

SREB SARA Cost Savings Study



May 25, 2018

State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement

State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) was born of the need to streamline oversight and control of each state's postsecondary enterprise. While states bear the responsibility for authorizing education services offered to their citizens, public and private institutions have broadened their reach beyond their borders to residents of other states. Prior to SARA, states and institutions faced the real possibility of being overwhelmed by the administrative process and wildly varying fees as thousands of schools sought to operate in 50 states and territories.

Administered by the four regional higher education compacts—the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE), and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)—SARA agreements have made the authorization process more efficient and uniform as well as allowing states to be more effective about addressing quality and integrity issues; all leading to cost savings for institutions, states, and students.

This document is the result of a project commissioned by the Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB) to gain insight to the cost savings associated with SARA. The project involved collection of information both from publicly available sources (State Higher Education Executive Officers Association [SHEEO] State Authorization Surveys, NC-SARA) as well as a short survey of SREB institutions currently enrolled in SARA. Similar projects have been undertaken by MHEC and NEBHE, all with the intent of gaining a deeper understanding of the costs associated with teaching students outside of an institution's geographical home.

It must be noted that some institutions opt to disregard the federal and state mandate to obtain authorization to accept distance learning students from out of state – probably for as many reasons as there are schools that are non-compliant. Whether it's the expense/lack of funds to pay the fees or lack of staff to manage the process, non-compliant schools were not considered in the scope of this report. Even with recent news that the federal government has delayed implementation of a regulation enforcing compliance with authorization rules, these schools risk potential legal liability by choosing to be out of compliance with state's laws and regulations.

Methodology

In order to estimate the savings associated with participation in SARA, it was first necessary to estimate what an institution's costs would be if they chose to instead pursue state authorization from every state in which they provide distance learning education. These costs could then be compared to the required state and NC-SARA costs to create a cost savings multiplier. A list of all state authorization and renewal fees was compiled, and is available in Appendix A. Because many of the fees depend on the number and level of programs offered, NCHEMS needed to gather additional data directly from institutions in order to estimate what their costs would be for individual state authorization.

Survey

NCHEMS developed a short survey to capture this information, and issued it via email to a representative selection of SREB SARA institutions on April 23, 2018. The survey closed on May 3. A stratified random sample of institutions was selected based on institutional size (as defined by SARA category - small - <2,500 FTE; medium = 2,500 – 9,999 FTE; large = 10,000 + FTE), state, and institutional sector. In total, the survey was sent to 129 of the 758 SREB SARA institutions. The purpose of the survey was to learn how many distance learning programs are offered by participating

institutions, at what award level, and whether or not all programs were available to all students regardless of state of residence.

The questions included:

- Q1. Institution Name
- Q2. For Fall 2016, the number of distance learning programs offered at various degree levels. A distance learning program is defined as a program for which all the required coursework for program completion is able to be completed via distance education courses.
- Q3. Are all programs offered uniformly to students residing in all participating SARA states, or is there a subset of programs offered to some specific states?
- Q4. Please feel free to offer further comments or clarifications regarding your distance learning programs:

Cost Savings Multiplier Calculation

Institution program counts (from survey) were matched to enrollment figures (from NC-SARA) for Fall 2016. Those institutions for which survey responses could not be matched to the enrollment data were excluded from the data set. This excluded any institution who did not submit an enrollment report to NC-SARA for 2016-17, or those who were not yet a SARA member (including all Florida institutions). There were 9 institutions excluded in this fashion.

For each state in which an institution enrolled a student, we calculated the estimated authorization and renewal costs for which that institution would be liable. If the state bases their costs on tuition revenues, the lowest end of the range specified by the state was used. Costs were estimated based on all the online programs an institution offered, and not necessarily those in which students were enrolled. All state costs were added together to create a total estimated authorization cost and total estimated renewal cost for each institution. An appendix provides a high-level summary of these costs for each state.

Many states require additional fees either upon application or annually, which were not included in the estimated cost because they are highly variable and information about them is sparse and inconsistent. Some of these include:

- Surety Bonds in the event of school closure
- Change fees
 - Additional programs
 - Additional sites
 - Curriculum modification
 - Change of location
 - Change of name
 - Change of ownership
- Agent Fees and Agent Permits
- Site Evaluation

- Travel
- Staff stipends

With these estimates for the authorization and renewal costs for each state where students are served, NCHEMS calculated an average cost for authorization and renewal by dividing the average authorization and renewal costs by the number of respondents for each size category.

Total costs for SARA participation were compiled for each institutional size category, since state and NC-SARA costs are based on these categories. These costs included both NC-SARA costs and a weighted average of the SREB SARA state costs, which are what each state charges to its own institutions for SARA membership. The average was weighted by the number of SREB SARA institutions within that state. A complete list of SREB SARA costs can be found in Appendix B. Calculated costs were as follows:

Table 1. Cost Calculation by Institution Size

	Small	Medium	Large
Weighted Average State Cost	\$1,067.06	\$1,843.75	\$2,782.95
NC-SARA Cost	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00
Total Average SARA Cost	\$3,067.06	\$5,843.75	\$8,782.95

A cost multiplier was calculated for each institutional size category. This multiplier is the result of dividing the average estimated cost by the SARA participation costs.

Results

We received 47 responses to the survey, for a response rate of 36%, but there were a number of institutions for which enrollment data could not be collected. In the end, complete data could be collected from 38 institutions. These respondents reflected the diversity in SREB and NC-SARA participants, as shown in Table 2 through Table 4 below, both in the size of the institutions and especially where sector is concerned. For example, SREB SARA participation by sector breaks down as follows: Private-for-Profit schools make up 6%, Private Non-Profit are 41%, and Public Institutions account for 53% of NC-SARA members. The response-by-sector breakdown follows suit with Private-for-Profit schools at 5.2% and both Private Non-Profit and Public Institution each coming in at 47.3% of responses (Table 4). Institutions were also diverse in the number of programs they offered, the number of out of state students they served, and the number of states in which these students were present. Averages by SARA size category can be found in Table 5. The ranges for estimated costs also varied quite a bit by institution; some institutions had zero costs based on the students and states in which they served, while others had significant estimated authorization costs. Large institutions had the greatest authorization and renewal costs, largely due to the greater number of programs offered.

Table 2. Survey Respondents by Institution Size

SARA Size Category	Count	Percent of Respondents	Category Percent in NC-SARA	Category Percent in SREB SARA
Small (<2,500 FTES)	20	53%	45%	47%
Medium (2,500-9,999)	13	34%	37%	36%
Large (>10,000)	5	13%	18%	17%

Table 3. Survey Respondents by State

State	Count
Alabama	2
Arkansas	2
Georgia	4
Kentucky	3
Louisiana	2
Maryland	2
Mississippi	1
North Carolina	1
Oklahoma	1
Pennsylvania	6
South Carolina	1
Tennessee	3
Texas	5
Virginia	2
West Virginia	3

Table 4. Survey Respondents by Sector

Sector	Count	Percent Responses by Sector	NC-SARA Percent by Sector	SREB SARA Percent by Sector
Private, for Profit, 2-Year	1	5%	6%	5%
Private, for Profit, 4-Year	1			
Private, Not for Profit, 2-Year	1	47%	41%	38%
Private, Not for Profit, 4-Year	17			
Public 2-Year	7	47%	53%	57%
Public 4-Year	11			

Table 5. Characteristics of Survey Respondents

	N	Average # of Programs	Average # of OOS Students Served	Average # of States Served	Range of Estimated Authorization Costs	Range of Estimated Renewal Costs
Small	20	6.9	95.6	18.5	\$0 - \$277,240	\$0 - \$82,432
Medium	13	12.5	129.7	20.1	\$0 - \$288,150	\$0 - \$84,332
Large	5	24.4	512.2	32.6	\$112,150 - \$702,375	\$44,682 - \$134,882

On average, we estimate that regardless of institution size, initial authorization to offer distance learning nationally will cost an institution over \$100,000, compared to less than \$10,000 for SARA participation. SARA participation costs remain consistent over time, while average estimated renewal costs for non-SARA participants would range from \$35,000 to \$81,000. Specific figures as well as the resulting cost multipliers can be found in Table 6. The cost multiplier indicates how much more state authorization costs are than the cost of SARA participation; for example, a small school could expect to pay 31.5 times more in order to get initially authorized to operate in the states it offers programs if they choose not to participate in SARA, and 11 times more each year to maintain authorization in individual states.

Table 6. Cost Multiplier Calculation

	Average Authorization Costs	Average Renewal Costs	Total Average SARA Costs	Initial Authorization Multiplier	Renewal Multiplier
Small	\$102,230.55	\$35,736.33	\$3,244.57	31.5	11.0
Medium	\$129,963.15	\$41,737.69	\$6,191.87	21.0	6.7
Large	\$300,176.00	\$81,415.33	\$9,129.73	32.9	8.9

The cost multiplier was used to create an estimated cost for each state and for SREB as a whole, for both initial authorization and renewal. The costs of national and state SARA fees were then subtracted from the estimated costs in order to calculate an estimated savings amount. An example of how each state's total was calculated is available in Table 7 for North Carolina. Note that for each state, their actual state SARA costs were used, rather than the average SARA costs used to create the multiplier. This provides a more accurate reflection of state and SREB savings. Overall, we estimate that SARA participation saves SREB SARA member institutions \$109.2 million dollars for initial authorization, and \$31.1 million annually in renewal costs. Breakdowns of estimated costs and savings by state are available in Table 8 through Table 11.

Table 7. Example of North Carolina Cost Savings for Initial Authorization Estimated Costs

	No. of SARA schools	Calculation*	Initial Authorization Estimated Costs
Small	32	\$4,000 x 32 x 31.5	\$4,032,000
Medium	21	\$8,000 x 21 x 21.0	\$3,528,000
Large	10	\$12,000 x 10 x 32.9	\$3,948,000
Total Schools	63		\$11,508,000

*Fees used in the calculation are based on the sum of NC-SARA and state SARA fees.

Table 8. Initial Authorization Estimated Costs by State

State	Small	Medium	Large	Total	No. SARA IHEs
AL	\$1,260,000	\$3,024,000	\$2,368,800	\$6,652,800	34
AR	\$1,323,000	\$756,000	\$592,200	\$2,671,200	33
DC	\$945,000	\$210,000	\$1,480,500	\$2,635,500	10
DE	\$63,000	\$168,000	\$394,800	\$625,800	5
FL	\$3,087,000	\$2,646,000	\$6,909,000	\$12,642,000	66
GA	\$3,118,500	\$2,520,000	\$2,303,000	\$7,941,500	67
KY	\$3,622,500	\$2,646,000	\$2,138,500	\$8,407,000	42
LA	\$992,250	\$1,039,500	\$1,233,750	\$3,265,500	23
MD	\$1,008,000	\$1,680,000	\$1,974,000	\$4,662,000	23
MS	\$630,000	\$1,785,000	\$740,250	\$3,155,250	28
NC	\$4,032,000	\$3,528,000	\$3,948,000	\$11,508,000	63
OK	\$1,008,000	\$1,008,000	\$789,600	\$2,805,600	32
PA	\$4,252,500	\$4,095,000	\$2,072,700	\$10,420,200	93
PR	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	0
SC	\$1,512,000	\$2,688,000	\$1,579,200	\$5,779,200	32
TN	\$3,024,000	\$3,864,000	\$2,368,800	\$9,256,800	53
TX	\$2,749,950	\$3,325,875	\$5,449,063	\$11,524,888	96
VA	\$2,268,000	\$2,016,000	\$2,664,900	\$6,948,900	49
VI	\$63,000	\$-	\$-	\$63,000	1
WV	\$1,732,500	\$189,000	\$641,550	\$2,563,050	27
				\$113,528,188	777

*Puerto Rico became a member in June 2018 and therefore had no SARA institutions at the time of the survey.

Table 9. Renewal Authorization Estimated Costs by State

State	Small	Medium	Large	Total	No. SARA IHEs
AL	\$440,000	\$964,800	\$640,800	\$2,045,600	34
AR	\$462,000	\$241,200	\$160,200	\$863,400	33
DC	\$330,000	\$67,000	\$400,500	\$797,500	10
DE	\$22,000	\$53,600	\$106,800	\$182,400	5
FL	\$1,078,000	\$844,200	\$1,869,000	\$3,791,200	66
GA	\$1,089,000	\$804,000	\$623,000	\$2,516,000	67
KY	\$1,265,000	\$844,200	\$578,500	\$2,687,700	42
LA	\$346,500	\$331,650	\$333,750	\$1,011,900	23
MD	\$352,000	\$536,000	\$534,000	\$1,422,000	23
MS	\$220,000	\$569,500	\$200,250	\$989,750	28
NC	\$1,408,000	\$1,125,600	\$1,068,000	\$3,601,600	63
OK	\$352,000	\$321,600	\$213,600	\$887,200	32
PA	\$1,485,000	\$1,306,500	\$560,700	\$3,352,200	93
PR	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	0
SC	\$528,000	\$857,600	\$427,200	\$1,812,800	32
TN	\$1,056,000	\$1,232,800	\$640,800	\$2,929,600	53
TX	\$960,300	\$1,061,113	\$1,474,063	\$3,495,475	96
VA	\$792,000	\$643,200	\$720,900	\$2,156,100	49
VI	\$22,000	\$-	\$-	\$22,000	1
WV	\$605,000	\$60,300	\$173,550	\$838,850	27
				\$35,403,275	777

Table 10. Initial Authorization Estimated Savings by State

State	Estimated Costs	State and NC SARA Costs	SREB Affiliation Fee	Estimated Savings
AL	\$6,652,800.00	\$256,000.00		\$6,396,800.00
AR	\$2,671,200.00	\$96,000.00		\$2,575,200.00
DC	\$2,635,500.00	\$85,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$2,500,500.00
DE	\$625,800.00	\$22,000.00		\$603,800.00
FL	\$12,642,000.00	\$434,000.00		\$12,208,000.00
GA	\$7,941,500.00	\$289,000.00		\$7,652,500.00
KY	\$8,407,000.00	\$306,000.00		\$8,101,000.00
LA	\$3,265,500.00	\$118,500.00		\$3,147,000.00
MD	\$4,662,000.00	\$172,000.00		\$4,490,000.00
MS	\$3,155,250.00	\$127,500.00		\$3,027,750.00

NC	\$11,508,000.00	\$416,000.00		\$11,092,000.00
OK	\$2,805,600.00	\$104,000.00		\$2,701,600.00
PA	\$10,420,200.00	\$393,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$9,977,200.00
PR	\$-	\$-	\$50,000.00	-
SC	\$5,779,200.00	\$224,000.00		\$5,555,200.00
TN	\$9,256,800.00	\$352,000.00		\$8,904,800.00
TX	\$11,524,887.50	\$411,300.00	\$50,000.00	\$11,063,587.50
VA	\$6,948,900.00	\$249,000.00		\$6,699,900.00
VI	\$63,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$51,000.00
WV	\$2,563,050.00	\$83,500.00		\$2,479,550.00
Total				\$109,227,387.50

Table 11. Renewal Estimated Savings by State

State	Estimated Costs	State and NC SARA Costs	SREB Affiliation Fee	Estimated Savings
AL	\$2,045,600.00	\$256,000.00		\$1,789,600.00
AR	\$863,400.00	\$96,000.00		\$767,400.00
DC	\$797,500.00	\$85,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$662,500.00
DE	\$182,400.00	\$22,000.00		\$160,400.00
FL	\$3,791,200.00	\$434,000.00		\$3,357,200.00
GA	\$2,516,000.00	\$289,000.00		\$2,227,000.00
KY	\$2,687,700.00	\$306,000.00		\$2,381,700.00
LA	\$1,011,900.00	\$118,500.00		\$893,400.00
MD	\$1,422,000.00	\$172,000.00		\$1,250,000.00
MS	\$989,750.00	\$127,500.00		\$862,250.00
NC	\$3,601,600.00	\$416,000.00		\$3,185,600.00
OK	\$887,200.00	\$104,000.00		\$783,200.00
PA	\$3,352,200.00	\$393,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$2,909,200.00
PR	\$-	\$-	\$50,000.00	-
SC	\$1,812,800.00	\$224,000.00		\$1,588,800.00
TN	\$2,929,600.00	\$352,000.00		\$2,577,600.00
TX	\$3,495,475.00	\$411,300.00	\$50,000.00	\$3,034,175.00
VA	\$2,156,100.00	\$249,000.00		\$1,907,100.00
VI	\$22,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
WV	\$838,850.00	\$83,500.00		\$755,350.00
Total				\$31,102,475.00

Limitations and Areas for Future Research

While this report presents a reasonable estimate of state authorization costs for non-SARA member states, there are several limitations to this methodology. First, estimated state authorization fees may be much less than the true cost. When estimating what the total costs would be to a state, very few fees were included (as discussed earlier), and these fees often increase the individual state costs by thousands of dollars. In addition, these calculations did not account for indirect costs to an institution, such as staff time in obtaining state authorization from multiple states, and other associated expenses. Minimum costs were used when the cost could not be directly calculated (such as in those states which base their fees on tuition and fees revenue), which may also have led to an underreporting of the true cost.

Second, estimated costs were based on enrollment reported to NC-SARA for Fall of 2016, by institutions that are already SARA members. Institutions may choose to enroll students from other states because they are SARA members, and know they will incur no additional costs; those not in SARA may choose to be more limited in their out of state enrollment, thereby reducing costs but potentially reducing student enrollments.

Third, estimates of state authorization costs are based on the most recent data publicly available, and these costs are likely to change in the near future. States may adjust fees for SARA participation, and in particular, might raise fees for non-SARA schools as they realize how cumbersome it is to manage individual institution authorizations. As federal guidelines on state authorization are finalized in 2020, there may also be additional costs that states need to account for. The cost multipliers provided in this report provide a useful way of examining the cost savings associated with SARA membership, but are likely to change as well.

It is clear that there is an appetite for better assessing the cost savings for institutions due to participation in SARA. But with a highly varied regulatory environment across the states, compounded by the shifting federal perspectives on state authorization and a current lack of enforcement that permits institutions to effectively ignore what regulations are in place, means that being able to fully estimate those savings is always going to be a challenge. Additional costs associated with compliance, but which are not captured in the various states' authorization fee structures – such as personnel, legal, and insurance-related costs – likely cannot be fully captured. However, further inquiry via a case study approach might at least provide interested parties with something like a taxonomy of the kinds of costs and related savings, as well as a general sense of their magnitude, that could be helpful in describing the effects the SARA approach has had on this complicated landscape. Such an effort likely would require that the study be done by a confidential third party. Among other things it might help assess how closely to institutional realities are the estimates presented in this report and in similar efforts conducted by MHEC and NEBHE.

Appendix A. Simplified State Authorization Fees Schedule

This table lays out the costs associated with obtaining an institution authorization in order to serve students who reside in states other than its own home state.

State	Organization	Initial Authorization Fees	Renewal Fees	Data Source
Alabama	Alabama Commission on Higher Education	\$2,500	\$1,500	SHEEO SAS
Alabama	Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education	\$2,500-\$15,000	\$2,500-\$15,000	SHEEO SAS
Alaska	Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education	\$2,500	\$500-\$2,500	SHEEO SAS
Arizona	AZ State Board for Private Postsecondary Education	\$800	\$800	SHEEO SAS
Arkansas	AR Department of Higher Education	\$500-\$3,825	0	AR Dept of HE
California	California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education	\$750-\$5,000	\$500-\$3,500	CA.gov, Dept of Consumer Affairs, BPPE
Colorado	Colorado Department of Higher Education	\$5,500	\$2000 / 3 years	SHEEO SAS
Colorado	CO Division of Private Occupational Schools	\$5,000		SHEEO SAS
Connecticut	Connecticut Office of Higher Education	0	0	SHEEO SAS

State	Organization	Initial Authorization Fees	Renewal Fees	Data Source
Delaware	Delaware Department of Education	\$250	\$250	SHEEO SAS
District of Columbia	DC Education Licensure Commission	\$5000 +500 Workshop fee	\$2,500	SHEEO SAS
Florida	FL Commission for Independent Education	\$3,000-\$5,000		
Georgia	Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission	\$2,000-\$5,000 +annual fee	\$1,000-\$25,000	GNPEC
Hawaii	HI PSE Authorization Program	\$10,000-\$19,000	\$10,000-\$19,000	SHEEO SAS/ HI PSEAP
Idaho	Idaho State Board of Education	\$100-\$5,000	\$100-\$5,000	SHEEO SAS
Illinois	IL Board of Higher Education	\$5,250		SHEEO SAS
Indiana	Indiana Commission for Higher Education	\$1,000-\$2,000	\$500	SHEEO SAS
Iowa	Iowa College Student Aid Commission	\$5,000 +annual fee	\$2K/\$4K/\$6K	
Kansas	Kansas Board of Regents	\$5,500 +\$1,500-\$4,000	\$2,000-\$25,000	KS Office of Revisor of Statutes
Kentucky	Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education	\$5,000 +\$200-\$2,000	\$1,000-\$12,000	Cpe.ky.gov
Louisiana	Louisiana Board of Regents	\$1,500	\$1,500	SHEEO SAS

State	Organization	Initial Authorization Fees	Renewal Fees	Data Source
Maine	Maine Department of Higher Education	0	0	SHEEO SAS
Maryland	Maryland Higher Education Commission	\$7,500 +	\$7,500 +	SHEEO SAS
Massachusetts	MA Dept of Higher Education	\$10,000 + \$2,000/degree	\$4,000	SHEEO SAS
Massachusetts	MA Division of Professional Licensure	\$1,250-\$2,500	½ of 1% tuition & Fees	MA DPL
Michigan	Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs	\$5,000 + Annual fee	\$5,000	MI Dept of LARA
Minnesota	Minnesota Office of Higher Education	\$2000-\$3,500	\$1,200	SHEEO SAS
Mississippi	MS Commission on College Accreditation	\$3,100	0	SHEEO SAS
Mississippi	MS Commission on Proprietary School Registration	\$25	\$1,000	SHEEO SAS
Missouri	MO Department of Higher Education	\$500	\$500-\$1,000	SHEEO SAS
Montana	Montana University System	0	0	SHEEO SAS

State	Organization	Initial Authorization Fees	Renewal Fees	Data Source
Nebraska	NE DOE Private Postsecondary Career Schools	\$360 +\$135/program \$1,515 (oos)	\$220 + \$75/program	NE DoE
Nebraska	NE Coordinating Commission on Postsecondary Education	N/A	N/A	
Nevada	NV Commission on Postsecondary Education	\$2,000	0	SHEEO SAS
New Hampshire	NH Department of Education - HEC	\$10,000-\$20,000		NH DoE
New Jersey	NJ Secretary of Higher Education	0	0	NJ.gov
New Mexico	New Mexico Higher Education Department	\$500-\$5,000 + \$500	\$500-\$5,000 + \$500	NM HED
New York	Office of College and University Evaluation	\$17,000	\$17,000	Nysed.gov
New York	NY Bureau of Proprietary School Supervision	\$250	\$500-\$12,000	Nysed.gov
North Carolina	UNC Board of Governors	\$5,000	\$1,000	Northcarolina.edu
North Dakota	ND Dept of Career and Technical Education	\$2,000	\$500	SHEEO SAS
North Dakota	ND University System	\$2,000-\$3,500	\$1,200	SHEEO SAS

State	Organization	Initial Authorization Fees	Renewal Fees	Data Source
Ohio	Ohio Board of Regents	\$3,000-\$5,000	\$500-\$2,000	SHEEO SAS
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Board of Private Schools	\$25 +\$1,200	\$700-\$1,500	SHEEO SAS
Oklahoma	OK State Regents for Higher Education	0	0	SHEEO SAS
Oregon	OR DOE Private & Career Schools Office	\$1,050	% gross tuition	SHEEO SAS
Oregon	Oregon Office of Degree Authorization	\$1,000/program	\$1,000 (flat fee)	SHEEO SAS
Pennsylvania	PA Department of Education	0	0	SHEEO SAS
Puerto Rico	PR Council on Education	\$5,000	\$5,000 +@1,000/unit	SHEEO SAS
Rhode Island	RI Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner	\$1,000	\$100	SHEEO SAS
South Carolina	SC Commission on Higher Education	\$150-\$5,500	\$115-3750	SHEEO SAS
South Dakota	SD Secretary of State's Office	0	0	SHEEO SAS
Tennessee	TN Higher Education Commission	\$3,000 + \$500/program Optional Expedited Authorization - \$9000	\$500-\$3,500 Optional Expedited Authorization - \$9000	SHEEO SAS

State	Organization	Initial Authorization Fees	Renewal Fees	Data Source
Texas	TX Higher Education Coordinating Board	\$5,000	0	SHEEO SAS
Texas	Texas Workforce Commission	\$1,001-\$3,000	\$500	SHEEO SAS
Utah	UT Division of Consumer Protection	\$1,500-\$2,500		UT Div of Consumer Protection
Vermont	Vermont State Board of Education	\$4,000-\$7,500	\$4,000-\$7,500	SHEEO SAS
Virgin Islands	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Virginia	VA State Council of Higher Education	\$2,800-\$6,300	\$250-\$5,000	SHEEO SAS
Washington	WA Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board	\$250-\$2,500	\$250-\$2,500	Wtb.wa.gov
Washington	WA Student Achievement Council	\$5,000	\$2,500	http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=250-61-170
West Virginia	WV Council for Community & Technical College Education	\$6,000	\$1,000	SHEEO SAS
Wisconsin	WI Educational Approval Board	\$2,000-\$5,100	\$500 +	
Wyoming	Wyoming DoE	\$100	\$100/Inst	SHEEO SAS

Appendix B. SREB SARA Fees

This table lays out the fees associated with an institution's fulfillment of SARA membership in its own home state.

State	Initial Authorization Fee	Annual/Renewal Fee	Notes
Alabama	\$2,000-\$6,000	\$2,000-\$6,000	Based on FTES
Arkansas	0	0	Must be NC-SARA Member
Delaware	0	0	Must be NC-SARA Member
District of Columbia	\$3,000-\$9,000	\$3,000-\$9,000	Based on FTES
Florida	\$1,500-\$4,500	\$1,500-\$4,500	Based on FTES
Georgia	\$1,000-\$5,000	\$500-\$25,000	Application fee based on degree level, annual fee based on % of tuition & fees
Kentucky	\$3,000-\$7,000	\$3,000-\$7,000	Based on FTES
Louisiana	\$1,500	\$1,500	
Maryland	\$2,000-\$6,000	\$2,000-\$6,000	Based on FTES
Mississippi	\$500-\$1,500	\$500-\$1,500	Based on FTES
North Carolina	\$2,000-\$6,000	\$2,000-\$6,000	Based on FTES
Oklahoma	0	0	Must be NC-SARA member
Pennsylvania	\$1,000-\$60,000	\$1,000-\$60,000	Based on Distance Education revenue
Puerto Rico	\$2,000-\$6,000	\$2,000-\$6,000	Based on FTES
South Carolina	\$2,000-\$6,000	\$2,000-\$6,000	Based on FTES
Tennessee	\$2,000 - \$6,000	\$2,000 - \$6,000	Based on FTES
Texas	\$425-625	\$425-625	Based on FTES
Virginia	\$1,000-\$3,000	\$1,000-\$3,000	Based on FTES
Virgin Islands	0	0	
West Virginia	\$500		Must be NC-SARA member, application fee only.