



## **State Authorization and Professional Licensure**

### ***Online Education and Professional Licensure Disclosure at Webber International University***

The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) establishes a state level reciprocity process that makes state authorization more efficient, effective, and uniform in regard to necessary and reasonable standards of practice across states as well as more effective in dealing with quality and integrity issues for online learning. The State of Florida is a member of SARA agreement. Webber International University has been approved and has joined the Florida State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (FL-SARA). Important note for prospective students: If you are considering an academic program that leads to a professional license in your state, it is highly recommended that you first seek guidance from the appropriate licensing agency in your home state, BEFORE beginning the academic program located outside your state.

### ***State Authorization and Student Complaints***

Webber International University attempts to maintain an environment where problems are dealt with honestly, openly, collaboratively, and as close to the source as is possible. In addition to a wide array of informal resolution strategies, students have the right to file a written complaint. Students are encouraged to address a grievance with the professor or staff member for resolution. If there is no resolution, the student may submit a written complaint.

The complaint must be a clear and concise written description of the evidence upon which the allegation is based, names and contact information for those with personal knowledge of the facts of the matter, information on any attempt for resolution prior to submission of the written complaint and a description of any external channels the complainant is pursuing.

Normal inquiries about the University, such as admission requirements, financial aid, educational programs, etc., should be addressed directly to the University, and not to the Florida Department of Education Commission on Independent Education's office. The Department's office is to be contacted only if there is evidence that appears to support an institution's significant noncompliance with a requirement or standard.

Through the following link you will find an excerpt of the current policy as it pertains to student complaints. It provides the necessary information on how and to whom a written complaint would be sent– [Webber Written Complaints Policy](#). Online students may begin the process by completing the [Online Complaint Form](#).

If a satisfactory resolution cannot be first reached internally through the institution resolution procedures listed above, distance education students may contact:



Florida Contacts  
Office of Articulation  
Department of Education  
[articulation@fldoe.org](mailto:articulation@fldoe.org)  
850-245-0427

Webber International University (including its branch campuses, St. Andrews University and St. Andrews at Sandhills) is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on College to award degrees at the associate, bachelor, and master levels. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, call 404-679-4500 or go to <http://www.sacscoc.org> for questions about the accreditation of Webber International University.

Students must first go through the institutional complaint process listed on the institution's website under grievance and/or complaint process. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome, he/she may appeal the complaint to the Council by sending an email to [FLSARAinfo@fldoe.org](mailto:FLSARAinfo@fldoe.org).

#### Requirements

- Complaint must be filed within two years of the incident about which the complaint is made.
- Complete the institutional and state agency complaint process prior to submitting a complaint to the Council.
- Complaint must be a formal assertion in writing that the terms of SARA, or of laws, standards or regulations incorporated by SARA, are being violated by a person, institution, state, agency or other organization or entity operating under the terms of SARA.
- You are a student of a FL-SARA approved institution.
- If you are not a student, but have a concern about any of the above, you may submit a complaint.

#### ***Out of State Education Students***

Complaint process for out-of-state distance education students participating under SARA, who have completed the internal institutional grievance process, and the applicable state grievance process, may appeal non-instructional complaints to the FL- SARA PRDEC Council at [FLSARAinfo@fldoe.org](mailto:FLSARAinfo@fldoe.org). For additional information on the complaint process, please visit the [FL-SARA Complaint Process page](#).

#### ***Student Code of Conduct***

Webber International University is committed to fostering a University environment where the rights and responsibilities of all students are respected and protected. Therefore, in order to ensure the



success of each individual, the University has established high expectations for ethical student conduct.

All students are expected to:

- Follow all regulations and guidelines as prescribed in the Student Handbook, found at <https://www.webber.edu/handbooks/>
- Be honest in all situations, academic and non-academic.
- Respect the rights and property of others.
- Live in a manner that brings credit to you and your University.
- Follow all state, local and federal laws.
- Take advantage of every opportunity to expand one's mind and to contribute positively to the university environment.

### ***IT Support***

Students needing IT support should email [webbersupport@webber.edu](mailto:webbersupport@webber.edu). Students will receive an automated response from Webber International University Technical Support acknowledging receipt of the support request email. A 2nd email with further instruction from the IT staff will follow within 24 hours.

### **Professional Licensure/Certification**

Webber International University is a private, not-for profit college that is located and chartered in the state of Florida. Pursuant to section 1005.06(c), Florida Statutes, “[a]ny institution that is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education, eligible to participate in the William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program and that is a nonprofit independent college or university located and chartered in this state and accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to grant baccalaureate degrees” is not required to obtain licensure.

### **Disclaimer Statement**

NC-SARA has no effect with professional licensing board approval for any courses or programs leading to professional licensure. If you are not a resident of Florida, and you are taking a course or program leading to professional licensure, Webber International University cannot guarantee whether the course or program meets requirements for professional licensure in your state. Prior to beginning your course of study, please consult with the academic department offering the program to receive individualized assessment and advice.

Information for programs leading to professional licensure: [Professional Licensure | NC-SARA](#)

Additional Program information available:

- Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) :



<https://www.aota.org/Advocacy-Policy/State-Policy/Licensure/StateRegs.aspx>

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- Accounting

<https://nasba.org/stateboards/>

Dr. Joanne Muniz, CFE, FMAA, MAcc, Associate Professor and Chair of Accounting, MunizJ@webber.edu, 863.638.1431 ext. 2942

- Teacher Education

[Professional Licensure | NC-SARA](#)

[Professional Licensure Directory | NC-SARA](#)

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