



South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Ken Wingate, Chair, and Members, Commission on Higher Education

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

Annual Report on Licensing Activities for FY 2010 - 2011

Background

This informational report on licensing activities has been prepared for the Committee's information. The information found in the tables covers the period from July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011.

Under South Carolina law, all licenses for higher education institutions operating in the state are program- and site-specific. Thus, an institution must first be approved by the Commission to operate at a given site for the offering of a given program or programs. An institution which is already licensed must apply for an amendment to its license when:

- It seeks to add a field or major not previously offered if that field/major constitutes more than 18 semester hours of credit.
- Academic requirements in an existing field or major are changed which constitute 25% or more of that field or major as originally licensed.
- Cumulative changes in the course of a calendar year equal or exceed 25% of the field or major as originally licensed.

Requests for initial licensure of new degree-granting institutions, amendments to existing licenses to add degree programs at in-state institutions, and amendments to existing licenses to add in-state sites to licensed institutions are all evaluated by the licensing staff in the Division of Academic Affairs and Licensing. Staff then refers these requests to the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing with a recommendation for action.

For changes of less consequence than those described in the two paragraphs immediately above, a licensed institution meets the requirements of the law by simply notifying the Commission in writing. Such minor changes include institutional changes in:

- Course requirements in an existing program which constitute less than 25% of the program's academic requirements in a year.
- A "concentration" within a program of study which constitutes 18 credit hours or less.

- A name for an existing program of study.
- The mode of delivery for an existing program of study.

This report has been organized to reflect comprehensively the staff work required to assure that the law is applied appropriately in the licensing of qualified institutions seeking to offer academic programs of higher education within the state of South Carolina. Listed herein are the following sections:

- I. Approval of Initial Requests for Degree-Granting Institutions
- II. Amendments to Existing Licenses to Add New Degree Programs
- III. Amendments to Existing Licenses for Degree-Granting Institutions to Add New Sites
- IV. Nondegree (certificate and diploma) Activities
- V. Complaints, Records, and Agent Permits

I. Approval of Initial Requests for Degree-Granting Institutions

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing and the Commission approved no applications for initial licensure in 2010-2011.

Table 1. Approval of Initial Requests for Degree-Granting Institutions - On-Ground Programs in SC

Institution	Broad Program Area	Curricular Area	Degree		Total	Location
		Totals	0	0	0	

II. Amendments to Existing Licenses to Add New Degree Programs

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing and the Commission approved requests for amendments to existing licenses of Strayer University’s sites in Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville to add one new program at the master’s level.

Table 2. Amendments to Existing Licenses to Add New Degree Programs

Institution	Major	A*	B**	M***	Total	Location
Strayer	Education			4	4	Charleston Columbia Greenville
		0	0	4	4	

*Associate
 **Bachelor
 ***Master

III. Amendments to Existing Licenses for Degree-Granting Institution to Add New Site

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing and the Commission approved one request for an amendment to existing licenses to add a new site in Charleston for **Saint Leo University** to offer programs leading bachelor’s and master’s degrees as shown in the following table.

Table 3. Amendments to Existing Licenses to Add New Degree Programs

Institution	Major	A*	B**	M***	Total	Location
Saint Leo	Business Administration		1	1	2	Charleston
Saint Leo	Criminal Justice		1	1	2	Charleston
Saint Leo	Human Resource Management		1		1	Charleston
Saint Leo	Psychology		1		1	Charleston
Saint Leo	Health Care Management		1		1	Charleston
		0	5	2	7	

*Associate
 **Bachelor
 ***Master

Table 4 lists all degree-granting, nonpublic, postsecondary institutions which are licensed with sites in South Carolina. The 28 institutions offer 201 degree programs consisting of 79 associate, 69 bachelor, 48 master, four professional, and one doctorate.

Table 4. Degree-Granting Institutions Licensed to Operate in SC – With Sites in SC

	Name/location	Main Campus if out of State	Degree level - # of programs*	Accreditation	Profit/ Non	Location
1.	American College of the Building Arts		A-1 B-1	None	Non	Charleston
2.	Art Institute of Charleston	Atlanta, GA	A-5 B-7	SACS	Profit	Charleston
3.	Brown Mackie	Tucson, AZ	A-10 B-4	ACICS	Profit	Greenville
4.	Charleston School of Law		Professional-1 (JD)	ABA candidate	Profit	Charleston
5.	ECPI College of Technology	Virginia Beach, VA	A-4 B-4	SACS	Profit	Greenville, Charleston, Columbia
6.	Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine	Blacksburg, VA	Professional-1 (DO)	Commission on Osteopathic Accreditation	Non	Spartanburg
7.	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Daytona Beach, FL	A-2 B-3 M-4	SACS	Non	Greenville
8.	Forrest College		A-3	ACICS	Profit	Anderson
9.	Fortis College	Towson, MD	A-3	ABHES	Profit	Columbia
10.	Gardner-Webb University	Boiling Springs, NC	M-3	SACS	Non	Spartanburg
11.	Golf Academy of America	Scottsdale, AZ	A-2	ACICS	Profit	Myrtle Beach
12.	ITT Technical Institute	Indianapolis, IN	A-9 B-8	ACICS	Profit	Columbia, Greenville
13.	Lehigh University	Bethlehem, PA	M-8	MSA	Non	Charleston
14.	Lesley University (Several sites)	Cambridge, MA	M-5	NEASC	Non	
15.	Miller-Motte Technical College	Virginia Beach, VA	A-8	ACICS	Profit	Charleston, Conway
16.	Nova SE University	Fort Lauderdale, FL	D-1	SACS	Non	Columbia, Greenwood, Anderson, Charleston
17.	Professional Golfers Career College	Temecula, CA	A-1	ACICS	Profit	Bluffton
18.	Remington College	Mobile, AL	A-4	ACCSCCT	Profit	Columbia
19.	Saint Leo University	Saint Leo, Florida	A-1 B-8 M-2	SACS	Non	Sumter
20.	Savannah College of Art & Design	Savannah, GA	B-1	SACS	Non	Bluffton

21.	Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic		Professional-1 (DC)	SACS/CCE	Non	Spartanburg
22.	South University	Savannah, GA	A-6 B-9 M-3 Professional-1	SACS	Profit	Columbia
23.	Springfield College	Springfield, MA	B-1 M-1	NEASC	Non	Charleston
24.	Strayer University	Washington, DC	A-8 B-6 M-7	MSA	Profit	Greenville, Columbia, Charleston
25.	Troy University	Troy, AL	B-3 M-6	SACS	Non	Sumter, Charleston
26.	University of Phoenix	Phoenix, AZ	B-6 M-4	NCA	Profit	Columbia
27.	Virginia College	Birmingham, AL	A-13 B-3	ACICS	Profit	Greenville, Columbia, Charleston, Spartanburg
28.	Webster University	St. Louis, MO	B-5 M-8	NCA	Non	Charleston, Myrtle Beach, Greenville, Columbia

A Associate
B Bachelor
M Master
DO Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine
DC Doctor of Chiropractic
JD Juris Doctor
D Doctor

Table 5 lists degree-granting, nonpublic, postsecondary institutions only *recruiting* in SC. These institutions do not have any on-ground sites in SC.

Table 5. Institutions/Programs Licensed by CHE Only for Recruiting Statewide (advertising and meeting students) in SC

Institution	Degrees	Modality of Program Delivery
Capella University Minneapolis, MN	B.P.A. B.S. D.B.A. D.H.A. D.N.P. D.P.A. D.P.H. D.S.W. Ed.D. Ed.S. M.B.A. M.H.A. M.N.M.L. M.P.A. M.P.H. M.S. Ph.D. Psy. D.	On-line
DeVry University Phoenix, AZ Miramar, FL Orlando, FL Alpharetta, GA Decatur, GA Chicago, IL Columbus, OH	A.A.S. B.S. M.S.	A.A.S. and B.S. on-ground at sites in other states M.S. on-line
Grand Canyon University Phoenix, AZ	B.A. B.S. B.S.N. E.M.B.A. M.B.A. M.Ed. M.P.A. M.S. R.N. to B.S.N. R.N. to M.S.N.	On-line
Nashville Auto-Diesel College (NADC) Nashville, TN	A.D.T. A.O.S.	On-ground at its site in Tennessee
Walden University Minneapolis, MN	B.S. Ed.D. Ed.S. M.A.T. M.B.A. M.P.A. M.P.H. M.S. Ph.D.	On-line
Westwood University Atlanta, GA (two sites)	A.A.S. A.O.S. B.S.	On-ground at its two sites in Georgia

IV. Nondegree (certificate and diploma) Activities

In addition to licensing of degree-granting institutions, the Commission also licenses entities that offer certificate and diploma programs that prepare students for a pre-determined vocation. The Commission has delegated to the staff the authority to review and approve nondegree programs. As of June 30, 2011, CHE licensed 70 schools that offer nondegree programs. During the 2010-11 fiscal year, the staff approved initial licensure of the following 11 schools:

Air conditioning Refrigeration (ACR) Training Center, Ladson
Advanced Dental Training Institute, LLC, Summerville
AMAN Institute, Inc., Aiken
Career Arts Institute, Wagener/Lexington/Columbia
Caring Hands, Inman
Columbia School of Nursing Assistants, Columbia
Microstaff IT, Cayce
New Generations Job Training Center, Florence
Palmetto School of Career Development, N. Charleston
Pathway Medical Training Service, Sumter
Sunrise School of Dental Assisting; Charleston, Columbia, Florence, Greenville, Myrtle Beach

Two nondegree schools ceased training during the 2010-11 fiscal year: Carolina Nurse Aid Program Academy, Columbia did not renew its license that expired on February 28, 2011; and EZ Tax Service, Charleston, did not renew its license that expired on October 31, 2010. There were no refunds due or teach-out costs from the closing of these schools.

Table 6 lists nondegree-granting, nonpublic, postsecondary institutions operating or soliciting in SC.

Table 6. Nondegree-Granting Institutions Licensed by CHE

1.	Absolute Medical Training, Florence	39.	Jackson Hewitt (various sites)
2.	Academy of Dental Assisting, Inc., Surfside Beach	40.	John Casablancas, Charlotte, NC
3.	Advanced Dental Training Institute, LLC, Summerville	41.	Liberty Tax Service (various sites)
4.	Air Conditioning Refrigeration Training Center, Ladson	42.	Mejias Medical Training Center, Florence
5.	Allheart Allied Health Education Center, Sumter and Columbia	43.	MicroStaff IT, Cayce
6.	AMAN Institute, Inc., Aiken	44.	Millie Lewis Modeling/Finishing, Greenville
7.	American Hospitality Academy, Hilton Head	45.	Millie Lewis Models and Talent, Charleston
8.	ARC Labs, Piedmont, Spartanburg, Columbia	46.	Millie Lewis of Columbia
9.	Arrhythmia Technologies, Greenville	47.	NASCAR Technical Institute, Mooresville, NC
10.	Art Instruction School, Minneapolis, MN	48.	National Cat Groomers School, Greenville
11.	At-Home Professions, Ft. Collins, CO	49.	New Generations Job Training Center, Florence
12.	ATP Gunsmithing, North Charleston	50.	New Horizons Computer Learning Center (Cooke & Moses d/b/a), Columbia, Greenville, Charleston
13.	Avalon School of Massage, Florence	51.	Nurses on Call d/b/a NOC Training Center, Hartsville
14.	Barbizon Academy of Charlotte	52.	Palmetto HealthCare Training Center, Marion
15.	Care A Lot, Greenwood	53.	Palmetto School of Career Development, N. Charleston
16.	Career Arts Institute, Wagener, Lexington, Columbia	54.	Palmetto Training, Inc. (SC Technical Institute d/b/a), Timmonsville
17.	Caring Hands, Inman	55.	Pathway Medical Training Center, Sumter
18.	Carolina Film Institute, Greenville	56.	People Advocating to Change Humanity (PATCH) Training School, Charleston
19.	Carolina Massage School & Wellness Center, Greenville	57.	Pee Dee Medical Training Center, Lake City
20.	Centura College, Charleston and Columbia	58.	Plumstead Quality and Training Service, Inc., Greenville
21.	Charleston School of Massage	59.	Professional Medical Training Center, Florence and Conway
22.	Charleston School of Protocol and Etiquette, Inc.	60.	SC School of Court Reporting, Columbia and Greenville
23.	Clemson Montessori d/b/a Montessori Teacher Training Institute	61.	SC School of Dog Grooming, Columbia
24.	Columbia Health Care Services	62.	SC School of Horseshoeing, Inc., Aiken
25.	Columbia School of Nursing Assistants	63.	Schuman Nursing Assistant Academy, Spartanburg
26.	Construction Training Center, Blair	64.	SE Institute, Charleston and Columbia
27.	Court Reporting School of SC, W. Columbia and Greenville	65.	SE School for Career Development, Greenville
28.	DeAbreu Modeling Consulting, LLC, Summerville	66.	Sunrise School of Dental Assisting; Charleston, Columbia, Florence, Greenville, Myrtle Beach
29.	Dental Assisting School of SC, Mt. Pleasant	67.	Training Concepts LLC, Irmo
30.	Discovery Training Center, Charleston	68.	Universal Technical Institute of Texas
31.	East Coast Grooming School, Beaufort	69.	Universal Technical Institute-Motorcycle Mechanics Division, Orlando, FL
32.	Georgia School of Construction, Conyers, GA	70.	WyoTech, Blairsville, PA; Laramie, WY; Daytona Beach, FL
33.	Groomadog Academy, Blythewood		
34.	H&R Blocks (various sites)		
35.	Health Tech, Greenville		
36.	Institute of Guided Studies, Camden		
37.	International Diving Institute, Charleston		
38.	International Spa Institute, Bluffton		

IV. Complaints, Records, and Agent Permits

The licensing regulations require that each institution include a complaint procedure in its catalog. The procedure typically includes a formal process by which a student may approach institution officials and seek resolution through the institution. If the student cannot reach a satisfactory conclusion, he or she may submit a complaint to the Commission. Members of the staff of the Commission refer students to other resources and mediate sharing of information between students and school officials. In cases where students file formal complaints, the staff reviews the complaint, sends it to the school for response, transmits the response to the student, and negotiates resolution of the complaint. Sometimes complaints result in readdressing policies and procedures at the schools in order to avoid similar problems.

During the year ended June 30, 2011, licensing staff received 71 complaints from 41 institutions. The complaints were about a variety of issues ranging from misunderstandings about financial aid eligibility, charges, and refunds; eligibility for teacher or principal certification for education-related programs; and access to student services and advising. The following is an outline of the some of the institutions and issues.

Examples of Complaints

Number of Complaints	Institution	Issues	Status
7	WARP University, Rock Hill	Non-degree, unlicensed, illegally operating and violating standards	Ceased training and closed
7	Mejias Medical Training Center, Florence	Non-degree, licensed school; lack of equipment, qualified instructors, and unpaid refunds	School owner arranged with licensing staff to suspend training in one program and make appropriate refunds
6	Independent, in-state	Various	Referred or resolved
9	Public	Various	Referred or resolved
14	Private, for-profit degree-granting	Typically processing, accessing, and understanding financial aid	

The Commission is the repository for records of schools that have closed. During the 2010-11 fiscal year, the Commission received 226 requests for transcripts.

The Commission also issues permits to agents who represent licensed institutions. The agents follow-up on leads generated by advertising and soliciting activities. During the 2010-11 fiscal year, the Commission issued 380 agent permits.