National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA)

The State of Maryland passed legislation in 2015 approving the state’s participation in NC-SARA, thus allowing Maryland colleges to “opt in” to the national reciprocity compact. Colleges joining NC-SARA are part of a network that promotes quality in online education and screens members to ensure that state laws are followed in cases of out-of-state online students. Prior to NC-SARA, each individual college had to spend considerable resources researching the state laws of every out-of-state online student, prompting some colleges to cease enrolling those students.

WCET has a helpful resource that presents the basics of NC-SARA. Click on WCET’s State Authorization 101 Resource to view.

You may also wish to visit the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) SARA site.