

## **State Authorization for Online Education**

East Mississippi Community College provides distance education programs courses to students in all states under the authority of an agreement with the Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation (MCCA). EMCC strives to provide a dynamic learning environment to ensure the achievement of students' goals by administering instruction, policies, and student support services. To continue this dynamic learning environment for out-of-state students, EMCC through its membership in the regional compact ([Southern Region Education Board - SREB](#)), has joined the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement ([SARA](#)). SARA is an agreement among member states, districts, and territories that establish comparable national standards for interstate offering postsecondary distance education.

National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) - <https://nc-sara.org/>

## **Accreditation**

East Mississippi Community College (EMCC) is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificates and associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, 30033-4097 or call (404) 679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of EMCC. The Commission is only to be contacted if there is evidence that appears to support an institution's significant non-compliance with a requirement or standard. All normal inquiries about the institution, such as admission requirements, financial aid, educational programs, and other colleges related information should be addressed directly to the College and NOT to the office of the Commission on Colleges.

EMCC is also accredited by the Mississippi State Department of Education and by the Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation and is a member of the Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities, the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges, the American Association of Community Colleges, and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

## **Professional Licensure**

States and other entities have established standards for professions or occupations regarding regulations. Licensure requirement varies from state to state and depends on each profession. If students are considering enrolling in an online program that leads to a license in your state, it is recommended that students make contact with East Mississippi Community College to verify if the eLearning program meets the requirements of the state you reside in. East

Mississippi Community will notify students that are enrolled in an online licensure program to check their state of residence.

### **Student Complaint and Grievance Procedures**

East Mississippi Community College provides procedures for students to submit complaints and grievances with the College. If an out-of-state student feels that their complaint or grievance has not been received through such Policies and Procedures stated in the Student Handbook, official documents, or EMCC's Policies and Procedures Manual has not been resolved, the student can file a complaint to the MS-SARA portal agent.

To file a complaint, a student can complete the complaint process with East Mississippi Community College, and if the complaint is not resolved, the student should submit the complaint to the EMCC's Home State Portal Entity, the Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation (MCCA). MCCA is located at 3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211, and can be reached by telephone 601.432.6372.

MCCA's current complaint process and complaint form can be accessed at the following

link: [http://www.mississippi.edu/mcca/student\\_complaint\\_process.asp](http://www.mississippi.edu/mcca/student_complaint_process.asp).