WICHE Regional Forum on the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (W-SARA)
Denver, Colorado
December 10, 2013
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

SARA is a voluntary initiative that will make distance education courses more accessible to students across state lines, as well as make it easier for states to regulate and institutions to participate in interstate distance education. For institutions, meeting the patchwork of regulatory demands from 50 states and U.S. territories and seeking authorization from each one in which they operate is not just difficult, it’s also costly and time-consuming and uses resources that could better be spent meeting our national goal of helping students learn and graduate. SARA supports more effective consumer protection, and increases the quality, comparability, and effectiveness of regulatory oversight.

Purpose of the Regional Forum: To inform WICHE members about the roles and responsibilities of state agencies and institutions under the W-SARA agreement; and provide information to help states determine their interest and readiness to join SARA.

Agenda topics: The forum will offer sessions on SARA basics; the mechanics of home state oversight of providers and complaint processes; impact on institutional providers; applications for institutions and states; fee structures; the W-SARA state approval process and timeline; and actionable steps to take in order to join SARA.

Logistics: The Forum will be at the Denver Embassy Suites, Downtown Convention Center, 1420 Stout Street, Denver, CO 80202. A block of rooms has been reserved at the rate of $139 plus tax for the evenings of December 9-10, 2013. Please call 303.592.1000 to make your reservation by November 15, 2013, and request the special WICHE rate.

Registration: Please register by November 15, 2013, at the following site: https://www.regonline.com/wsararegionalforum

For more information, contact:
Rhonda M. Epper, Ph.D.  l  Director, W-SARA
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)
3005 Center Green Drive, Suite 130
Boulder, CO 80301
303.541.0277  l  repper@wiche.edu
www.wiche.edu