

**Important Note to Residents Outside North Carolina:** Admission of applicants outside the State of North Carolina to an online degree, certificate or individual online program or course offered by East Carolina University, is dependent on ECU's ability to secure authorization from the applicant's state of residence, if such authorization is required.

East Carolina University delivers online education programs and courses throughout the United States and internationally. All programs have been approved by [the University of North Carolina System](#). Many states have prescribed an "authorization" process for out-of-state institutions delivering online programs to its state residents to ensure quality post-secondary education, to preserve the integrity of an academic degree, and to instill greater consumer protection for its student citizens.

East Carolina University has taken steps to protect its students and operations through nationwide compliance: by participation in the [National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements \(NC-SARA\)](#); obtaining authorization, approval, exemptions and waivers; or confirming that East Carolina University can operate without such authorization because the state's laws do not pertain to a public institution, to an accredited institution, or to the ECU's activities in that state.

As of November 14, 2016, East Carolina University is approved by to participate in the [National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements \(NC-SARA\)](#). NC-SARA is a voluntary, regional approach to state oversight of postsecondary distance education. Institutions that are members of SARA are authorized to provide online education to students from all SARA member states. States and institutions that choose to become members of SARA operate under a set of policies and standards overseen by the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements and administered by four regional higher education compacts. For more information about the [SARA initiative and the progress of state and institutional membership](#).

Because authorization is an evolving area, please visit the [ECU State Authorization Compliance](#) website for the latest statement from ECU. For questions or concerns specific to SARA or the state authorization process, contact us at [destateauth@ecu.edu](mailto:destateauth@ecu.edu).