



NC-SARA

In fall 2023, more than 1.6 million students attended out-of-state institutions exclusively via distance education through SARA. This is an increase from 1.5 million students in both fall of 2022 and fall of 2021. Today, more than 2,400 institutions in 49 member states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands all voluntarily participate in SARA.NC-SARA is a nonprofit organization that helps expand students' access to educational opportunities and ensure more efficient, consistent, and effective regulation of distance education programs. NC-SARA is an agreement among member states, districts, and territories that establishes comparable national standards for interstate postsecondary distance education.

All Laurel schools participate in NC-SARA. Participating schools must adhere to stringent requirements set and imposed by states and NC-SARA, including maintaining their accreditation and remaining in good financial standing.

NC-SARA Student Consumer Protections

- All SARA institutions must be accredited.
- SARA institutions must have U.S. oversight.
- SARA institutions must demonstrate healthy finances.
- SARA institutions are accountable for third-party providers.
- SARA institutions must adhere to high standards.
- SARA institutions must uphold stringent reporting and accountability requirements.
- SARA institutions are required to have transparency around professional licensure.
- SARA institutions must find ways to meet obligations to students.
- Student complaints are taken seriously.
- Compliance is non-negotiable.

You can find out more about NC-Sara by visiting their website at: https://www.nc-sara.org/

NC-SARA - Student Complaint System

You are encouraged to review the <u>Consumer Information</u> page of the school website for instructions on how to file a complaint. NC-SARA consumer protection provisions require the institution's home state, through its SARA State Portal Entity, to investigate and resolve allegations of dishonest or fraudulent activity by the state's SARA-participating institutions, including the provision of false or misleading information. The student should begin the complaint process with the institution and if resolution is not found, the student would contact the institution's home state SARA Portal Entity.

State Portal Entity Contact

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Additional information from the NC- SARA complaint website: https://nc-sara.org/sites/default/files/files/2021-03/StudentComplaintProcess FINAL.2.19.21 0.pdf