

# State Institutional Approval Quick Chart

Institutions must comply with state requirements in states where their students are located. State institutional compliance may be obtained by individual state by state compliance or for many distance education activities, by participation in reciprocity through the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA).

Institutions that choose not to participate in reciprocity, are located or offer an activity in a state or territory that is not a member of SARA, or offer activities outside of reciprocity, must review and comply with all state requirements, if any, where their students are located while participating in an online course, field experience, or other activities.

The chart below provides a start to the institutional research for **ALL state requirements for institutions seeking state by state authorization** by offering a snapshot of contacts for the state higher education agencies and provides notes about the status of oversight of online courses in each state.

Additionally, the chart offers SARA participating institutions direction to **specific state closure laws that a state chooses to enforce** per compliance with 34 CFR 668.14(b)(32)(iii) (effective July 1, 2024). Links to requirements will be added as states determine applicability in their state **for SARA participating institutions**.

When reading state statutes and regulations, consider these tips from the American Bar Association (ABA): [Five Tips for Reading Legislation and Code](#).

SAN will review this list on a periodic basis. If you want to let us know of any issues you have using these links, please let us know [here](#).  
**(Last reviewed 01/08/24)**

Please note the following:

- These determinations were made with conservative analysis based on basic research of agency websites and state regulation/statutes addressing accredited institutions.
- Please note the date above for timeliness of the information. We will review periodically and make changes as we become aware of the need.
- The quick chart was developed to provide swift direction for information to review state institutional approval requirements.

- The quick chart should not be considered to be or used as legal advice.
- SAN cannot verify the security of the website links offered in this resource.
- Institutions should review requirements to determine applicability to the activities of the institution.
- Find more detailed information for each state, please review [The State Authorization Guide](#).

Share via link

Copy link to clipboard

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Alabama	Commission on Higher Ed (ACHE)	Non-Resident Institution Process	<b>Jim Conely</b> <a href="mailto:jim.conely@ache.edu">jim.conely@ache.edu</a>	Yes		
	Alabama Community College System (ACCS)		<b>Tivoli Nash,</b> <a href="mailto:Tivoli.nash@accs.edu">Tivoli.nash@accs.edu</a>	Yes		
Alaska	Commission on Postsecondary Education	Online Distance Education Exemption	<b>Higher Education Authorization:</b> <a href="mailto:eed.acpe-ia@alaska.gov">eed.acpe-ia@alaska.gov</a>	No*	Submit short application for an exemption. Can be approved for up to two years. \$250 fee.	

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Arizona	Board for Private Postsecondary Education	Regulations  Policy of State Authorization and Student Complaint Process	Keith Blanchard, <a href="mailto:Keith.blanchard@azppse.gov">Keith.blanchard@azppse.gov</a>	No		
Arkansas	Division of Higher Education	Process	Alana Boles (SARA info) <a href="mailto:Alana.Boles@adhe.edu">Alana.Boles@adhe.edu</a>	Yes		
	Arkansas State Board of Private Career Education		Dr. Ken Warden <a href="mailto:Ken.Warden@adhe.edu">mailto:Ken.Warden@adhe.edu</a>	Yes		
California	Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education	For Profit Registration Process  Non-profit/public 94801.5(c)	Deborah Cochrane: <a href="mailto:Deborah.Cochrane@dca.ca.gov">Deborah.Cochrane@dca.ca.gov</a>	No*	No oversight of public or private non-profit. <b>BUT</b> For-profit institutions are subject to oversight	

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Colorado	Department of Higher Education	Authority (3.17(b)) page 6 Code of Colorado Regulations - unless meet an exemption, but carefully review the exemptions.	<b>Heather Delange:</b> <a href="mailto:heather.delange@dhe.state.co.us">heather.delange@dhe.state.co.us</a>	No		
	Colorado Division of Private Occupational Schools			Yes		
Connecticut	Office of Higher Education	Out-of-State Online Registration	<b>Sean Seepersad, PhD,</b> <a href="mailto:SSeepersad@ctohe.org">SSeepersad@ctohe.org</a>	Yes		
Delaware	Department of Education	Institutions Seeking Initial Approval in Delaware  Administrative Code: 292 Post Secondary Institutions & Degree Granting Institutions of Higher Education	<b>Contact info for Higher Education Authorization:</b> <a href="mailto:ihe@doe.k12.de.us">ihe@doe.k12.de.us</a>	Yes		

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
District of Columbia	Higher Education Licensure Commission	Distance/Online Education Inquiries	Terasita Edwards, terasita.edwards@dc.gov	Yes		
Florida	Florida Department of Education	Authority/regulations	Susan Hood, Susan.Hood@fldoe.org	No		
Georgia	Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission	Process  Seeking Approval for Online Programming	Laura Vieth, laurav@gnpec.ga.gov	Yes		
Guam				Unknown		
Hawaii	Post-secondary Education Authorization Program (HPEAP)	Authority/FAQ's	Jayson Horiuchi hpeap@dcca.hawaii.gov	No		

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
<b>Idaho</b>	Idaho Board of Education Private Colleges and Proprietary Schools	Authority – w/no physical presence	<b>Tamara Baysinger,</b> <a href="mailto:Tamara.Baysinger@osbe.idaho.gov">Tamara.Baysinger@osbe.idaho.gov</a>	No		
<b>Illinois</b>	Board of Higher Education	Authority – w/no physical presence	<b>Nkechi Onwuameze, PhD,</b> <a href="mailto:sara@ibhe.org">sara@ibhe.org</a>	No		
<b>Indiana</b>	Department for Workforce Development	Process	<a href="mailto:OCTS@dwd.in.gov">OCTS@dwd.in.gov</a> .	Yes		
			<b>Ross Miller,</b> <a href="mailto:rmiller@che.in.gov">rmiller@che.in.gov</a>	Yes		
	Board for Proprietary Education Commission of Higher Education		<b>Ken Sauer,</b> <a href="mailto:ksauer@che.in.gov">ksauer@che.in.gov</a>	Yes		

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Iowa	College Student Aid Commission	Process	Lisa Pundt, lisa.pundt@iowo.gov	Yes		
Kansas	Board of Regents	See Private/Out of State guidelines  See also: 74-32,163. Definitions	Crystal Puderbaugh, cpuderbaugh@ksbor.org	Yes	Review def. of physical presence for applicability	
Kentucky	Council on Postsecondary Education	Process  Legislation	Jevonda Keith, jevonda.keith@ky.gov	Yes		
	Council on Proprietary Education	Forms & Legislation	Misty Edwards, misty.edwards@ky.gov	Yes		

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
<b>Louisiana</b>	Board of Regents	Licensure Process for Institutions Operating in Louisiana (open drop down for explanation)	<b>Susannah Craig,</b> <a href="mailto:Susannah.Craig@laregents.edu">Susannah.Craig@laregents.edu</a>  <b>Melissa Anders,</b> <a href="mailto:Melissa.Anders@laregents.edu">Melissa.Anders@laregents.edu</a>	No	but, experiential learning requires approval	
<b>Maine</b>	Department of Education	Online Higher Education Approval	<b>Michael T. Perry,</b> <a href="mailto:michael.t.perry@maine.gov">michael.t.perry@maine.gov</a> .	No*	Should contact agency for more information related to authorization exemption.	
<b>Maryland</b>	Higher Education Commission	Out-of-State Online Registration	<a href="mailto:onlinereg.mhec@maryland.gov">onlinereg.mhec@maryland.gov</a>	Yes		
<b>Massachusetts</b>	Department of Higher Education (DHE)	Degree-granting authority for out-of-state institutions	<a href="mailto:approvalquery@bhe.mass.edu">approvalquery@bhe.mass.edu</a>	?*	Must contact email provided to determine if approval is required	



• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Michigan	Labor and Economic Opportunity - Post Secondary Schools	Higher Education authorization and Distance Education Reciprocal Exchange Act (2015 PA 45) Section 390.1694(3)	James R. Farhat, Specialist, farhatj@michigan.gov	Yes		
Minnesota	Office of Higher Education	Process	Betsy Talbot, Betsy.Talbot@state.mn.us	Yes		
Mississippi	Commission on College Accreditation	Authority	Menia Dykes: mdykes@mississippi.edu (research indicates that M. Dykes retired 8/2022 - however no replacement has been noted)	No*	No oversight but appears the institution must make a communication with the state agency	
	Office of Proprietary Schools	Authority 2.16	Kim Verneuille, kverneuille@mccb.edu	No		

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Missouri	Department of Higher Education	<p>Process for public institutions.</p> <p>All other institutions should refer to <a href="#">Proprietary School Certification</a> for information on offering distance education within the state.</p>	<p><b>Alicia Erickson,</b>  <a href="mailto:Alicia.Erickson@dhewd.mo.gov">Alicia.Erickson@dhewd.mo.gov</a></p>	Yes		
Montana	Board of Regents	<p>Process</p> <p><a href="#">Montana State Authorization FAQ</a></p>	<p><b>Hannah Tokerud,</b>  <a href="mailto:htokerud@montana.edu">htokerud@montana.edu</a></p>	Yes	Short application	

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Nebraska	Department of Education Private Postsecondary Career Schools	Process	<b>Marisol Birth,</b> <a href="mailto:Marisol.birth@nebraska.gov">Marisol.birth@nebraska.gov</a>	Yes No		
	Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education	Authority	<b>Dr. Kathleen Fimple,</b> <a href="mailto:kathleen.fimple@nebraska.gov">kathleen.fimple@nebraska.gov</a>			
Nevada	Commission on Postsecondary Education	State Institutional Licensure  Nevada Exemption for Distance Education	<b>Kelly D. Wuest,</b> <a href="mailto:kdwuest@detr.nv.gov">kdwuest@detr.nv.gov</a>	No*	Must submit exemption request – institution should check about experiential learning	

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
<b>New Hampshire</b>	Department of Education	Authority  Requirements for approval of distance education/online instructional programs.	Whitney.Ca.Vaillancourt@doe.nh.gov	Yes	If you have any questions or wish to request to apply for Administrative Review address the agency contact.	
<b>New Jersey</b>	Office of the Secretary of Higher Education	Licensure Process	<b>Eric Taylor, Esq.,</b> eric.taylor@oshe.nj.gov	Yes	Looking for definition of physical presence in NJ.	
<b>New Mexico</b>	Higher Education Department	Process	<b>Pascal Buser,</b> Pascal.buser@state.nm.us	Yes		

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
New York	Office of College and University Evaluation	Explanation and	IHEauthorize@nysed.gov	Yes Yes		
	Adult Career and Continuing Ed Services	Distance Ed Application Process	Online form: <a href="http://www.acces.nysed.gov/contact-us">http://www.acces.nysed.gov/contact-us</a>			
		Policy				
North Carolina	University of NC System	State Authorization	Stateauthorization@northcarolina.edu	Yes No		
	Office of Proprietary School Service (N. Carolina Community Colleges)	Policy on Standards for Licensure	<b>Scott Corl,</b> <a href="mailto:corls@nccommunitycolleges.edu">corls@nccommunitycolleges.edu</a>			
		Authority				

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
North Dakota	University System	Process & Review North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15-18.1	<b>Claire Gunwall,</b> <a href="mailto:stateauth@ndus.edu">stateauth@ndus.edu</a>	Yes	Short application for online only -\$250	
	Career and Technical Education Office	Authority & Exemptions listed in ND Century Code section 15-20.4.02	<b>Michael Netzloff,</b> <a href="mailto:mnetzloff@nd.gov">mnetzloff@nd.gov</a>	No*	Must submit <a href="#">document</a> for exemption.	
Northern Mariana Islands				Unknown		
Ohio	Department of Higher Education	Academic Program Approval	<b>Matt Exline,</b> <a href="mailto:mexline@highered.ohio.gov">mexline@highered.ohio.gov</a>	No	Contact agency for letter of exemption	
	Board of Career Colleges and Schools	Authorization of Distance Education Programs	<b>John Ware,</b> <a href="mailto:John.ware@scr.state.oh.us">John.ware@scr.state.oh.us</a>	No	License required for For-Profit	

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Oklahoma	Regents for Higher Education	Authority p3-4	<b>Daniel Archer,</b> darcher@osrhe.edu	No Yes Yes	Look for new rules to be effective July 1, 2024 for authorization cycle beginning in 2025.  70 O.S. § 4103 and 70 O.S. § 4103.1	
	Board of Private Schools	Process	<b>Angela Moore,</b> angela.moore@obpvs.ok.gov			
	Board of Career and Technology Education	Process	<b>Brent Haken,</b> Brent.Haken@careertech.ok.gov			
Oregon	Office of Degree Authorization	Process Process	<b>Veronica Dujon,</b> Veronica.dujon@state.or.us	Yes Yes		
	Private and Career Schools		<b>Veronica Dujon,</b> Veronica.dujon@state.or.us			
Pennsylvania	Department of Education	Process for Registration	<b>Gina Wetten,</b> giwetten@pa.gov	Yes		

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
<b>Puerto Rico</b>	<p>Consejo de Educacion de Puerto Rico</p> <p>(Google translate is available)</p>	Higher Education Regulations	<p><b>David Báez,</b> dbaez@estado.pr.gov</p> <p><b>Damaris Nolasco,</b> dnolasco@estado.pr.gov</p>	Yes	Contact agency representatives	
<b>Rhode Island</b>	Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner	<p>Distance Learning</p> <p>Policy on Distance Learning</p>	<b>Greg Ebner, PhD</b> tammy.warner@riopc.edu	Yes		
<b>South Carolina</b>	Commission on Higher Education	Information & Process	<b>Stacey Price,</b> sprice@che.sc.gov	No		
<b>South Dakota</b>	Secretary of State	Authority	<b>Krista Rounds,</b> Krista.rounds@state.sd.us	No		



• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Tennessee	Higher Education Commission	Postsecondary State Authorization	Julie Woodruff, <a href="mailto:julie.woodruff@tn.gov">julie.woodruff@tn.gov</a>	No		
Texas	Higher Education Coordinating Board	Authority	Cathie Maeyaert, <a href="mailto:Cathie.Maeyaert@highered.tx.gov">Cathie.Maeyaert@highered.tx.gov</a>	No*	Need approval to offer experiential learning	
	Texas Workforce Commission	Process	Milan George, <a href="mailto:Milan.george@twc.state.tx.us">Milan.george@twc.state.tx.us</a>	Yes*	Communication req'd even if license is not.	
US Virgin Islands	Department of Education		Camille McKayle <a href="mailto:cmckayl@uvi.edu">cmckayl@uvi.edu</a>	Unknown		

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Utah	Division of Consumer Protection	FAQ's & Registration Apply Online	Marla Winegar, <a href="mailto:mwinegar@utah.gov">mwinegar@utah.gov</a>	Yes	S.B.180 effective January 1, 2024. Will require biennial registration, changes to modification of the exemption, registration, and surety requirements, new outcome disclosures.	
Vermont	Agency of Education	Authority (176a(e)(5))	Cassandra Ryan, <a href="mailto:Cassandra.Ryan@vermont.gov">Cassandra.Ryan@vermont.gov</a>  Emily Simmons, <a href="mailto:emily.simmons@vermont.gov">emily.simmons@vermont.gov</a>	No*	Appears to be online only without oversight. Contact Agency about experiential learning	
Virginia	State Council of Higher Education	PPE Forms and Regulations for Schools and Private Postsecondary Education website	Sandra Freeman, <a href="mailto:sandrafreeman@schev.com">sandrafreeman@schev.com</a>	Yes	New process effective date 7/1/22	

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined enforceable by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Washington	Student Achievement Council	Authority	DegreeAuthorization@wsac.wa.gov	No*	Experiential learning requires state institutional approval.	
	Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board	Authority	Sam Loftin, samL@wsac.wa.gov	No*		
West Virginia	Higher Education Policy Commission	Authority Governance (Section 3 Def. Physical Presence)	Lucy Kefauver lucy.kefauver@wvhepc.edu	No		
	Council for Community and Technical College Ed		Lucy Kefauver lucy.kefauver@wvhepc.edu	No		
Wisconsin	Education Approval Program	Approval Information and Approval Flow Chart	Rebecca Larson Rebecca.larson@waicu.org	Yes & No*	Public institutions do not require approval. For Profit and Non-Profit private institutions must seek approval.	

• State	Higher Education Approval Agency	Oversight Process/Authority	Agency Contacts	Oversight of Online Courses?	Notes:	Enforceable state specific Closure Laws as determined by states for institutions participating in reciprocity.
Wyoming	Private School Licensing	Chapter 30 Private Post-Secondary Degree Granting Institution Application	Elaine Marces Elaine.marces@wyo.gov	Yes*	Short application and low cost.	