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In The Field, 2022

Accreditation, State Authorization, and SARA: Strategic and Collaborative Alliances

**Planning Tool**

Directions

Use this optional planning tool to help you think through how you might wish to strengthen or form strategic and collaborative alliances to address accreditation, state authorization, and/or SARA within your institutions. If you choose to do this electronically, the text boxes will expand to accommodate your notes.

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| **Topic Area** | **Standards** | **People** | **Internal Resources** | **Questions / Next Steps** | **Notes for Our Team** |
| **Institutional Accreditation** | Where can I find the institutional accreditor’s standards for institutional accreditation? | Who is the person / department at my institution that oversees institutional accreditation?  | Where might these standards for institutional accreditation appear in our academic environment? (e.g., websites, syllabi) | What might be helpful to know about our institution’s accreditation requirements or status? |  |
| **Programmatic Accreditation** | Which programs at my institution have programmatic accreditation?Where can I find the programmatic accreditor’s standards for programmatic accreditation? | Who are the people who oversee these processes? | Where might these standards for programmatic accreditation appear in our academic environment? (e.g., websites, syllabi) | What might be helpful to know about these programs’ accreditation requirements or status? |  |
| **Institutional Research** | What are my institution’s annual/cyclical data reporting requirements? | Who are my Institutional Research colleagues at our institution?  | Where are common IR reports or data extracts posted on our website or intranet? | Are there any data reporting requirements our IR team do not know about yet? |  |
| **State Authorization / SARA** | Which federal or state laws or procedures apply to our academic programs?Where can I find the current version of the SARA policy manual? | Who leads state authorization and/or SARA compliance at my institution?  | Where can I find copies of legally required disclosures, direct notifications, or institutional policies that relate to state authorization and/or SARA? (e.g., policies or disclosures required by state and federal law or SARA policy) | What might be helpful to know about state authorization and/or SARA for my institution? |  |
| **General / Other Compliance Questions and Next Steps**Each institution approaches compliance differently. It’s possible that these functions can be housed within offices such as the President, Provost, General Counsel/Legal, or Deans – these folks can be your compliance allies! | ***Questions our team might wish to explore to strengthen or form a strategic alliance:**** *What are the required review or reporting cycles for the various entities?*
* *What are the reporting requirements: documentation, data, etc.?*
* *Where might there be overlap in cycles, requirements, or schedules?*
* *Are there opportunities to align resources / timelines / documentation / data requests?*
* *How can we help each other help our institution maintain compliance?*
* *How can we help our colleagues or other stakeholders understand this work?*

***My Next Steps / Actions to Take:****Examples:** *Outreach to individuals to assess interest in working together*
* *Form a “Compliance Working Team” across campus to consider strategic alliances and opportunities for collaboration*
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