



# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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CHE  
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## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Chairman Tim Hofferth and Members, SC Commission on Higher Education  
**From:** Chair Terrye Seckinger, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

### **Annual Report on Licensing Activities for FY 2015-16**

#### **Background**

This report on licensing activities is for the Committee's information and covers the period from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016.

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 that is licensed already must apply for an amendment to its license when one of more of the following occurs:

- The institution seeks to add a field or major not previously offered if that field/major constitutes more than 18 semester hours of credit for undergraduate programs or 12 semester hours for graduate programs;
- Cumulative changes equal or exceed 25% of the contact hours, credits, curriculum content, or program length following the initial program approval or last review by the Commission;
- Cumulative changes in the course of a calendar year equal or exceed 25% of the field or major licensed.

Licensing staff in the Division of Academic Affairs evaluate requests for initial licensure of new degree-granting institutions, amendments to existing licenses to add degree programs at in-state sites, and amendments to existing licenses to add in-state sites to licensed degree-granting institutions. Staff then prepares these requests and recommendations for the consideration of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing.

Institutions also request modifications for minor changes that the licensing staff approve. Those modifications include the following:

- Course requirements in an existing program that constitute less than 25% of the program’s academic requirements in a year;
- A “concentration” within a program of study that constitutes 18 credit hours or less;
- A name for an existing program of study;
- The mode of delivery for an existing program of study.

In addition, licensing staff evaluate and approve applications for initial licensure for nondegree-granting institutions (in-state and recruiting), amendments to existing licenses to add nondegree programs, and amendments to existing licenses for nondegree-granting institutions to add in-state sites.

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**I. Approval of Initial Licensure and Amendments for Degree-Granting Institutions**

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing and the Commission approved Augusta University (GA) for initial licensure in 2015-16. Licensure is to offer in Aiken County schools a program leading to the Master of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

In addition, the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing and the Commission approved an amendment to the license of Lenoir-Rhyne University (NC) to offer at its site at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (LTSS) in Columbia, SC a program leading to the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy.

**II. Degree-Granting Institutions**

The following table lists all degree-granting, postsecondary institutions that are licensed to have sites in South Carolina. Nova Southeastern University surrendered its license in November 2015 due to lack of physical presence in SC.

**Table 1 Degree-Granting Institutions-Licensed Sites in SC**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Main Campus</b>	<b>Degree level<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Accreditation</b>	<b>Profit/Non</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Enrollment Fall 2015</b>
1.	American College of the Building Arts	Charleston, SC	A, B	None	Non	Charleston	56
2.	Art Institute of Charleston	Atlanta, GA	A, B	SACS	Profit	Charleston	488
3.	Brown Mackie College <sup>2</sup>	Phoenix, AZ	A, B	ACICS	Profit	Greenville	572
4.	Centura College	Virginia Beach, VA	A	ACCSC	Profit	Columbia	133
5.	Charleston School of Law	Charleston, SC	JD/LLM	ABA	Profit	Charleston	358
6.	ECPI College of Technology	Virginia Beach, VA	A, B	SACS	Profit	Charleston Columbia Greenville	427 160 349
7.	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Daytona Beach, FL	A, B, M	SACS	Non	Greenville	25
8.	Florida Institute of Technology	Melbourne, FL	M	SACS	Non	Woodruff	5
9.	Forrest College	Anderson, SC	A	ACICS	Profit	Anderson	113
10.	Fortis College	Towson, MD	A	ABHES	Profit	Columbia	393
11.	Gardner-Webb University	Boiling Springs, NC	M	SACS	Non	Spartanburg	0
12.	Golf Academy of America	Birmingham, AL	A	ACICS	Profit	Myrtle Beach	186
13.	ITT Technical Institute	Indianapolis, IN	A, B	ACICS	Profit	Charleston Columbia Greenville Myrtle Beach	272 254 197 118

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<sup>1</sup> A Associate's  
 B Bachelor's  
 M Master's  
 Ed.S. Education Specialist  
 DO Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine  
 DC Doctor of Chiropractic  
 Pharm.D. Doctor of Pharmacy  
 DNP Doctor of Nursing Practice  
 JD Juris Doctor  
 LLM Master of Laws  
 D Doctorate

<sup>2</sup> Brown Mackie College-Greenville closed new enrollments as of 6/10/2016. Teach out of campus expected 6/2018.

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Main Campus</b>	<b>Degree level<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Accreditation</b>	<b>Profit/Non</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Enrollment Fall 2015</b>
14.	Keiser University <sup>3</sup>	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	B, M	SACS	Non	Charleston Columbia	N/A
15.	Lenoir-Rhyne University	Hickory, NC	M	SACS	Non	Columbia	28
16.	Lesley University (Several sites)	Cambridge, MA	M, Ed.S.	NEASC	Non	Various	12
17.	Miller-Motte Technical College	Clarksville, TN (Charleston); Lynchburg, VA (Conway)	A	ACICS	Profit	Charleston Conway	490 518
18.	Professional Golfers Career College	Temecula, CA	A	ACICS	Profit	Bluffton	50
19.	Saint Leo University	Saint Leo, FL	A, B, M	SACS	Non	Charleston Sumter	229 111
20.	Savannah College of Art & Design	Savannah, GA	B	SACS	Non	Bluffton	66
21.	Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic	Spartanburg, SC	DC	SACS/CCE	Non	Spartanburg	391
22.	South University	Savannah, GA	A, B, M, Pharm.D., DNP	SACS	Profit	Columbia	1,328
23.	Southeastern Institute	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	A	ACCSC	Profit	Charleston Columbia	118 130
24.	Springfield College	Springfield, MA	B, M	NEASC	Non	Charleston	82
25.	Strayer University	Washington, DC	A, B, M	MSA	Profit	Charleston Columbia Greenville	664 1,024 499
26.	Troy University	Troy, AL	B, M	SACS	Non	Sumter	20
27.	University of Phoenix <sup>4</sup>	Phoenix, AZ	B, M	HLC	Profit	Columbia	305
28.	Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM)	Blacksburg, VA	DO	Commission on Osteopathic Accreditation	Non	Spartanburg	632
29.	Virginia College	Birmingham, AL	A, B	ACICS	Profit	Charleston Columbia Florence Greenville Spartanburg	344 449 335 289 258
30.	Webster University	St. Louis, MO	B, M	HLC	Non	Charleston Columbia Greenville Myrtle Beach	211 501 83 294
<b>Total</b>							<b>13,567</b>

<sup>3</sup> Keiser University has not established the sites for which it was granted licensure.

<sup>4</sup> Teach-out of campus expected May 2018.

The following table lists degree-granting, postsecondary institutions recruiting in SC. These institutions do not have any on-ground sites in SC. Harrison College surrendered its license to recruit SC residents in January 2016. Capella University, Grand Canyon University, and Johnson & Wales University were rendered exempt from licensing upon South Carolina's acceptance into the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) in June 2016.

**Table 2 Degree-Granting Institutions Licensed to Recruit**

Institution		Degree Level	Modality of Program Delivery
1.	Advanced Technology Institute, Virginia Beach, VA	A	On-ground at its site in VA
2.	Chamberlain College of Nursing Downers Grove, IL	B, M	On-line
3.	The Chef's Academy, Morrisville, NC	A	On-ground at its site in NC
4.	DeVry University Miramar, FL Orlando, FL Alpharetta, GA Decatur, GA Addison, IL Columbus, OH	A, B, M	On-ground at sites in other states and on-line
5.	Lincoln Technical Institute (formerly Nashville Auto-Diesel College (NADC)), Nashville, TN	A	On-ground at its site in TN
6.	Northeastern University, Boston, MA	M	On-line
7.	Ohio Technical College, N. Randall, OH	A	On-ground at its site in OH
8.	Walden University Minneapolis, MN	B, M, Ed.S., D	On-line

III. Nondegree-Granting Institutions

In addition to licensing of degree-granting institutions, the Commission 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, 2016, CHE licensed 69 schools offering nondegree programs at 180 sites. During the 2015-16 fiscal year, the staff approved initial licensure of the following schools that offer nondegree programs:

**Table 3 Nondegree Initial Licenses, New**

	<b>Institution Name and Location</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Programs</b>
1.	Antioch Educational Center	Ridgeland	Nurse Aide
2.	Charleston Woodworking School	Charleston	Woodworking
3.	Columbia Hands of Hope	Columbia	Nurse Aide
4.	LaTrice D. Ferguson School of Nursing Assistants	Walterboro	Nurse Aide
5.	New Horizons CLC of South Carolina	Columbia	Computer Training
6.	Norris Mechanical, LLC	Anderson	Welding
7.	US Aeroflight, LLC	Greenville	Commercial Pilot, Flight Instructor

During the 2015-16 fiscal year, the following nondegree schools closed:

**Table 4 Nondegree Licenses Discontinued**

	<b>Institution Name and Location</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Programs</b>
1.	Advanced Dental Training Institute	Summerville	Dental Assisting
2.	American Red Cross	Florence	Nurse Aide
3.	Art Instruction School (recruiting)	Minneapolis, MN	Art Studies
4.	Carolina Career Institute	Columbia	Various allied health programs
5.	Franklin Home Health Agency	Marion	Nurse Aide
6.	Jackson Hewitt	Various	Tax Preparation
7.	MedTech	Spartanburg	Nurse Aide, Phlebotomy
8.	Millie Lewis Modeling/Finishing	Greenville	Modeling
9.	National Cat Grooming School	Greenville	Cat Grooming
10.	NOC Training Center	Hartsville	Various allied health programs
11.	Palmetto Associates Education Center	Columbia	Nurse Aide
12.	SC School of Dog Grooming	Columbia	Dog Grooming
13.	Southwinds of SC	Camden	Nurse Aide
14.	Upstate School of Neuromuscular and Massage Therapy	Lyman	Massage Therapy

The following table shows nondegree-granting institutions operating or soliciting in SC as of June 30, 2016:

**Table 5 Nondegree-Granting Institutions**

1.	Air Conditioning Refrigeration (ACR) Training Center , Ladson	8.	Avalon School of Massage, Florence and MB
2.	Allheart, Columbia and Sumter	9.	Caring Hands, Inman
3.	American Hospitality Academy, Hilton Head	10.	Carolina Dental Assisting School, Greenville
4.	Antioch Educational Center, Ridgeland	11.	Carolina Film Institute, Greenville
5.	ARC Labs, Piedmont, Columbia, Hanahan	12.	Carolina Massage School & Wellness Center, Greenville
6.	Arrhythmia Technologies, Greenville	13.	Carolina Medical Training Institute, LLC, Columbia
7.	At-Home Professionals, Ft. Collins, CO		

14.	Carolina Nursing Assistant Program Academy (CNAPA), Columbia
15.	Carolina Welding Training Institute, Andrews
16.	Centura College, Charleston
17.	Charleston School of Protocol and Etiquette, Inc.
18.	Charleston Woodworking School
19.	Columbia Hands of Hope
20.	Construction Training Center, Blair
21.	Court Reporting School of SC, Columbia
22.	DeAbreu Modeling Consulting, LLC, Summerville
23.	Dental Assisting Training School of SC, Mt. Pleasant
24.	East Coast Grooming School, Beaufort
25.	Grand Strand School of Bartending, Myrtle Beach
26.	Greenville Montessori Institute
27.	Groomadog Academy, Ridgeway, Blythewood
28.	H&R Block
29.	Ignite Healthcare Institute, Greenville
30.	InnoVista Training, Columbia
31.	Institute for Guided Studies, Camden
32.	International Diving Institute, Charleston
33.	International Spa Institute
34.	Jackson Hewitt, various locations
35.	John Casablanca, Charlotte, NC
36.	Lake Wylie Caregivers Academy, Lake Wylie
37.	LaTrice D. Ferguson School of Nursing Assistants, Walterboro
38.	Legacy, Greenville
39.	Liberty Tax Service, various locations
40.	MicroStaff IT, Cayce
41.	Millie Lewis Models and Talent, Charleston
42.	Murrell Construction Institute, Marion

43.	NASCAR Technical Institute, Mooresville, NC
44.	New Horizons CLC of SC, Columbia
45.	Norris Mechanical, LLC, Anderson
46.	Palmetto School of Career Development, N. Charleston
47.	Palmetto Training, Inc., Walterboro
48.	PATCH Training School, Charleston
49.	Pathway Medical Training Service, Sumter
50.	Pee Dee Medical Training Center, Lake City
51.	Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, Myrtle Beach
52.	Plumstead Quality and Training Service, Inc., Greenville
53.	Professional Development and Training Services, LLC, Camden
54.	Professional Medical Training Center, Florence
55.	Remington College, Columbia
56.	SC School of Court Reporting, Columbia
57.	SC School of Horseshoeing, Inc., Aiken
58.	Sunrise School of Dental Assisting, Columbia
59.	The Iron Yard Academy, Greenville, Mt. Pleasant, Columbia
60.	Training Concepts LLC, Irmo
61.	Tulsa Welding School, Jacksonville, FL
62.	Universal Technical Institute of Texas
63.	Universal Technical Institute-Motorcycle Mechanics Division, Orlando, FL
64.	Upstate School of Neuromuscular and Massage Therapy, Lyman
65.	USAeroflight, LLC, Greenville
66.	USAeroTech Institute, LLC, Greenville
67.	WyoTech, Blairsville, PA and Laramie, Wyoming

#### IV. Records

The Commission is the repository for records of schools that have closed. The Commission processed 101 requests for records in the 2015-16 fiscal year.

## V. Agent Permits

The Commission issues permits to agents who represent licensed institutions. The agents follow-up on leads generated by advertising and soliciting activities. As of June 30, 2016, 246 agents were permitted to recruit in the state.

## VI. Complaints

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 attempts to negotiate resolution of the complaint. Sometimes complaints result in readdressing policies and procedures at the schools in order to avoid similar problems.

License regulations also state that the Commission may intervene on the behalf of a person filing a complaint against an exempt institution to determine whether the institution followed and exhausted its own complaint process. Should the Commission conclude that an exempt institution has not complied with its own established policies, the extent of the Commission's authority is to encourage the institution to make reasonable efforts to resolve the complaint in a fair and equitable manner.

During the year 2015-16 fiscal year, licensing staff received 45 complaints. The following table shows the number of complaints by type of institution and the topics of the complaints.

**Table 6 Complaints**

<b>Institutional Type</b>	<b>Formal</b>	<b>Informal</b>	<b>Totals</b>
In-State Licensed Degree	1	1	2
In State Licensed Nondegree	8	5	13
Out-of-State Degree Branch	2	16	18
Out-of-State Degree Recruiting	1	0	1
SC Independent	0	3	3
SC Public Exempt	2	6	8
Illegally Operating	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Issue</b>	<b>Formal</b>	<b>Informal</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Academic	5	1	6
Administration	8	14	22
Conduct	0	1	1
Financial	1	11	12
Miscellaneous	0	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>45</b>