



Overview of Updated State and Institution Applications: January 2021

State and institution applications have been updated, and as of January 11, 2021, are available on the NC-SARA website under the Resources tab (<https://nc-sara.org/apply-renew>).

The rationale behind updating the applications is two-fold:

- 1) Both the state and institution applications have been reformatted and reordered for consistency to highlight the primary focus on student consumer protection, and to better align the applications with the requirements a state or institution agrees to in order to meet current SARA policy.
 - Initial and renewal applications have been combined into one document with a check box to select initial or renewal (for both state and institution).
- 2) In addition, the institution application contains additional fields in response to the Board's request regarding additional data points, and to ensure consistent SPE verification. Currently NC-SARA does not collect this information. These changes ask institutions to:
 - List the accreditation agency (previously the institution only attached accreditation documentation).
 - List the federal financial responsibility score (the SPE reviews this).
 - Respond to a question about whether or not the institution receives Title IV funds.

Additional text was added to ensure institutions are clear about SARA policy requirements on catastrophic events and consumer protection, including:

- Financial compensation or an alternative for students to show examples of options when an institution cannot fully deliver instruction;
- Catastrophic events -- show examples of options that would qualify to ensure consumer protection;
- Documentation of the catastrophic event policy if requested by SPE;
- The institution agreement that it or its home state has adequate measures to protect student records.

Section 2:

- Additional institution link for SARA student complaint process
- Additional institution link for general professional licensure disclosures
- Added the words "distanced education activity" to the branch campus listing to clarify the locations that utilize SARA.

Finally, the newly formatted application requires a billing contact for each institution to ensure NC-SARA invoices reach the appropriate individual during renewal:

- Added a field for the billing contact of the institution to be noted (section 2).

Questions and comments regarding the applications can be sent to info@nc-sara.org.