

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### STATE AUTHORIZATION RECIPROCITY

## WNC State Authorization Reciprocity for Distance Education

The Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Board of Regents Specifies the constitutional authority under which it was created in Article 1 Section 1, and the institutions under NSHE include Western Nevada College (WNC). The [entire NSHE handbook is available online](#).

[View State Requirements on the WNC website](#)

WNC is a degree-granting institution that is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), which is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. Furthermore, the state of Nevada is a member of the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) and Western Nevada College is an approved SARA institution. SARA is an agreement that establishes a common set of standards for offering post-secondary distance education among member states. [Learn more about SARA and the benefits to students](#).

Pursuant to the United States Department of Education (USDOE) State Authorization Regulations, the following information is provided to all current and prospective students.

### The Complaint Process:

Western Nevada College aims to resolve all student complaints in an expedient and fair manner. Students wishing to file a complaint with online learning, must file initially with WNC.

WNC is committed to excellence. In an effort to better understand potential obstacles at WNC, we have provided this form to be utilized by students, faculty or visitors.

Please click the links below to file a complaint with the appropriate departments regarding:

[Title IX](#)  
[Grade Disputes](#)  
[Student Conduct](#)  
[Academic Misconduct](#)  
[ADA Concerns](#)

[SARA Complaint Form](#)

If a student does not feel their online learning complaint is properly resolved by WNC, they can file a complaint with [Nevadas SARA Portal Entity, the Nevada System of Higher Education \(NSHE\)](#).

### Definitions

**Complainant:** The Student filing a complaint according to this policy.

**Director:** A unit director or supervisor who is authorized to investigate a complaint.

**Respondent:** The individual against whom a complaint is filed, or a designated representative of a unit or department against whom a complaint is filed.

**State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA):** An agreement among member states (including Nevada) establishing comparable national standards for postsecondary distance education.

**Student:** An individual (or their legal guardian, if the individual is under age 18 or is otherwise under the care of a legal guardian) who is currently enrolled (full- or part-time), or who was enrolled at the time the events or circumstances underlying the complaint first occurred.

**Working Day:** For the purposes of the Student Complaint Policy, a Working Day is Monday through Friday when college classes are scheduled and in session.

### Deceptive Trade Practices and Acts of Fraud Prohibited

Deceptive trade practices and other acts of fraud are prohibited including, but not limited to the following:

1. To intentionally and materially represent falsely, directly or by implication any statement or representation, oral, written, or visual, in connection with the offering of educational services, including but not limited to statements or representations relating to recruitment and marketing information; tuition, fees and other charges; and admissions information;
2. To adopt a name, trade name, or trademark that represents falsely, directly or by implication, the quality, scope, nature, size, or integrity of the institution or its educational services;
3. To represent, directly or by implication, that students who successfully complete a course or program of instruction may transfer the credits earned to any institution of higher education;
4. To intentionally and materially represent falsely, directly or by implication, in its advertising or promotional materials or in any other manner, the size, location, facilities, or equipment of the institution; the number or educational experience qualifications of its faculty; the extent or nature of any approval received from any state agency; or the extent or nature of any accreditation received from any accrediting agency or association; or
5. To provide prospective students with testimonials, endorsements, or other information that materially misleads or deceives prospective students or the public regarding current practices of the institution.

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### **Nevada State SARA Portal**

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The contact information for WNCs accrediting body can be found here: [NWCCU](#).