

The following information is published in compliance with 34 CFR 668.43(b).

PMI is an approved NC-SARA institution through the home state of Arizona. Students enrolled in distance education programs, upon exhausting the PMI Grievance Procedure, outlined below, and the <u>Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education Complaint Resolution</u> process, may appeal complaints to the AZ-SARA Council. Complaints must be submitted within two years of the incident. Complaints regarding student grades or student conduct violations may not be appealed to the AZ SARA Council. For additional information on the complaint process, please visit the AZ SARA Complaint Page.

Grievance Procedure

Student concerns should first be addressed by the faculty or program director-or through student services. When a concern is not sufficiently addressed to the student's satisfaction, a formal written complaint may be initiated following the procedures outlined in this policy.

Definitions

"Grievance": Dissatisfaction or disagreement with an outcome or situation that a student believes to be incorrect or unjust. This occurs after the student has made a reasonable attempt to resolve the issue through direct engagement with the appropriate individuals, such as faculty members or program leadership, but remains unsatisfied with the resolution.

"Cohort": Group of students who started a program on the same day and who progress through the program based on the published schedule; students who withdraw, take a leave of absence, etc., may return to the same program but with a different cohort of students.

Policy

Attempts to Address

Prior to submitting a complaint, the student is expected to attempt a resolution within the academic program by communicating with staff (i.e., faculty, lead faculty, program director). If a satisfactory solution cannot be reached between the student and the academic staff, then the student may submit a formal complaint in writing to the Assistant Dean of Faculty, the Campus Director, or designated personnel.

Types of Grievance

- Academic Performance Concerns. Student academic concerns, such as performance outcomes (e.g., PPS, or failing a course, skills exam, or clinical education) that cannot be resolved through discussion with the faculty, program director, or lead faculty).
- Termination. Students who have been terminated from a program may appeal the decision in writing within 10 business days of the termination date. There is no guarantee that the student will be able to return to the same cohort and may have to re-enter or re-enroll into a different cohort.
- Discrimination Complaint: Complaints alleging discrimination in the on the basis of race, national origin, color, gender, disability, age, religion by students, staff, or third parties, or applicable legally protected characteristics.
 - o For discrimination based on sex-based offenses, please refer to PMI-054: Title IX Sex-Based Reporting or PMI 055: Title IX Sex-Based Offenses Reporting (Texas Campuses Only)



• Other. Students may submit a complaint for any concern that does not fall within one of the defined categories (e.g., faculty and staff performance, facilities and resources, administrative services complaints).

General Guidelines

Retaliation is forbidden and any individual engaging in retaliatory conduct will be disciplined. Conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict of interest during any stage of the grievance process, will not be tolerated. The student's (i.e., claimant) identity will be kept confidential as much as possible. However, it may be necessary to release the student's name to the accused in order to fully investigate the grievance or complaint. Sanctions can range from a written reprimand to expulsion from the school in the case of a student, or termination from employment in the case of an employee, depending on the nature and severity of the allegations.

Recordkeeping

All Campus Directors are required to maintain a student complaint file in the PMI approved network location that includes a copy of the formal written complaint, details of the investigation (including personnel involved), and notes regarding the final decision. For degree programs, the program's accrediting agency may require a copy of any formal complaints; a record must be kept on file for the length of time designated by the programmatic and/or institutional accreditor, whichever is longest.

Formal Written Grievance Procedure

Formal Written Grievance

Student grievances are to be submitted in writing and include the substance of the grievance to official personnel:

- On Ground Campus: Student grievances are to be submitted in writing to the Associate Campus Director, Assistant Dean of Faculty, or the Campus Director.
- o *Online:* Student grievances are to be submitted in writing to the Online Student Success Manager, who may assign the grievance to the most appropriate home office official.

Recipient response:

The recipient or designated official will investigate the claim and make an appointment with the claimant within 10 business days of receipt. The recipient will notify the claimant of the decision within 10 business days of the meeting. If the recipient does not respond within the time frame defined in this policy, the claimant can submit a Grievance Outcome Appeal.

Grievance Outcome Appeal

If the grievance is still unresolved after meeting with the campus director, Dean of Online Education, or designated official, the student may call the home office contact (below), submit a Grievance Appeal form via the Student Portal, or send written correspondence to the attention of the Regional Director of Operations (RDO) or Director of Online Education for distance education programs:

- West Region (Chula Vista, East Valley, Mesa, Phoenix, Renton, San Marcos, Seattle, Tucson)
 DeWayne Johnson, Regional Director of Operations
 Address: 111 Campus Way, San Marcos, CA 92078
 - Phone: (760) 299-4520
- East Region (Albuquerque, Aurora, Colorado Springs, Denver, El Paso, Houston, Las Vegas, San Antonio)



Tara Dailey, Regional Director of Operations

Address: 5725 Mark Dabling Boulevard, Suite 150, Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Phone: (719) 637-4077

Online

Michele Poulos, Director of Online Education

Address: 40 N Swan Road, Suite 100, Tucson AZ 85711

Phone: 520-318-2466 x 11401

Complaints submitted via mail may require an additional 10 business days beyond the defined timelines in this policy. Grievances are to be submitted in writing to the appropriate person identified in VII. B. 1; submissions must include:

Substance of the grievance

o Attempts to address or resolve

o Requested resolution

Recipient Response

The recipient or designated official will attempt to contact the complainant as soon as able but no later than 10 business days from receipt of the appeal request. The recipient will conduct an impartial investigation within 10 business days of the student meeting, which will include a review of all relevant documents and additional records that may not have been included in the appeal (appeals submitted via mail may take an additional 10 days).

Following the investigation timeframe, the recipient will schedule a meeting with the student. During or after the investigation, at the request of the complainant, PMI will consider various options to protect the complainant, including but not limited to:

- Health and mental services
- Academic support
- Opportunity to retake the class
- Withdraw without penalty

Decision on Appeal

The recipient or designated official will notify all parties of the decision on the appeal within 30 business days (appeals submitted via mail may take an additional 10 days). If the investigation determines that discrimination has occurred, corrective action will be taken, including consequences imposed on the individual found to have engaged in the discriminatory conduct, individual remedies offered or provided to the subject of the complaint, and/or staff or student training and/or other systemic remedies as necessary to prevent it from reoccurring. If the investigation will take longer than 30 days, all parties will be apprised of the steps being taken.

Filing a Grievance with an Outside Agency

Enrolled or prospective students also have the right to file complaints within their state of residence regardless of whether the state regulates the institution. The state-by-state agency information is provided below:



Alabama

Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education Private School Licensing Division PO Box 302130 Montgomery, AL 36130-2130

https://psl.asc.edu/External/Complaints.aspx

Arizona

Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education 1740 W. Adams Street, Suite 3008 Phoenix, AZ 85007

https://ppse.az.gov/student-complaint-procedure

California

California Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education 1747 North Market, Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834

https://www.bppe.ca.gov/enforcement/complaint.shtml

Connecticut

Office of Higher Education 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 707 Hartford, CT 06103-1841

https://www.ohe.ct.gov/StudentComplaints.shtml

District of Columbia

Office of the State Superintendent of Education Higher Education Licensure Commission 1050 First St. NE, Fifth Floor Washington, DC 20002

https://helc.osse.dc.gov/topic/helcadmin/communitystakeholders/public-complaints

Georgia

Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission 2082 E Exchange Pl. #220 Tucker, GA 30084-5334

https://gnpec.georgia.gov/student-resources/complaints-against-institution

Alaska

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education P.O. Box 110505 Juneau, AK 99811-0505

https://acpe.alaska.gov/ConsumerProtection

Arkansas

Arkansas Department of Higher Education 423 Main Street, Suite 400 Little Rock, AR 72201

https://sbpce.wufoo.com/forms/form-8040-complaint-form/

Colorado

Colorado Department of Higher Education 1600 Broadway, Suite 2200 Denver, Colorado 80202

https://highered.colorado.gov/students/how-do-i/file-a-student-complaint

Delaware

Delaware Department of Education The Townsend Building 401 Federal Street, Suite 2 Dover, Delaware 19901

https://www.doe.k12.de.us/Page/3489#hecmp

Florida

Commission for Independent Education 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1414 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

https://www.fldoe.org/sara/student-concerns.stml

Hawaii

HPEAP
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
P.O. Box 541
Honolulu, HI 96809

http://cca.hawaii.gov/hpeap/hpeap-sara-complaint-process/



Idaho

Idaho State Board of Education – Private Postsecondary & Proprietary Schools Coordinator 650 West State Street PO Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720-0037

https://boardofed.idaho.gov/higher-educationprivate/proprietary-schools-non-degree-granting/studentcomplaint-procedures/

Indiana

Indiana Commission for Higher Education 101 W. Ohio Street, Suite 550 Indianapolis, IN 46204

https://www.in.gov/che/2744.htm

Kansas

Kansas Board of Regents
1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 520
Topeka, KS 66612-1368

http://kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/private_out_of_s tate/complaint_process

Louisiana

State of Louisiana Board of Regents 1201 N. Third St., Suite 6-200 Baton Rouge, LA 70802

https://www.laregents.edu/student-complaint-process/

Maryland

Maryland Higher Education Commission 6 North Liberty Street Baltimore, MD 21201

https://mhec.maryland.gov/institutions training/Documents/acadaff/SARA/SARA%20complaint%20corrections%202017.pdf

Michigan

Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau P.O. Box 30018 Lansing, MI 48909

https://www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/wd/pss

Illinois

Illinois Board of Higher Education 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 333 Springfield, Illinois 62701-1377

https://complaints.ibhe.org/

Iowa

Iowa College Aid 475 SW Fifth St., Suite D Des Moines, IA 50309

https://www.iowacollegeaid.gov/StudentComplaintForm

Kentucky

Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education 100 Airport Road Frankfort, KY 40601

http://cpe.ky.gov/campuses/consumer complaint.html

Maine

Maine Department of Education 23 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/highered/sara

Massachusetts

Department of Higher Education One Ashburton Place, Rm. 1401 Boston, MA 02108

https://www.mass.edu/foradmin/sara/complaints.asp

Minnesota

Registration & Licensing Office of Higher Education 1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55108

http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=1078



Mississippi

Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation 3825 Ridgewood Road Jackson, MS 39211-6453

http://www.mississippi.edu/mcca/sara.asp

Montana

Montana University System 560 N. Park – 4th Floor PO Box 203201 Helena, Montana 59620-3201

https://mus.edu/che/arsa/StateAuthorization/Students.html

Nevada

Nevada Commission on Postsecondary Education 2800 E St. Louis Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

http://cpe.nv.gov/Students/Students Home/

New Jersey

Office of the Secretary of Higher Education 1 John Fitch Plaza, 10th Floor, PO Box 542, Trenton, NJ 08625-0542

https://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/OSHECompla intlnstructions.shtml

New York

New York State Education Department Office of College and University Evaluation EBA Room 9696 89 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12234

http://www.nysed.gov/college-universityevaluation/complaints

North Dakota

North Dakota University System (NDUS) 10th Floor, State Capitol 600 East Boulevard Ave, Dept. 215 Bismarck, ND 58505-0230

https://ndus.edu/state-authorization-sara/

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Missouri

Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development PO Box 1469 Jefferson City, MO 65102-1469 (573) 751-2361 and select option 2

https://dhewd.mo.gov/DistanceEducation.php

Nebraska

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education P.O. Box 95005 Lincoln, NE 68509-5005

https://ccpe.nebraska.gov/student-complaints-against-postsecondary-institutions

New Hampshire

New Hampshire Department of Education 101 Pleasant Street Concord, NH 03301-3494

https://www.education.nh.gov/pathways-education/higher-education-new-hampshire

New Mexico

New Mexico Higher Education Department 2048 Galisteo St, Suite 4 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

https://hed.nm.gov/students-parents/student-complaints

North Carolina

North Carolina Post-Secondary Education Complaints University of North Carolina System Office 910 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2688 For more information, send an email to: studentcomplaint@northcarolina.edu

https://www.northcarolina.edu/post-secondary-education-complaints/

Ohio

State Board of Career Colleges and Schools 30 East Broad Street, Suite 2481 Columbus, OH 43215

https://scr.ohio.gov/information-for-students/file-a-complaint/6-file-a-complaint

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Oklahoma

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200 Oklahoma City, OK 73104

https://www.okhighered.org/current-collegestudents/complaints.shtml

Pennsylvania

Bureau of Postsecondary and Adult Education Pennsylvania Department of Education 333 Market Street, 12th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

https://www.education.pa.gov/Postsecondary-Adult/CollegeCareer/Pages/State-Authorization-Reciprocity-Agreement-(SARA).aspx

South Carolina

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education 1122 Lady Street, Suite 300 Columbia, SC 29201

https://www.che.sc.gov/sites/che/files/Documents/Licensing %20updates/testSARA_.pdf

Tennessee

Higher Education Commission 404 James Robertson Parkway, Ste 1900 Nashville, TN 37243

https://www.tn.gov/thec/bureaus/student-aid-and-compliance/postsecondary-state-authorization/request-for-complaint-review.html

Utah

Department of Commerce – Division of Consumer Protection 160 East 300 South PO Box 146704 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6704

https://dcp.utah.gov/complaints.html

Oregon

Higher Education Coordinating Commission 255 Capitol Street NE, Third Floor Salem, OR 97310

https://www.oregon.gov/highered/about/Pages/complaints.aspx

Rhode Island

Commissioner of Higher Education RI Office of Higher Education 80 Washington Street, Suite 254 Providence, RI 02903

https://riopc.edu/services/help-for-students/

South Dakota

South Dakota Board of Regents 306 E Capitol Ave, Suite 200 Pierre, SD 57501

https://tdx.sdbor.edu/TDClient/33/Portal/Home/?ID=50% 20219c42-9f6a-45de-82ad-cad22e4afa9b

Texas

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board 1200 E. Anderson Lane Austin, Texas 78752

https://www.highered.texas.gov/student-complaints/

Vermont

Agency of Education 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5 Montpelier, VT 05620-2501

https://education.vermont.gov/vermont-schools/schooloperations/post-secondary-programs



Virginia

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia – Private Postsecondary Education 101 N. 14th Street, 10th Floor James Monroe Building Richmond, VA 23219

https://www.schev.edu/students/resources/studentcomplaints

West Virginia

Executive Vice Chancellor for Administration West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission 1018 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Suite 700 Charleston, WV 25301-2800

https://www.wvhepc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Student-Complaint-Process.pdf

Wyoming

Wyoming Community College Commission 2300 Capitol Ave., 5th Floor, Suite B Cheyenne, WY 82002

https://communitycolleges.wy.edu/sara/

Washington

Washington Student Achievement Council 917 Lakeridge Way SW, PO Box 43430 Olympia, WA 98502-3430

https://wsac.wa.gov/student-complaints

Wisconsin

Distance Learning Authorization Board http://www.heab.state.wi.us/dlab/students.html#file

OR

Educational Approval Program
Department of Safety and Professional Services
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705

https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/Educational Approval/EAPFileAComplaint.aspx