South Carolina
Commission on Higher Education

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CAAL
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Agenda Item 3

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MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Chair, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

From: Dr. Gail M. Morrison, Director, Academic Affairs and Licensing

Consideration of Request for Initial License for Branch in Columbia, SC
Remington College, Mobile, AL

Summary

Remington College, of Mobile, Alabama, http://www.remingtoncollege.edu/mobile/ requests approval to establish a branch in Columbia, SC, to offer a program leading to the Associate of Applied Science degree in (1) Business Administration, (2) Computer and Network Administration, and (3) Criminal Justice. The request is to begin advertising upon approval by the Commission and to implement the programs after facilities build-out is completed and as soon as enrollments justify. The programs will be delivered on-site.

Education America, Inc., (EAI), with its administrative offices in Heathrow, Florida, is a for-profit holding company that owns 100 percent of the stock of seven Remington College companies with 20 campuses in Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Louisiana, Ohio, Tennessee, and Texas.

The Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology (ACCSCT) has accredited Remington College – Mobile Campus, since 1998. Officials at Remington will submit its application for extension of accreditation to the Columbia campus after approval by CHE. The State of Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education licenses the institution to confer bachelor's and associate's degrees and diplomas.

The following information from the U.S. Department of Education shows student loan default rates at Remington College – Mobile Campus. Institution officials expect similar results for Columbia.

OPE ID	School	Type	Control	PRGMS		FY2005	FY2004	FY2003
026055	Remington College - Mobile Campus 828 Downtowner Loop West;Mobile AL 36609-5593	Bachelor's Degree	Proprietary	Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) and Federal Direct Loan (FDL)	**Default Rate**	3.6	4.6	3.6
					No. in Default	70	70	56
					No. in Repay	1910	1514	1533

Institution officials have signed a 15-year lease agreement for a 33,971 square foot building in the Bush River Shopping Center at 607 Bush River Road (corner of Bush River Road and Arrowood Road), adjacent to K-Mart. Remington will provide faculty and staff offices, 17 classrooms, four labs, student lounge, supply store, and library.

The Columbia campus will employ a full-time librarian for the Information Resource Center. The IRC will include non-circulating reference material for each area of study, current periodicals, audio/visual equipment, and computers with Internet access. Library orientation to teach new users how to access information effectively, reference support, electronic resources instruction, and workshops on résumé writing and scholarships are available to students, faculty, and staff. Students also have 24-hour access to Ebrary.com with more than 500,000 full-text books, periodicals, and articles and to Infotrac, an on-line research and learning center, with more than 20 million full-text articles from nearly 6,000 periodicals.

The Columbia campus will employ a campus president; directors of recruiting, student finance, career services, and education; registrar; department chairs; and support staff for those functions. The campus director will report to the regional vice president of operations.

In compliance with the requirements of licensing regulations, members of Remington College--Columbia Campus faculty who teach general education courses must possess a master's degree with 18 hours in the teaching discipline or hold a master's degree with a major in the teaching discipline. Faculty members who teach professional, occupational, and technical courses that do not usually result in college transfer or in the continuation of students in senior institutions must possess appropriate academic preparation (usually a bachelor's degree) or academic preparation coupled with work

experience. Exceptions to academic preparation may be made with the consent of the Commission.

In order to be admitted into the associate degree programs, prospective students must have a GED or high school diploma from a regionally accredited high school or state-approved home school program. Prospective students must take the Wonderlic Scholastic Level Exam (SLE) test for skills assessment. Computer Network and Administrative students must score a 17 or higher; Business Administration and Criminal Justice students must score a 13 or higher. Transfer students must submit official transcripts from each college attended and may be able to transfer credit from other accredited institutions.

Institute officials project that approximately 50 students will enroll in each program in the first year. Tuition includes books, supplies, and equipment and is the amount the student will be charged for attempting the minimum number of credit hours to complete the program of study. Total tuition is $36,960 ($385 per quarter credit hour) for the program leading to the A.A.S. degree in Business Administration and Criminal Justice and total $38,620 ($402.29 per credit hour) for Computer and Network Administration.

Each curriculum consists of 96 quarter credit hours, 24 in general education and 72 in the major. The programs do not have specialized accreditation, and practitioner licensure or certification is not required for employment. The program descriptions may be found at the following links:

Business Administration
http://www.remingtoncollege.edu/training/business-administration/

Computer Network Administration
http://www.remingtoncollege.edu/training/computer-network-administration/

Criminal Justice
http://www.remingtoncollege.edu/training/criminal-justice-associate/

Remington College uses a standardized process to evaluate the feasibility of potential programs. The process consists of market, demographic, and employment analysis. Remington officials have interpreted the results of their analyses as adequate demand for entry-level employees in the areas of training Remington plans to offer.

Other institutions in the Columbia area that offer programs leading to associate degrees in fields similar to those Remington proposes to offer are:

Institution	Degree	Major
Beta Tech	A.O.S.	Criminal Justice
ECPI	A.A.S.	Computer Electronic Engineering Technology (Computer Network Engineering Technology)
ECPI	A.A.S.	Information Technology, Networking and Security Management
ITT	A.A.S.	Information Technology, Computer Networking Systems
Midlands Technical College	A.Bus.	Management
Midlands Technical College	A.C.T.	Computer Technology
Midlands Technical College	A.P.S.	Criminal Justice Technology
South University	A.S.	Business Administration
South University	A.S.	Information Technology
Strayer University	A.A.	Business Administration
Strayer University	A.A.	Information Systems

None of the programs is available through the Academic Common Market.

Recommendation

The staff recommends that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission initial licensure for five years to Remington College--Mobile Campus to establish a branch campus in Columbia, South Carolina, to offer programs leading to the Associate of Applied Science in (1) Business Administration, (2) Computer Network Administration, and (3) Criminal Justice. Advertising will begin immediately upon approval by the Commission, and implementation of the programs will occur when an appropriate facility is completed and as soon as enrollments justify. The staff further suggests that the Committee recommend that the Commission delegate to staff the authorization to license the Columbia site once the facility has been developed.