

State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), Complaint Process, and Professional Licensure

BMCC is an approved State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) Participant



Bay Mills Community College (BMCC) has been approved on November 13, 2017, by the State of Michigan, 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.

BMCC, as a SARA approved institution, can deliver online programs to residents in any SARA member state without seeking additional authorization from that particular state. SARA is a voluntary agreement among 49 member states, districts and territories that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs. SARA is overseen by a National Council and administered by four regional education compacts. The State of Michigan is a member of the SARA-Midwestern Higher Education Compact.

All States **EXCEPT** the following are included in SARA: California and Massachusetts.

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) also accredits BMCC for distance education courses.

BMCC Complaint Process for Distance Education, Out-of-state and Off-Campus Students

BMCC wants students to have a positive experience in online education, but realizes that problems, grievances, and complaints may occur. The U.S. Department of Education Program Integrity Regulations (34 C.F.R. 668.43) mandates that an institution which offers distance education must "provide its students or prospective students with contact information for filing complaints with its accreditor and with its State approval or licensing entity and any other relevant State official or agency that would appropriately handle a student's complaint."

BMCC is committed to resolving all forms of complaints through the Bay Mills Community College Student Complaint process (See separate .pdf file on this

webpage). However, if the complaint is not resolved to the student's satisfaction, please see the following guidance.

BMCC is a participating institution in the National Council-State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (NC-SARA) and the state of Michigan is the home state of BMCC for SARA purposes. For students who are in distance education programs in states that are part of the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), student complaints should be directed to Michigan's SARA portal agency, the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs ([Click here for Complaint Info & Form](#)). Note that there are some complaints that the agency does not address.

In addition, please see the BMCC Distance Education Student Complaint Information file (separate .pdf file on this webpage) for a state-by-state listing of state agencies that handle complaints regarding distance education.

More SARA Complaint information can also be found here:

<http://nc-sara.org/content/sara-and-students>.

Higher Learning Commission Complaint Process

Complaints regarding the College's ability to meet accreditation standards may be forwarded to the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, 30 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602-2504 or online at the "[Complaints Against an Affiliated Institution-Instructions for Filing A Complaint with the Commission](#)".

Request for Accreditation and Authorization Information

Upon request, BMCC will make available for review a copy of the documents describing the institution's accreditation and its State, Federal, or tribal approval or licensing. The BMCC Charter can be found on the BMCC Policies website.

Professional Licensure for Certain Academic Programs

To All Prospective Students: Please check the state requirements for professional licensure before you undertake your program of study.

BMCC offers programs, which may lead to licensure in the state of Michigan. However, BMCC cannot assure that its distance education offerings will lead to licensure in other states. It is highly recommended that students, who seek admission to BMCC's distance education online programs, should contact the appropriate licensing agency in their state to determine what the requirements for professional licensure are.

BMCC has provided a state-by-state listing of state occupational licensing agencies in a separate .pdf file on this webpage.

Michigan State Licensure and Eligibility Requirements for Certain BMCC Academic Programs

***Online Programs

Construction-License Requirements

Residential Builders and Maintenance & Alteration (M&A) Contractors

General educational requirements:

http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-72600_72602_72731_72862-365035--,00.html

Licensing Applications and Forms

http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-72600_72602_72731_72862---,00.html

***Corrections-Eligibility Requirements (No License Required)

Hiring Process

http://www.michigan.gov/corrections/0,4551,7-119-68690_68794_68691-330828--,00.html

Criminal History Check Is Part of Eligibility Requirements

An applicant must have a criminal history check done prior to consideration for employment. Applicants with the following criminal history will be excluded:

- (1) Felony or domestic violence convictions;
- (2) Applicants who are on misdemeanor probation, have outstanding warrants, or have a controlled substance (drug) related conviction in any jurisdiction, including drug-related military discharges; and,
- (3) Applicants who have been convicted of any other misdemeanor shall not be eligible for employment until one year after satisfactory completion of any sentence imposed, including payment of fines and probation.

Education-License Requirements

Criminal History Check Is Part of Licensing and/or Employment Requirements

***EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION [NO TEACHER CERTIFICATION REQUIRED]

***EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER CERTIFICATION

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Early_Childhood_Special_Education_Teacher_Approval_544626_7.pdf

Education-Teacher Certification

Teacher Certification Requirements-Information

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-5683_14795-390337--,00.html

Teaching Professions:

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-5683_14795---,00.html

EMT/ EMT Specialist (AEMT)/Paramedic-License Requirements

EMS Licensing Information

http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970_5093_28508-47472--,00.html

EMS Licensing Portal

<https://www.mi-emsis.org/licensure/>

Health and Fitness-Certain Occupations Require Licensing

Other Health Professions:

http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-72600_72603---,00.html

General Michigan Licensing Information for Other Occupations

<http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-72600---,00.html>