



Learner Location 1370.001

INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE:	LAST REVISION DATE:	RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY DIVISION/DEPARTMENT
June 11, 2020	February 12, 2024	Office of the Registrar

POLICY STATEMENT

Federal State Authorization laws, 34 CFR 600.9(c) and 34 CFR 668.43(c), require Florida International University (FIU) to determine student learner locations. The learning location of each student will be initially determined by the information provided by the student based on the student’s physical location at the time of enrollment into an educational program and, if applicable, upon formal receipt of information from the student, that the student’s location has changed to another state.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all students enrolling at FIU regardless of learning modality and student classification.

REASON FOR POLICY

Effective July 1, 2020, 34 CFR 600.9(c) and 34 CFR 668.43(c), require institutions to determine the state in which the student is located while enrolled at an institution. In 34 CFR 600.9(c), student location determines the state(s) in which the institutions that offer distance or correspondence education must be authorized. In 34 CFR 668.43(c), student location determines the conditions under which the institution must make professional licensure disclosures.

The purpose of this policy is to comply with Federal Regulations, individual state and international laws, and state authorization reciprocity agreements [e.g., National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA)]. The physical location of the student during an educational activity may impact FIU’s authorization to offer online education and experiential learning experiences to that student.

The difference between “location” and “residence” plays an important role in FIU maintaining compliance with several regulations. While residency requirements vary by State, a State’s authorization jurisdiction is based upon the location of the educational activity.



DEFINITIONS	
TERM	DEFINITIONS
Learner Location	Where a student is physically located while participating in the university’s educational activity.
Residence	The state in which a student lives as demonstrated by state law.
Time of Enrollment	Time of a student’s initial enrollment into a program as opposed to the time of a student’s initial application to the institution.
State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement	Agreement between two or more States that authorizes an institution located and legally authorized in a State covered by the agreement to provide postsecondary education through distance education or correspondence courses to students located in other States covered by the agreement.
National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (NC-SARA)	An agreement among member states, districts, and territories that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education.
Educational Activity	Includes but is not limited to online learning, experiential learning, clinicals, practicums, internships, and externships.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Office of the Registrar is responsible for maintaining student records, including learner location (student address) at the time of enrollment and any changes upon formal receipt of information from the student that his or her location has changed.

RELATED RESOURCES

Federal Regulation (www.govinfo.gov) 34 CFR 600.9(c) and 34 CFR 668.43(c)

NC-SARA Manual (<https://nc-sara.org/>) Sections 5.12(a) and 5.2

Florida SARA Office

CONTACTS

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HISTORY

Initial Effective Date: June 11, 2020

Review Dates (*review performed, no updates*): N/A

Revision Dates (*updates made to document*): February 12, 2024