

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS, THE MARICOPA COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT ON BEHALF OF THE ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGE COORDINATING COUNCIL
AND THE ARIZONA STATE BOARD FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**

This is an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the following parties: the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR), the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) on behalf of the Arizona Community College Coordinating Council (ACCCC) and the Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education (AZPPSE).

This IGA is necessary in order for the State of Arizona and its post-secondary institutions to participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) process.

SARA involves a group of four aligned, regional, and voluntary agreements among member states, districts, and territories that establish uniform national standards for interstate offerings of post-secondary distance education.

RECITALS

1. The ABOR, ACCCC, and AZPPSE may enter into agreements with one another for joint or cooperative action, so long as each agency has been authorized by their legislative or other governing body. (A.R.S. § 11-952)
2. The ABOR, ACCCC, and AZPPSE, through this IGA, are authorized to participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) process. (A.R.S. § 15-1747)
3. Representatives of the ABOR, ACCCC, and AZPPSE will jointly constitute the Arizona SARA Council, which will serve as the state's portal entity for purposes of administering SARA. One representative from an accredited degree-granting tribal college or university may also be included on the Council.
4. SARA intends to provide an affordable, consistent, and transparent way for accredited, degree-granting institutions to achieve authorization to provide non-campus based distance education beyond the state in which they are based as defined in the Policies and Standards.
5. SARA participating institutions must be authorized by their home state pursuant to their home state's existing structure for authorizing institutions.
6. The provisions of SARA and its governing structure are designed to safeguard students taking college courses online, as well as to protect state and institutional interests.
7. Participation by states and authorized institutions in SARA is voluntary.
8. All four regional higher education compacts approved foundational requirements and processes for SARA and established its administrative structure. As a member of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), Arizona is eligible to participate. (A.R.S. § 15-1742)

AGREEMENT

1. **Duration.** The term of this IGA shall be from the date executed by each party until one or more parties elect to withdraw or the Arizona SARA Council members jointly agree to withdraw from SARA.
2. **Purpose.** Through this agreement, the parties agree to create the Arizona SARA Council for the purposes of administering Arizona's participation in SARA.
3. **Amendments.** Any amendments to this IGA shall be in writing and shall be executed as an amendment to this IGA by all parties.
4. **Liability.** Each party shall be responsible for its own acts and the results thereof to the extent authorized by law and shall not be responsible for the acts of others and the results thereof.

DUTIES OF THE PARTIES

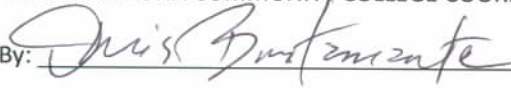
1. The ABOR, ACCCC, and AZPPSE agree to provide three representatives each to form the Arizona SARA Council. One representative from an accredited degree-granting tribal college or university may also be included on the Council.
 - a. The Arizona SARA Council will serve as the "portal agency" to coordinate SARA matters for the state pursuant to the **Arizona SARA Council Operating Agreement** (Attachment A) and serve as the interstate point of contact for SARA questions, student complaint referrals, and other communications.
 - b. The Arizona SARA Council will serve as the default forum to resolve any SARA-related complaints filed against any institution that is a SARA participant, pursuant to the **Arizona SARA Council Complaint Review Policy** (Attachment B) and the SARA Policies and Standards.
 - c. In the event an institution fails to comply with SARA policies and procedures, its participation in SARA may be withdrawn by the Arizona SARA Council and re-application may not be considered until all outstanding issues are resolved.
2. Each party agrees to provide the necessary and proper resources to fulfill their obligations and duties under this IGA.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this contract to be duly executed intending to be bound thereby.

For the ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS:

By:  Dated: 10/9/2014
Eileen Klein, President- Arizona Board of Regents

For the ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGE COORDINATING COUNCIL:

By:  Dated: 9/30/14
Chris Bustamante, President- Rio Salado College

For the ARIZONA STATE BOARD FOR PRIVATE AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION:

By:  Dated: 10/1/14
Teri Stanfill, Executive Director- Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education

Approved as to form:

General Counsel, Arizona Board of Regents

By:  Dated: 10-6-2014

Approved as to form:

General Counsel, Maricopa County Community College District representing the
Arizona Community College Coordinating Council

By:  Dated: 9-30-14