

SARA- State Authorization for Online Learning

What is SARA?

SARA is an acronym for the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement, which is an interstate agreement that allows colleges and universities located in a SARA member state to offer online classes in other SARA member states without needing to obtain authorization to do so from each state. Individually, SARA consists of a national network of member states, districts, and territories that agree to comply with the rules, policies, and procedures set forth by the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA)

The U.S. Department of Education requires higher education institutions to be authorized to provide post-secondary educational instruction in their states. Many of these state laws and regulations also apply to online, distance and correspondence educational instruction offered in that state. Westfield State University and its online learning programs must be authorized in certain states prior to offering those courses or programs to students residing in those states. Students must contact the college before registering in online learning courses or programs to determine if WSU is authorized to offer such courses outside of Massachusetts. You may email your inquiry to wsucgce@westfield.ma.edu

Special Note: California and Guam are not members of SARA.