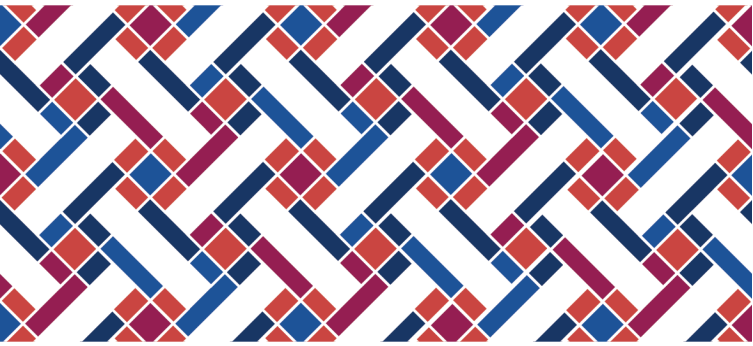




**National Council for
State Authorization
Reciprocity Agreements**

MHEC • NEBHE • SREB • WICHE



Policy Modification Process

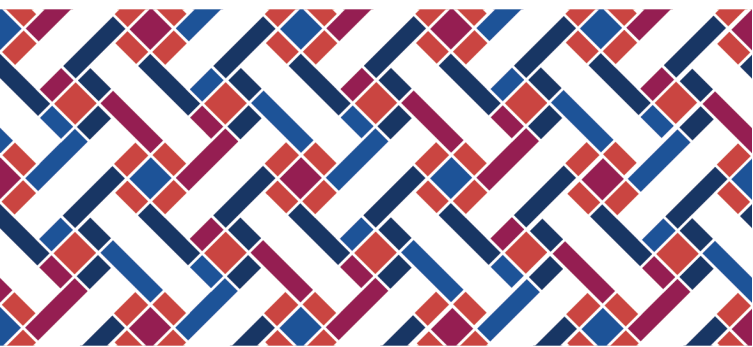
SARA Policy Cycle 2023

Moderator: Jared B. Abdirkin

Co-Chair, SARA Policy Implementation Team

Director SARA, New England Board of Higher Education

- **Overview of SARA Policy Modification Process and Where We Are**
- **SARA Policy Portal**
- **Review of Regional Steering Committee (RSC) processes for reviewing and voting on proposals**
- **Next Steps in SARA Policy Modification Process**



Overview of SARA Policy Modification Process and Where We Are

Where we are

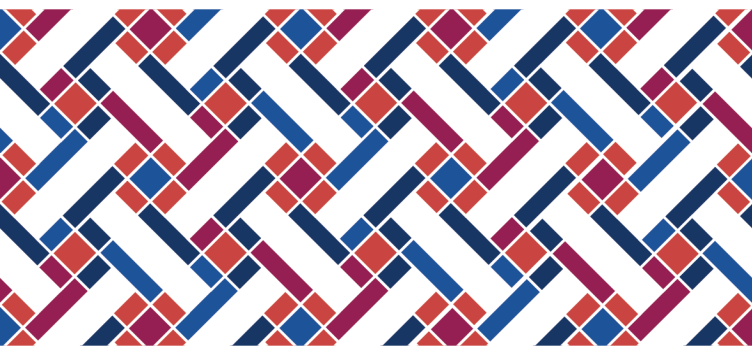
- **63** proposals, most from the four RSCs (states), as well as institutions, consumer advocacy groups, WCET | SAN, and a Board working group
- Focus on *how* we are going to run this process and more recently on policy specific discussions
- Held first public forum, first proposal amendment & withdrawal period, and currently in public comment period
- Direct engagement has occurred or is planned between the regions along with consumer advocacy groups, institutions, and WCET | SAN on their proposals, seeking possible alignment and/or greater understanding

Process and Policy

RSC representatives, Compact and NC-SARA staff have been meeting at least 1-2 times a week since late 2022, primarily to make decisions on steps of this new process and more recently to consider proposals. *Board members* have been invited and attended as well.

Representative system for the regions, whereby RSC members attend, report back to their regions and seek feedback/input as needed.

- *Policy Working Group* (four regional reps and NC-SARA)
- *Policy Implementation Team*: RSC Chairs, Compact staff, NC-SARA
- *Interregional Steering Committee (I-RSC)* : RSC leaders, Compact staff
- *Policy alignment meetings*: RSC leaders and designated reps, Compact staff, other proposers (as appropriate)
- *Region only RSC meetings*



SARA Policy Portal

Yovani Pina

Director of Information Technology, NC-SARA

Updated Views of Submissions

Active Withdrawn All Proposals **Amendments** Public Comments

AMENDMENTS: ACTIVE

Policy Modification Proposal	Amendment	Created Date
PMP-0327: State reviews of institutional applications	A#156: PMP-0327: State reviews of institutional applications	4/5/2023 4:31 PM
PMP-0337: Changes to institutional eligibility requirements	A#157: PMP-0337: Changes to institutional eligibility requirements	4/5/2023 4:48 PM
PMP-0344: Requiring Evidence of Compliance at Authorization	A#153: PMP-0344: Requiring Evidence of Compliance at Authorization	
PMP-0348: State Authority to Deny or Revoke Participation	A#154: PMP-0348: State Authority to Deny or Revoke Participation	
PMP-0349: Addressing flaws in the Provisional Status provisions	A#155: PMP-0349: Addressing flaws in the Provisional Status provisions	
PMP-0365: Remove the C-RAC Guidelines	A#158: PMP-0365: Remove the C-RAC Guidelines	
PMP-0402: Exception for professional educator programs	A#150: PMP-0402: Exception for professional educator programs	

 Policy Amendment
A#153: PMP-0344: Requiring Evidence of Compliance at Authorization

Details Attachments

Amendment	A#153: PMP-0344: Requiring Evidence of Compliance at Authorization	Amendment Period	1
Status	Accepted	Policy Modification Proposal	PMP-0344: Requiring Evidence of Compliance at Authorization

∨ **Amended Language**

Amended Language
SARA Policy Manual 22.1 § 2.5 Functional responsibilities of SARA States

~~(b) EXPLANATORY NOTES~~

~~N1 - Can a SARA State Portal Entity (SPE) require a SARA applicant institution to provide additional evidence that it will meet policies for operating under SARA before allowing it to participate in SARA?~~

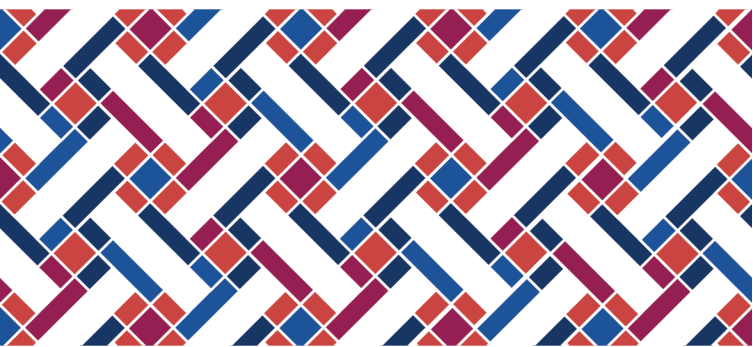
~~No. A state must accept an institution's self-certification that it will meet the policies set forth~~

- Iterative development cycles have enabled quick updates to the policy site
- Visitors have the ability to between different views that display all or filtered views of proposals as well as policy proposals that have been amended and public comments
- Details of the proposal, amendment and public comment are also accessible by clicking on the respective link

Capabilities in Development



- Process to support capturing decision by Regional Compacts
- Automation of document creation for proposals that advance to board review



Review of Regional Steering Committees (RSC) Processes for Reviewing and Voting on Proposals

Regional Representatives

- **Jared Abdirkin**, SARA Director, New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE)
- **Jennifer Armour**, Chair, Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) Regional Steering Committee
- **Tamara Baysinger**, Chair, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Regional Steering Committee
- **Terrence Scarborough**, Chair, Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Regional Steering Committee

N-SARA RSC

- *Note:* RSC Chair resigned from his SPE role a few weeks ago, vote for new Chair will take place in June
- Starting last November our region began considering issues that were a priority for submission as proposals from our region (10 submitted)
- Meeting 1-2 times per month with all RSC and SPEs, with individual conversations and email engagement in between. Google Drive created with meeting minutes, other regional materials, notes from all policy meetings
- Majority needs to be in favor for region to approve submission or final vote; goal is to ensure there is no significant concern by any state in particular
- Watching public forums and today's public session, review public comments at the end of the submission period

M-SARA Policy Modification Process

Jennifer Armour

Chair, Regional Steering Committee

May 10, 2023

Regional Steering Committee

- **Composition**

 - Appointments by member states

 - At-large appointments by the MHEC president

- **Meetings**

Initial Processes

- **Submissions**
Policy modification survey
- **Public Policy Forum #1**

Current Processes

- **Membership Engagement**
M-SARA Hub

The screenshot displays the M-SARA Hub SharePoint page. At the top, a dark red navigation bar contains links for M-SARA Hub, About, Governing Documents and Policies, Resources, SARA Events, RSC, SPE, and Edit. Below this is a banner image of a forest with a yellow speech bubble icon and the text 'MH M-SARA Hub'. A secondary navigation bar includes 'M-SARA Hub Home', 'Site contents', 'Recycle bin', 'Edit', 'Private group', and '36 members'. Below the navigation are utility links for '+ New', 'Page details', and 'Analytics', along with the publication date 'Published 4/25/2023' and 'Edit' options. The main content area is divided into two sections: 'News and Updates from M-SARA' and 'Upcoming Meetings and Events'. The news section shows two items: 'Meet Sara Appel, M-SARA Director' and 'Fun Facts'. The events section lists four upcoming events with their dates and times.

Event Name	Date	Time
NASASPS Annual Conference	Sun, Apr 30	All day
NC-SARA May Board Meeting	Tue, May 9	All day
NC-SARA Data Reporting Cycle Begins	Mon, May 15	All day
Policy Implementation Team	Mon, May 15	12:00 PM

Future Processes

- **Amendments**
- **Alignment opportunities**
- **Formal review**
- **Voting**

W-SARA

S-SARA

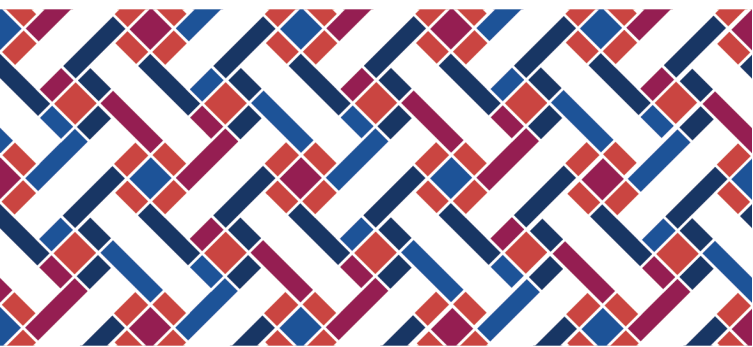
SARA Policy Modification Process – Proposal Assessment

Overview

Analysis Approach

Timeline

RSC Voting Process



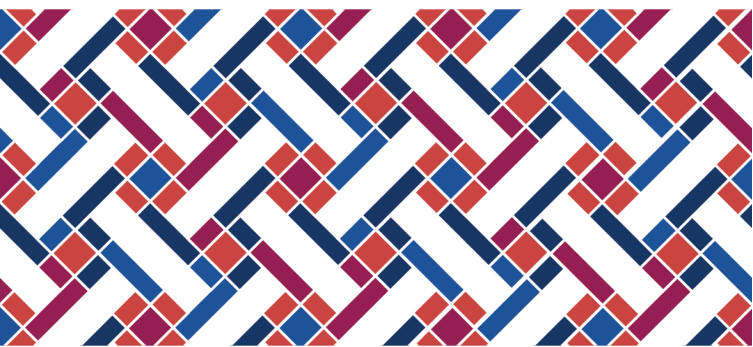
Next Steps in SARA Policy Modification Process

Sam Loftin

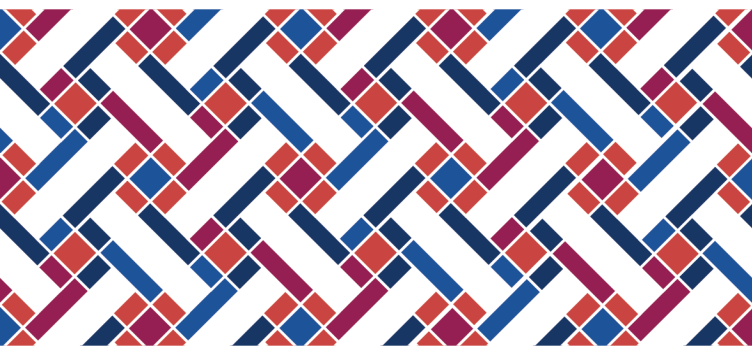
Director of Consumer Protection, Washington Student Achievement Council
Co-Chair of the SARA Policy Implementation Team

Next Steps

- **May 17:** Public Comment period closes
- **June 7:** 2nd Public Forum
- **June 8 – July 5:** Final Opportunity to Amend or Withdraw Proposals
- **Sept. 1:** Deadline for Regional Steering Committees to approve or not approve proposals
- **Oct. 23-25:** NC-SARA Board votes to approve or not approve proposals that were approved by all 4 RSCs
- **Dec. 31:** Revised SARA Policy Manual published on NC-SARA website
- **Jan. 2024:** New policy modification process cycle process begins
- To participate: <https://nc-sara.org/participate-sara-policy-modifications>



Questions?



Break

15 Minutes

*There will be silence
until we return*