

An aerial photograph of a university campus, likely the University of Kansas, showing various buildings, green spaces, and a parking lot. A large white rectangular box with a thin green border is centered over the image, containing the title and event information. Two dark grey horizontal bars are positioned on either side of the white box, partially overlapping its edges.

State Authorization for Online Programs

Kansas Action Coalition Summit

University of Kansas

July 10, 2014

For Discussion

- What is state authorization?
- Why do we need it?
- How do we do it?
- Where is KU authorized?
- What do we do next?

What is state authorization?

- The process of seeking approval for an institution to offer distance learning in a state in which it is not physically located
- This includes online programs, clinicals or other related activities where 100% of the interaction takes place outside of the institution's home state
- Programs that require partial on-campus attendance may still need approval – each state determines its own rules

Why do we need authorization?

- Integrity of programs
- Higher Education Act of 1965 eligibility
- State regulations
- Delay of Implementation until July 1, 2015

How do we do it?

Individual State Requests

- Contact state representative
- Complete required application(s)
- Submit required fee(s)
- Wait for approval

State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA)

- States become SARA members and establish SPAs (State Portal Agency) to collect applications
- Institutions apply to their SPA
- Once the SPA approves, institutions pay fee to join SARA

Individual State Requests

Benefits

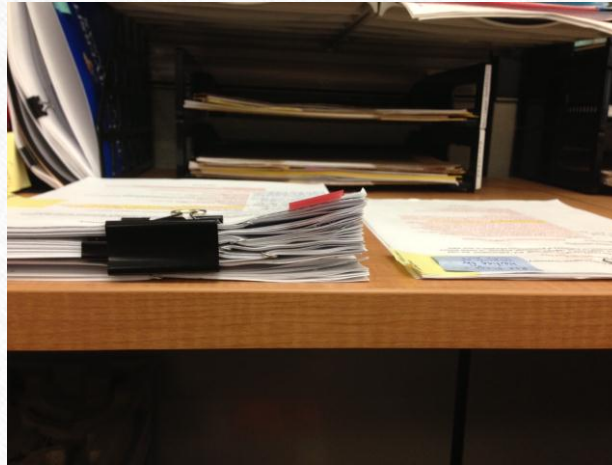
- Policies and procedures already in place
- State representatives have experience
- Exemption option

Drawbacks



Every State is Different

- Arkansas
 - 20 forms
 - \$2,700
 - In-person attendance required for initial approval



- North Dakota
 - One form
 - \$50
 - All online

The total estimated cost for the first year of authorizations (all 50 states) is over \$100,000!

But SARA will save us!

(to some extent)

SARA

State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements

Strengths

- Application process is straightforward
- Price
 - \$2,000/yr* <2,500 FTE
 - \$4,000/yr* 2,500-10,000 FTE
 - \$6,000/yr* >10,000 FTE

*Plus state fees (if applicable)

Limitations

- Wait for states to join
 - 20 states by the end of 2014
 - 40 states by the end of 2015
- Alert students to licensure procedures in students' home states
- Clinicals limited to 10 students/site
- May not be right choice for all institutions

NC-SARA Projection for States to Join SARA

Current Members

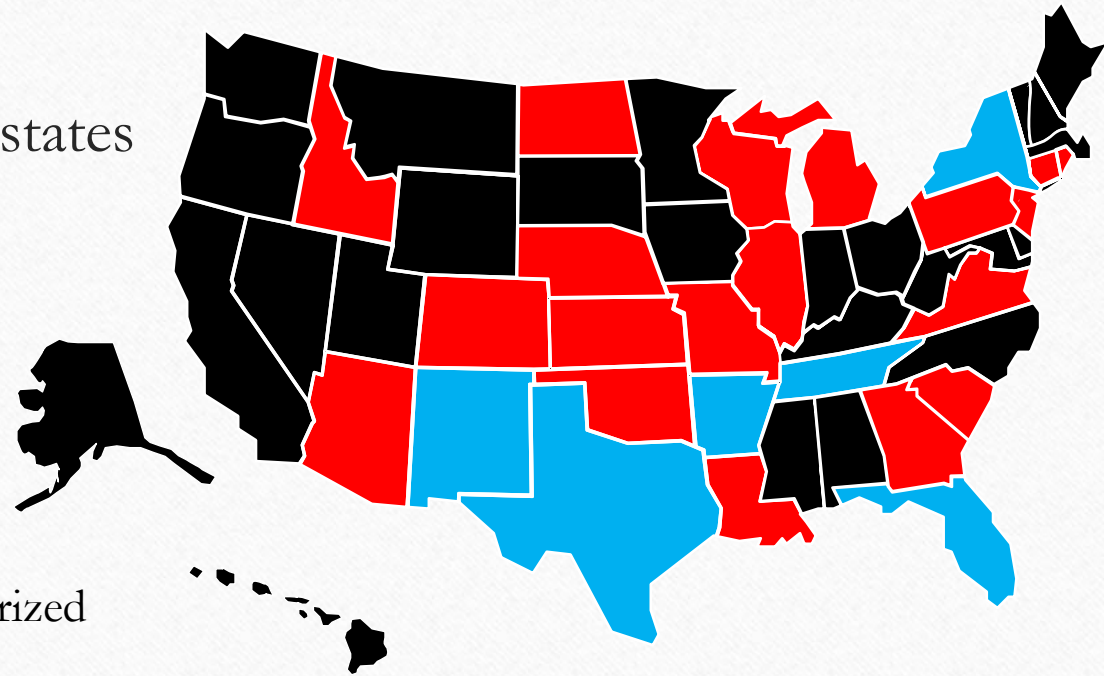
- Alaska
- Colorado
- Idaho
- Indiana
- North Dakota
- Nevada
- Washington

By End of 2014

- Arkansas
- Iowa
- Illinois
- Kansas
- Louisiana
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- Oklahoma
- Virginia
- West Virginia

Where is KU currently authorized?

- Institution as a whole = 19 states
- Lawrence campus programs = 26 states



RED states – Lawrence and KUMC campuses authorized

BLUE states – Lawrence campus authorized

Resources

SHEEO

- State Higher Education Executive Officers Association
- Provides regulations for every state, including contact information and a summary of the application process
- State Authorization Surveys – www.sheeo.org/node/434

NC-SARA

- National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements
- Explains the process for states and institutions to join SARA
- www.nc-sara.org

Thank you!

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