



# State Licensing Boards & State Higher Education Agencies Must Collaborate to Minimize Barriers for Postsecondary Students as Future Practitioners



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## Abstract

Students, as future practitioners, are increasingly being educated by online learning and in different states than the institution.

Federal regulations in the US require institutions to provide notifications about meeting state educational requirements for all licensed programs.

State licensing boards must provide greater transparency of state education requirements to obtain a state license.

Lack of transparency causes barriers for students when institutions cannot complete requirement research in the states where the students are located when educated by online learning.

## Current Regulations

### U.S Department of Education Current Regulations 34 CFR 668.43

Post Secondary Institutions Must:

1. Analyze state educational requirements for a license in **ALL** states.
2. Post public notifications about meeting requirements for **ALL** states.
3. Send student notifications in specified circumstances.

## Barriers

### Barriers when educating future practitioners when states are not clear about educational requirements:

1. Students' ability to obtain federal financial aid is affected if institutions are hindered from assessing state educational requirements in all states nationwide.
2. Student choice of programs and institutions is minimized in some professions/occupations if institutions cannot complete state research to offer the programs to students located in certain states.
3. Shortages and lack of diversity of new licensed practitioners are exacerbated.

## Requested Action

### Requested Action Steps for State Licensing Boards:

1. State Boards must build relationships with State Higher Education Agencies to support institutions for licensing programs.
2. National Associations must coordinate with the State Licensing Boards to provide consistent access to educational requirements.
3. State Boards must prepare their websites to address postsecondary institutions about instruction and make educational requirements clear and accessible.
4. State Boards must develop a process to manage institution inquiries about state educational requirements.

## Proposed Regulations

### U.S. Department of Education Proposed Regulations

Future practitioners cannot receive Federal financial aid for their education unless:

1. Curriculum meets state educational requirements for a license.
2. Where student is located.
3. Time of initial enrollment.

**\*Includes when a student is educated by online courses from a neighboring state.**

## Acknowledgements



<https://wcetSAN.wiche.edu>

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