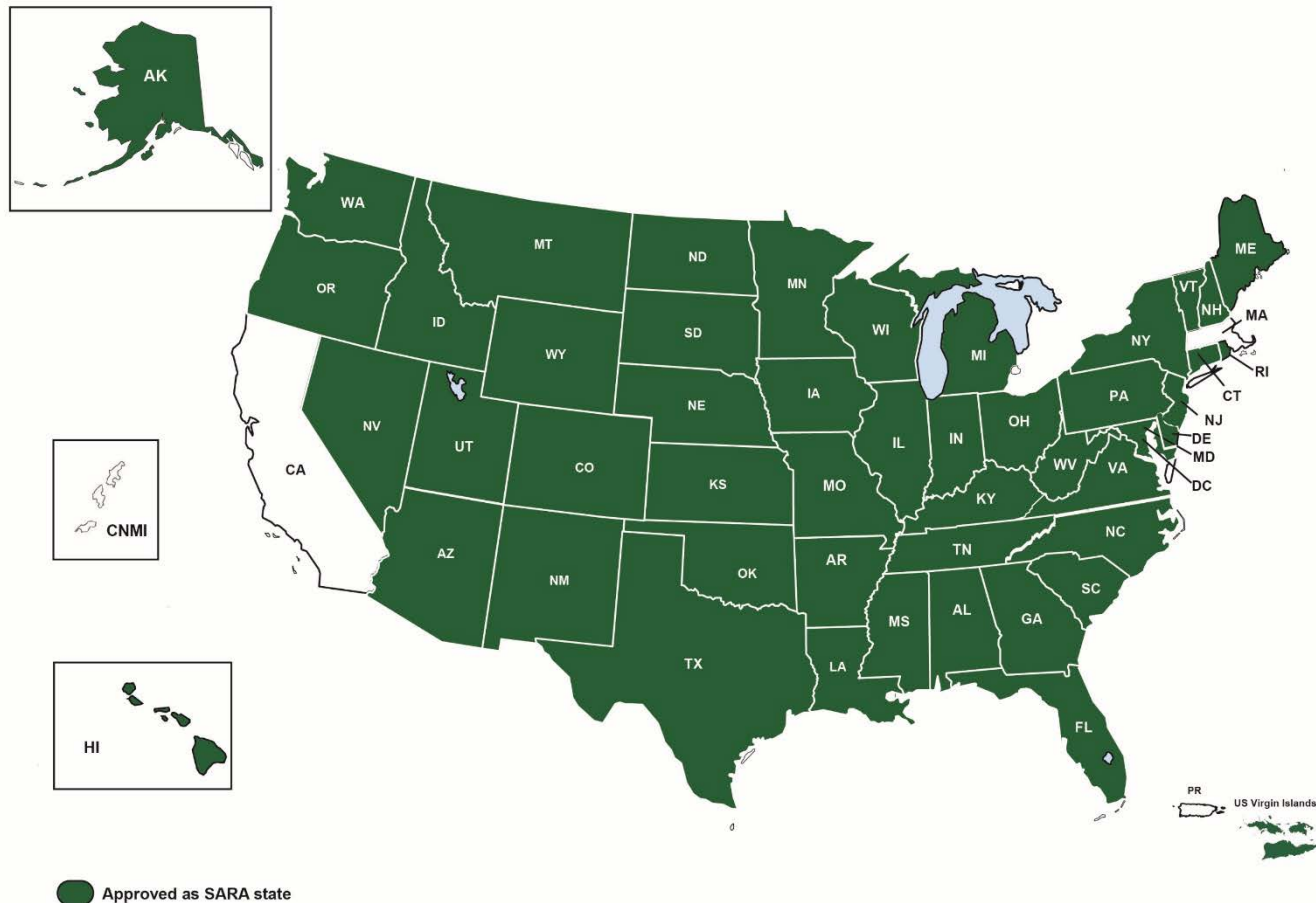
- Expands access to educational offerings
- Should lead to better resolution of complaints from students in SARA states
- Reduces a rapidly growing institutional cost that is in one way or another passed along to students
- Should enhance overall quality of distance education

SARA Member States

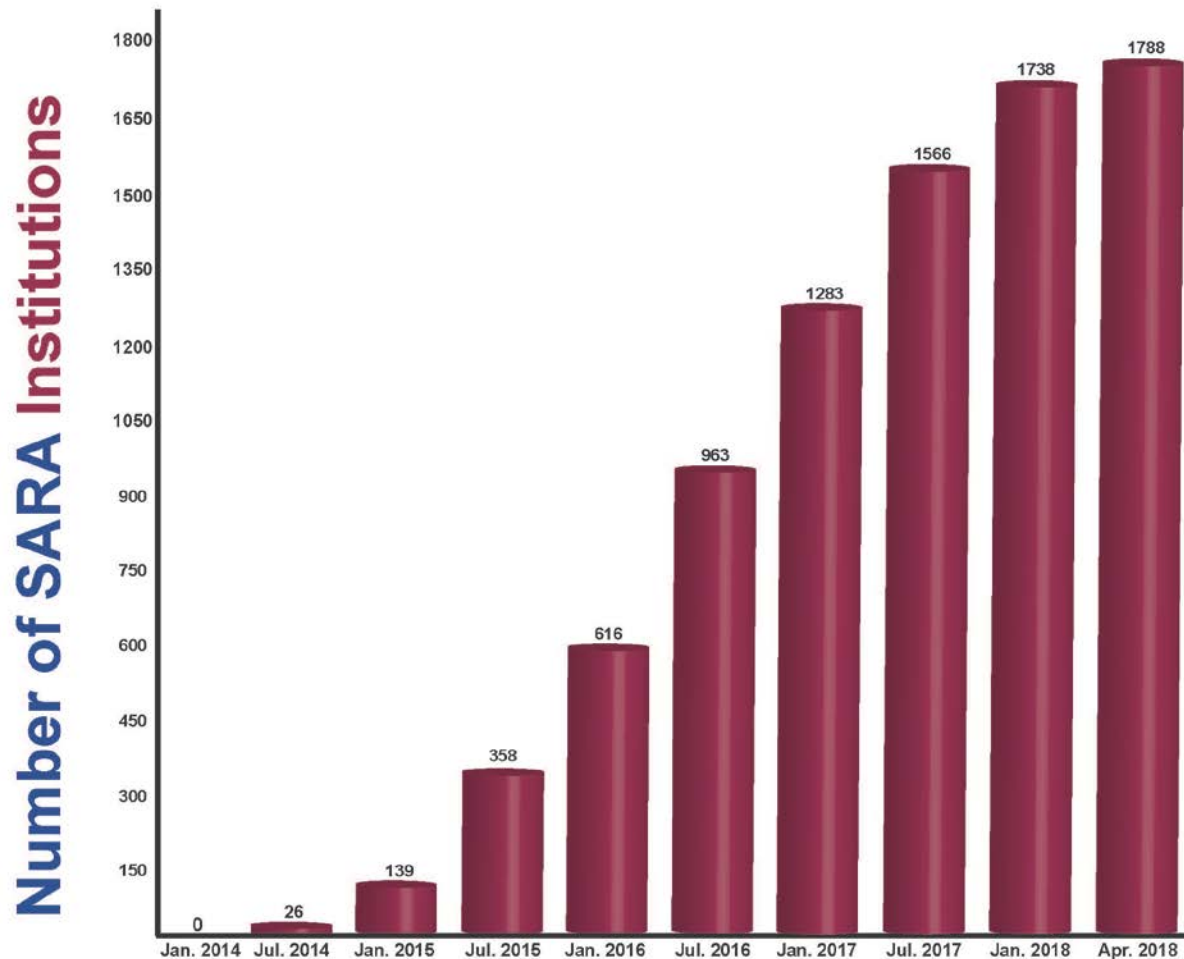


The District of Columbia and U.S. Virgin Islands are also SARA members.

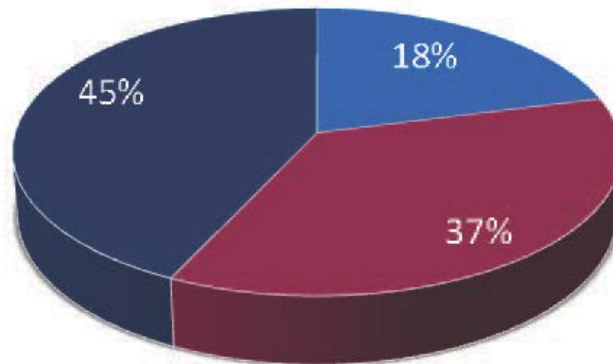
The Current SARA Landscape



SARA Participating Institutions



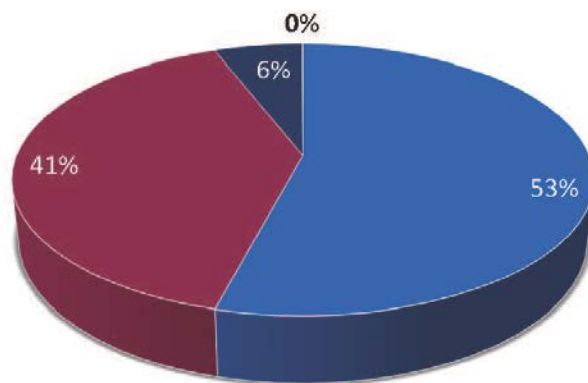
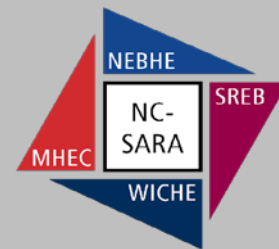
Institutions by Size



Institutions by **SIZE**



Institutions by Sector



Institutions by
SECTOR / TYPE



What SARA Doesn't Cover....

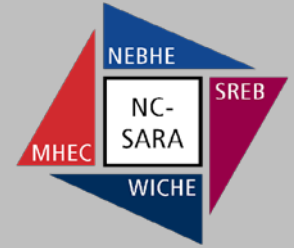


- Professional licensure board requirements.
- Secretary of State registration.
- Agent for Service of Process applications.
- Workers Compensation Insurance.
- Physical locations to offer instruction.
- Providing office space for faculty or staff.
-

(SARA Manual Section 5: Coverage and Limitations of SARA)

Do You Know
Where Your
Students Are?





2017 Enrollment Report

- 1,477 institutions reported
- 1,170,725 total reported out-of-state enrollments
- Report is available on the NC-SARA web page:
www.nc-sara.org
 - Documents
 - SARA Development Documents
 - 2017

2018 Enrollment Reports



**The 2018 Enrollment Data Reporting period
will be **May 21 - June 11****

- All SARA institutions are required to participate in enrollment reporting.
- The 2018 *NC-SARA Enrollment Data Reporting Guide*, *Placement Reporting Guide* and *Data Sharing Agreement* are available on the NC-SARA website.
- The 2018 Guides provide an expanded FAQs section.
- Webinar on Data Reporting is on the NC-SARA website.

Website: NC-SARA.org



NC-SARA

National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements

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What does my
state need to do
to join SARA?

What does my
institution need
to do?

What are my
benefits as a
student?


SARA EXPANDS ACCESS
FOR STUDENTS TO
EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS.




SARA Manual


NC-SARA Manual 


Resource Items

FINAL 2018 Data Sharing
Agreement 

FINAL 2018 Data Reporting
Guide 

FINAL 2018 Placement Reporting
Guide 

2018 Sample Placement
Reporting Matrix 

Unified State Authorization
Reciprocity Agreement 

State Actions Regarding SARA

[Details on legislation and application status of
states in the regional education compacts.](#)

Approved States/Institutions



NC-SARA Blog

[Spring 2018 Reporting for SARA Institutions](#)

Submitted by jshanika on Tue, 03/06/2018 - 11:33

The Spring 2018 NC-SARA Enrollment Data Reporting
Guide and Spring 2018 Data Sharing Agreement are
now available.

[Read more](#)

[SARA and ACICS-accredited Institutions: Further Developments](#)

Submitted by vbrieske on Thu, 03/29/2018 - 14:39

In January of 2017, NC-SARA released the following
blog post and related letter:

Experiential Learning Basics for Licensed Professions



- SARA basic provisions
 - Ten students/program/site
- Check with the state's licensing entities for programs leading to licensure
- Meet their requirements and notify the student
- The institution may determine whether the course or program meets the requirements for professional licensure in the state where the applicant or student resides and provide that information in **writing to the student**, or
- *After making all reasonable efforts to make such a determination*, if unsuccessful, the institution may notify the applicant or student **in writing** that the institution cannot confirm whether the course or program meets requirements for professional licensure in the student's state, provide the student with current contact information for any applicable licensing boards, and advise the student to determine whether the program meets requirements for licensure in the state where the student lives.

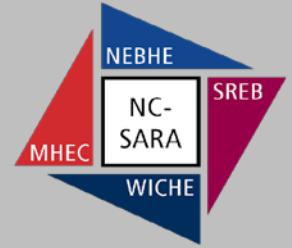
(SARA Manual Section 5: Coverage and Limitations of SARA)

SARA News...continued

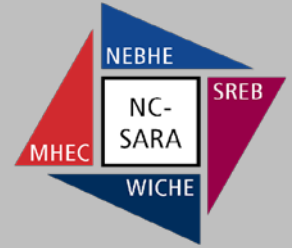


- Student and Institution Support
 - New edition of *SARA Manual* (March 2018)
 - Additional online resources (spring 2018)
 - Redesign of website (summer 2018)
 - Former SHEEO “State Surveys”
 - Joint Project with WCET/SAN
 - (late spring 2018)
 - Revised process forms (January 2018)

SARA News...continued



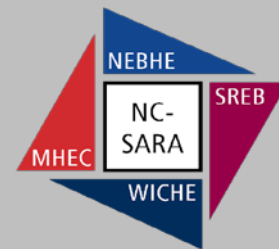
- **Marianne Boeke Joins NC-SARA**
- Marianne Boeke will be joining us as Associate Director for Policy Research and State Support.
- Marianne is currently a Senior Associate at the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) in Boulder, Colorado.
- At NCHEMS for 14 years, Marianne has worked on a variety of projects involving the use of technology in education, competency based education, state authorization, and other issues.



SARA News...continued

- July 2018 federal rules
 - Dear Colleague Letter?
 - Repeal?
 - Delay Implementation?
 - State Authorization & SARA remain
- HEA reauthorization

SARA Resources



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NC-SARA Website

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Enrollment reporting questions

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Questions for NC-SARA

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