WELCOME!

• Please use the Question and Answer feature for questions.

• The Closed Caption option is available.

• The webinar will be recorded.

• This PowerPoint and any other resources referenced will be available next week to all who registered, and will be posted on the NC-SARA website.
Presenters

Lori Williams, Ph.D.
President & CEO, NC-SARA

Jeannie Yockey-Fine
General Counsel, NC-SARA

Wanda Barker
SARA Director, SREB
Division Director, Education Technology & Multistate Cooperative Programs
Agenda

- NC-SARA Board Meeting Overview
- New Board Members
- Branch Campus Working Group
- Policy Change Modification (1)
- Policy Clarifications (5)
- Questions and Discussion
NC-SARA Board Meeting Overview
NC-SARA New Board Members

Lanna Dueck
- Executive Director, Arizona SARA Council
- Chair of the WICHE-SARA Regional Steering Committee
- State Portal Entity

Angela Lee
- Executive Director, District of Columbia Higher Education Licensure Commission (HELC)
- Chair of the SREB-SARA Regional Steering Committee
- State Portal Entity

Carlos Morales, Ph.D.
- President, Tarrant County College's Connect Campus (Texas)
NC-SARA Branch Campus Working Group

• **Purpose and Charge:**
  The purpose of the Branch Campus Working Group is to create a forum for multiple stakeholder voices to discuss and assist in resolving issues associated with NC-SARA policy regarding branch campuses.

• **Activity Period:**
  October 30, 2020 to May 3, 2021

• **Composition (Chairs and Appointments):**
  • 2 Chairs (Susan Heegaard & Belle Wheelan)
  • 10 members (board members, NC-SARA staff, state portal entity/regulators, and institutional representatives)
Policy Change Modification and Clarifications
Board Actions – October Meeting 2020

• Policy Change Modification (1)
• Modifications to Clarify Processes (5)

Here we go!
Policy Change Modification:

(ACTION) Approve Section 3.2 change to add one additional reason that a state might put an institution on provisional status.

Section 3.2 Provisional admission or renewal of an Institution
a) A State, at its discretion, may approve an Institution applying for initial or renewal participation in SARA to participate on Provisional Status in any of the following circumstances:

9) The participating Institution is in violation of, or noncompliance with SARA policies.
Policy Clarification Modification (1):

(ACTION) Approve Section 1 modification to add a phrase regarding non-credit bearing courses to the definition of “Operate.”

Section 1, Definitions
“Operate” means: activities conducted by an Institution in support of offering Distance Education degree or non-degree courses or programs, and non-credit bearing courses in a State, including but not limited to instruction, marketing, recruiting, tutoring, Supervised Field Experiences, experiential learning placements, Out-of-State Learning Placements and other student support services.
Policy Clarification Modification (2):

(ACTION) Approve Section 2.6(c) modification to replace the word “it” with “the Compact” for clarity of reference.

Section 2.6(c)

By July 1, 2020, each Regional Compact shall develop and implement a means to hear and resolve appeals from States for which it denies membership or renewal of membership in SARA. During any such appeal the State’s status as a SARA Member (or non-Member) State remains unchanged.
Policy Clarification Modification (3):

(ACTION) Approve Section 3.1(b)(6) modification to language to align with application requirements for all institutions when programs are no longer offered.

Section 3.1(b) – in order to be eligible to participate in SARA, an institution must:

(6) Agree that, in cases where the institution cannot fully deliver the instruction for which a student has contracted, it will provide a reasonable alternative for delivering the instruction or reasonable financial compensation for the education the student did not receive.
Policy Clarification Modification (4):

(ACTION) Approve Section 4.4(g) modification to delete the word “issues” in the context of the section regarding mandatory arbitration.

Mandatory arbitration agreements do not pertain to SARA policy issues. Disputes between students and institutions on SARA-related matters are to be resolved by the Institution’s State Portal Entity or through other means. A student may, however, bring to the Institution Home State Portal Entity any issue that potentially involves a violation of SARA policies. Institutions that choose to operate under SARA accept a student’s right to bring complaints about violation of SARA policies through the SARA process.
Policy Clarification Modification (5):

(ACTION) Approve Section 8.2(a) modification to add a phrase to specifically indicate that input on policy is expected from institutions and other key stakeholders and brought to the attention of NC-SARA.

Section 8.2(a)
Process: Questions, comments, or suggested modifications to SARA policies, from Institutions and other key stakeholders, may be brought to the attention of:

SARA Portal Entity directors in SARA states;
SARA directors in the Regional Compacts;
Regional SARA steering committees; or
The President or staff of the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA).
SARA Manual Is Now Updated on NC-SARA Website

Manuals and Handbooks

NC-SARA Reference Materials.

NC-SARA Manual 20.3
Version 20.3 of the SARA Manual codifies existing SARA policy as of Oct. 30, 2020

NC-SARA Manual 20.3 red line version
The SARA Manual 20.3 red line version shows all edits compared to SARA Manual 20.2.
NC-SARA is interested in hearing from you with any input you and your colleagues may have regarding potential SARA policy revisions for the Board’s consideration during its Spring 2021 meeting.

• Please submit your suggestions as well as explanatory comments to info@nc-sara.org

• Due Date: Monday November 30, 2020.
Questions and Discussion
Thank You!

For questions please email:
Info@nc-sara.org

NC-SARA Website: www.nc-sara.org

Twitter: @NCSARA_News