

Licensure Disclosures and the Need for Collaboration Among Compacts, State Boards, and Accreditors

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Current Federal Requirements

- General Disclosures for Each Educational Program
 - [34 CFR 668.43(a)(5)(v)]
 - Meets, Does Not Meet, Has Not Made Determination
 - The IHE must publish states and territories in each category
- Individualized Disclosure
 - [34 CFR 668.43(c)]
 - Does Not Meet: Must notify current and prospective students
 - Have Not Determined: Must notify prospective students

For SARA Participating Institutions

- For SARA purposes, institutions that are unable, *after all reasonable efforts*, to determine whether a program will meet state professional licensure requirements shall provide the student or applicant with current contact information for any applicable licensing boards, and advise the student or applicant to determine whether the program meets requirements for licensure in the state where the student is located.

(SARA Policy Manual v. 21.1, Section 5.2; emphasis added))

Key Entities with Roles in Licensure

- Institutions of Higher Education
- State Councils on Higher Education
- US Department of Education
- State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA)
- State/Territorial Departments and Regulators/Boards
- National Licensure Boards and Certification Authorities
- Programmatic/Professional Organization Accreditors

Current Challenges

- Lack of uniformity across state legislation in major fields, especially teacher education
- Professional Licensure Compacts only provide post-licensure mobility
- What is “all reasonable efforts” for purposes of compliance with SARA?

Current Challenges Continued

- Vague professional licensure requirements and coursework requirements open to interpretation.
 - Impact to both institutions and state professional licensure boards
- Changing requirements at the federal level create a “whiplash effect”
- Institutions face limited resources and increased costs related to research, especially smaller institutions. Ultimately limits ability to enroll students.

Call for Collaboration

★ It is Time to **Work Together**

★ What Can You Do?

- Distinguish good actors from bad actors
- Support legislation and processes that allow for pre-licensure and post-licensure mobility
- Provide transparent and accurate licensure requirement information
- Greater collaboration between all entities
- Educating professional networks
- Pursue student consumer protection and student choice

Thank you!

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