



SARA Source Overview for State Portal Entities and Regional Compacts

Please see the [Overview of SARA Source](#) that will be shared with institutions when SARA Source opens in late February.

Please contact sarasource@nc-sara.org for additional information!

1. What is SARA Source?

- SARA Source is a searchable catalog of distance education programs offered by SARA-participating institutions, hosted by AcademyOne, and administered by NC-SARA.

2. Why has NC-SARA created the SARA Source?

- From 2007 until 2016, SREB hosted SREB's *Electronic Campus*, a catalog of courses and programs from institutions in the SREB region and a regional reciprocity agreement. When SREB moved to a national reciprocity agreement (NC-SARA), it was agreed that NC-SARA would develop a catalog for programs for all SARA participating institutions in the nation.

3. What will a SPE (or regional compact staff member) need to do for SARA Source?

- Short answer: Nothing!
- NC-SARA will manage SARA Source and information within it. SPEs will not be asked to be responsible for assisting in maintaining it. If an institution is approved to participate in SARA and is not on provisional status, institutional personnel can opt to put programs into SARA Source.
- If institutions have questions about SARA Source, please direct them to NC-SARA's SARA Source website (which will open when SARA Source opens for institutions and can be found under the INSTITUTIONS tab) or ask them to send an email to sarasource@nc-sara.org.

4. When will SARA Source be available?

- NC-SARA will invite institutions to participate in SARA Source in late February. At this time, institutions may request an account from NC-SARA and begin the process of uploading program information to the system.
- Once the institution's information has been reviewed by NC-SARA staff, it will be made public in SARA Source.

- In April, we will share with each institution participating in SARA Source a marketing and media kit to promote their participation in SARA Source to students, prospective students, or others.
 - At that same time, on NC-SARA's website under the STUDENT tab, there will be a student information page available.
 - NC-SARA will not be doing any direct marketing of the SARA Source.
- 5. Which institutions are allowed to participate? Which institutions will not be?**
- All participating SARA institutions not on provisional status will be permitted to participate.
- 6. How will information in SARA Source be managed? How will NC-SARA make sure that the information publicly presented in SARA Source is correct?**
- When institutions request an account, NC-SARA staff will ask each institution to complete a form, signed by the institution's President or Provost, identifying the individual authorized to enter information on behalf of the institution.
 - NC-SARA staff will review institution program information for completeness.
 - Institutions will be required to update their program information once a year in SARA Source to continue to list their programs.
 - Institutions that go on provisional status will be removed from SARA Source.
- 7. What happens if an institution goes on provisional status? How will removal from SARA Source be managed?**
- NC-SARA staff will monitor provisional status and remove or approve institutions when the provisional status changes.
- 8. What if we receive a question from a student (or prospective student) about SARA Source?**
- If students have questions, send them to NC-SARA's website (under the STUDENT tab once SARA Source is publicly launched around mid-April) or ask them to send an email to sarasource@nc-sara.org.
- 9. What if we get a question from consumer protection groups or the media about the SARA Source?**
- Please ask them to contact NC-SARA at sarasource@nc-sara.org and we will coordinate a response with the SPE and Regional Compacts.
- 10. Our state / region has a connection with Credential Engine; what are NC-SARA's plans to connect with Credential Engine?**
- NC-SARA is working with Credential Engine to develop a method to share data with each other with institutional permission.

Need more information? Please email sarasource@nc-sara.org!