

AGENDA ITEM

April 14, 2016

4. Proposed Amendments to Policy 400.4.1 - SARA Exemption from LicensureTim Gallimore

Situation: The Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina is charged under North Carolina General Statute Section 116-15 with responsibility for licensing nonpublic educational institutions to conduct post-secondary degree activity in North Carolina.

In exercising its authority to license post-secondary degree programs in North Carolina, the Board of Governors decided to exempt from licensure out-of-state higher education institutions that offer distance education programs via their participation in the national State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA). The decision to join SARA necessitates a change in the University of North Carolina Policy 400.4.1.

Background: On January 26, 2016, the Board voted to join SARA on behalf of the State of North Carolina. The Board also designated the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (NCSEAA) to serve as the state's SARA portal agency. The NCSEAA is charged with preparing the state's SARA application for review and approval by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) at its meeting in June, 2016.

Upon approval by the SREB, the SARA exemption from licensure will become effective in North Carolina.

Assessment: The UNC General Administration recommends approval of the proposed change in Policy 400.4.1 to accommodate the exemption from licensure provided to out-of-state institutions operating under the provisions of SARA.

Action: This item requires a vote by the Committee, and will be included on the consent agenda at the next Board of Governors meeting in May.

**Policy on Licensing Nonpublic Institutions to
Conduct Post-Secondary Degree Activity in North Carolina**

The *Rules and Standards for Licensing Nonpublic Institutions to Conduct Post-Secondary Degree Activity in North Carolina* document is available online at:

http://www.northcarolina.edu/sites/default/files/licensure_of_nonpublic_institutions_rules_standards_master_updated_1-08.pdf

**Policy on Licensing Nonpublic Institutions to
Conduct Post-Secondary Degree Activity in North Carolina**

~~[These rules have been published in a separate pamphlet, copies of which are available at UNC Office of the President. The document can also be accessed online at The Rules and Standards for Licensing Nonpublic Institutions to Conduct Post-Secondary Degree Activity in North Carolina document is available online at:~~

~~http://www.northcarolina.edu/aa_planning/licensure/Rules—Standards—Master_Updated_1-081.pdf~~

~~http://www.northcarolina.edu/sites/default/files/licensure_of_nonpublic_institutions_rules_standards_master_updated_1-08.pdf~~

Proposed Amendments to the
*Rules and Standards for Licensing Nonpublic Institutions to Conduct
Post-Secondary Degree Activity in North Carolina*

DOCUMENT PAGE	SECTION	AMENDMENT
ii, Contents	X. Exemptions	<p>Insert new subsection D.:</p> <p><i>D. Distance Education Conducted Pursuant to a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement 30</i></p>
3	III. Definitions	<p>Insert new paragraph at the end of the present definition of ‘Distance education’:</p> <p>‘Distance education’ A coherent course of student in which the student is at a distance from the campus and the instructor may or may not be in the same place as the student; in addition to face-to-face instruction at a distance, instruction may be delivered either synchronously or asynchronously through electronic means (e.g., online courses, Web-enhanced courses, two-way interactive video, etc.)</p> <p><i>Distance education delivered pursuant to a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement to which the State of North Carolina is a party shall be exempt from licensure requirements.</i></p>
30	X. Exemptions	<p>Insert new subsection D.:</p> <p><i>D. Distance Education Conducted Pursuant to a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement</i></p> <p><i>Any institution conducting post-secondary degree activity in North Carolina pursuant to a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement to which the State of North Carolina is a party shall be exempt from licensure requirements.</i></p>