



# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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CHE  
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Agenda Item 7.02K

October 4, 2012

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Chairman John L. Finan and Members, S.C. 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 2011 - 2012**

#### **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, 2011, through June 30, 2012.

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 three applications for initial licensure in 2011-2012.

<b>Table 1. Approval of Initial Requests for Degree-Granting Institutions</b>						
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Curricular Area</b>	<b>Degree</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>Location</b>
		<b>A<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>B<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>M<sup>3</sup></b>		
Lenoir-Rhyne University	Counseling			1	1	Columbia, SC
Harrison College	Business/Management	4	4		8	Indianapolis, IN
Harrison College	Criminal Justice	1	1		2	Indianapolis, IN
Harrison College	Health Sciences	2			2	Indianapolis, IN
Harrison College/The Chef's Academy	Culinary	2			2	Morrisville, NC
Chamberlain College of Nursing	Nursing		1	1	2	Downers Grove, IL
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>	

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<sup>1</sup> Associate's

<sup>2</sup> Bachelor's

<sup>3</sup> Master's

## 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 Art Institute of Charleston, Charleston School of Law, Grand Canyon University, and Lesley University to add new programs.

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>A<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>B<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>M<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>D<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Location</b>
Art Institute of Charleston	Graphic and Web Design	1	1			2	Charleston
Art Institute of Charleston	Fashion Design		1			1	Charleston
Charleston School of Law	Admiralty and Maritime Law			1		1	Charleston
Grand Canyon University	Business Administration				1	1	Grand Canyon, AZ
Grand Canyon University	General Psychology				1	1	Grand Canyon, AZ
Grand Canyon University	Education				1	1	Grand Canyon, AZ
Lesley University	Education			3		3	Cambridge, MA
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	

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

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing and the Commission approved requests for an amendment to existing licenses to add a new site in Florence for Virginia College to offer programs leading to associate's degrees as shown in the following table.

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>A<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Location</b>
Virginia College	Business Administration	1	Florence
Virginia College	Criminal Justice	1	Florence
Virginia College	Healthcare Reimbursement	1	Florence
Virginia College	Medical Assistant	1	Florence
Virginia College	Medical Office Administration	1	Florence
Virginia College	Surgical Technology	1	Florence
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	

<sup>4</sup> Associate's

<sup>5</sup> Bachelor's

<sup>6</sup> Master's

<sup>7</sup> Doctorate

Table 4 lists all degree-granting, nonpublic, postsecondary institutions that are licensed with sites in South Carolina. The 29 institutions offer 203 degree programs consisting of 81 associate's, 71 bachelor's, 45 master's, five professional, and two doctorates.

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

	<b>Name/location</b>	<b>Main Campus if out of State</b>	<b>Degree level - # of programs*</b>	<b>Accreditation</b>	<b>Profit/Non</b>	<b>Location</b>
1.	<a href="#">American College of the Building Arts</a>		A-1 B-1	None	Non	<a href="#">Charleston</a>
2.	<a href="#">Art Institute of Charleston</a>	Atlanta, GA	A-6 B-9	SACS	Profit	<a href="#">Charleston</a>
3.	<a href="#">Brown Mackie College</a>	<a href="#">Tucson, AZ</a>	<a href="#">A-10</a> <a href="#">B-4</a>	<a href="#">ACICS</a>	<a href="#">Profit</a>	<a href="#">Greenville</a>
4.	<a href="#">Centura College</a>	Virginia Beach, VA	A-1	ACCSC	Profit	<a href="#">Columbia</a>
5.	<a href="#">Charleston School of Law</a>		Professional-2 (JD/LLM)	ABA	Profit	<a href="#">Charleston</a>
6.	<a href="#">ECPI College of Technology</a>	Virginia Beach, VA	A-4 B-4	SACS	Profit	<a href="#">Greenville</a> <a href="#">Charleston</a> <a href="#">Columbia</a>
7.	<a href="#">Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University</a>	Daytona Beach, FL	A-2 B-3 M-4	SACS	Non	<a href="#">Greenville</a>
8.	<a href="#">Forrest College</a>		A-3	ACICS	Profit	<a href="#">Anderson</a>
9.	Fortis College	Towson, MD	A-3	ABHES	Profit	<a href="#">Columbia</a>
10.	Gardner-Webb University	Boiling Springs, NC	M-3	SACS	Non	<a href="#">Spartanburg</a>
11.	<a href="#">Golf Academy of America</a>	Birmingham, AL	A-1	ACICS	Profit	<a href="#">Myrtle Beach</a>
12.	<a href="#">ITT Technical Institute</a>	Indianapolis, IN	A-9 B-8	ACICS	Profit	<a href="#">Charleston</a> <a href="#">Columbia</a> <a href="#">Greenville</a> <a href="#">Myrtle Beach</a>
13.	Lenoir Rhyne University	Hickory, NC	M-1	SACS	Non	<a href="#">Columbia</a>
14.	<a href="#">Lesley University (Several sites)</a>	Cambridge, MA	M-5 Ed.S.-1	NEASC	Non	<a href="#">Various</a>
15.	<a href="#">Miller-Motte Technical College</a>	Virginia Beach, VA	A-8	ACICS	Profit	<a href="#">Charleston</a> <a href="#">Conway</a>
16.	<a href="#">Nova SE University</a>	Fort Lauderdale, FL	D-1	SACS	Non	<a href="#">Anderson</a> <a href="#">Charleston</a> <a href="#">Columbia</a> <a href="#">Greenwood</a>
17.	<a href="#">Professional Golfers Career College</a>	Temecula, CA	A-1	ACICS	Profit	<a href="#">Bluffton</a>
18.	<a href="#">Remington College</a>	Mobile, AL	A-4	ACCSC	Profit	<a href="#">Columbia</a>
19.	<a href="#">Saint Leo University</a>	Saint Leo, Florida	A-1 B-8 M-2	SACS	Non	<a href="#">Charleston</a> <a href="#">Sumter</a>
20.	<a href="#">Savannah College of Art &amp; Design</a>	<a href="#">Savannah, GA</a>	<a href="#">B-1</a>	<a href="#">SACS</a>	<a href="#">Non</a>	<a href="#">Bluffton</a>
21.	<a href="#">Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic</a>		Professional-1 (DC)	SACS/CCE	Non	<a href="#">Spartanburg</a>

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22.	<a href="#">South University</a>	Savannah, GA	A-6 B-9 M-4 Professional-1	SACS	Profit	<a href="#">Columbia</a>
23.	<a href="#">Springfield College</a>	Springfield, MA	B-1 M-1	NEASC	Non	<a href="#">Charleston</a>
24.	<a href="#">Strayer University</a>	Washington, DC	A-8 B-6 M-7	MSA	Profit	<a href="#">Charleston</a> <a href="#">Columbia</a> <a href="#">Greenville</a>
25.	<a href="#">Troy University</a>	Troy, AL	B-3 M-6	SACS	Non	<a href="#">Charleston</a> <a href="#">Sumter</a>
26.	<a href="#">University of Phoenix</a>	Phoenix, AZ	B-6 M-4	NCA	Profit	<a href="#">Columbia</a> <a href="#">Greenville</a>
27.	Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM)	Blacksburg, VA	Professional-1 (DO)	Commission on Osteopathic Accreditation	Non	<a href="#">Spartanburg</a>
28.	<a href="#">Virginia College</a>	Birmingham, AL	A-13 B-3	ACICS	Profit	<a href="#">Charleston</a> <a href="#">Columbia</a> <a href="#">Florence</a> <a href="#">Greenville</a> <a href="#">Spartanburg</a>
29.	<a href="#">Webster University</a>	St. Louis, MO	B-5 M-8	NCA	Non	<a href="#">Charleston</a> <a href="#">Columbia</a> <a href="#">Greenville</a> <a href="#">Myrtle Beach</a>

A Associate's

B Bachelor's

M Master's

DO Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

DC Doctor of Chiropractic

JD Juris Doctor

LLM Master of Laws

D Doctorate

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

<b>Table 5. Institutions/Programs Licensed by CHE Only for Recruiting Statewide (advertising and meeting students) in SC</b>			
	<b><u>Institution</u></b>	<b><u>Degrees</u></b>	<b><u>Modality of Program Delivery</u></b>
1	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
2	Chamberlain College of Nursing Downers Grove, IL	B.S.N. M.S.N.	On-line
3	DeVry University Phoenix, AZ Miramar, FL Orlando, FL Alpharetta, GA Decatur, GA Addison, IL Chicago, IL Columbus, OH Ft. Washington, PA	A.A.S. B.S. M.S.	A.A.S. and B.S. on-ground at sites in other states and on-line
4	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. D.B.A. Ed.D. Ph.D.	On-line
5	Harrison College Indianapolis, IN	A.A.S. B.S.	On-line and on-ground at The Chef's Academy, Morrisville, NC
6	Johnson & Wales University Providence, RI	A.A.S. B.S.	On-ground at its site in Charlotte, NC
7	Lincoln Technical Institute (formerly Nashville Auto-Diesel College (NADC)), Nashville, TN	A.D.T. A.O.S.	On-ground at its site in Tennessee

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	<b><u>Institution</u></b>	<b><u>Degrees</u></b>	<b><u>Modality of Program Delivery</u></b>
8	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
9	Westwood University Atlanta, GA	A.A.S. A.O.S. B.S.	On-ground at 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, 2012, CHE licensed 77 schools that offer nondegree programs. During the 2011-12 fiscal year, the staff approved initial licensure of the following nine schools that offer nondegree programs:

Carolina Nurse Aide School, Bowman  
 Charleston School of Dental Assisting, Charleston  
 Envision Healthcare Training, Taylors  
 Integrated Technology Center, Columbia  
 L.S. Technical Institute, Greenville  
 Murrell Construction Institute, Marion  
 Pee Dee Medical Training Center, Lake City  
 Pittsburg Institute of Aeronautics, Myrtle Beach  
 Ravenel Medical Center School for Nurse Aides and Phlebotomists, Ravenel

Two nondegree schools ceased training during the 2011-12 fiscal year: Schuman Nursing Assistant Academy, Spartanburg, did not renew its license and Georgia School of Construction, Marietta, GA, did not renew its license to recruit SC residents. 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	42.	International Spa Institute, Bluffton
2.	Academy of Dental Assisting, Inc., Surfside Beach	43.	Jackson Hewitt (various sites)
3.	Advanced Dental Training Institute, LLC, Summerville	44.	John Casablancas, Charlotte, NC
4.	Air Conditioning Refrigeration Training Center, Ladson	45.	L.S. Technical Institute, Greenville
5.	Allheart Allied Health Education Center, Sumter and Columbia	46.	Liberty Tax Service (various sites)
6.	AMAN Institute, Inc., Aiken	47.	Mejias Medical Training Center, Florence
7.	American Hospitality Academy, Hilton Head	48.	MicroStaff IT, Cayce
8.	ARC Labs, Piedmont, Columbia	49.	Millie Lewis Modeling/Finishing, Greenville
9.	Arrhythmia Technologies, Greenville	50.	Millie Lewis Models and Talent, Charleston
10.	Art Instruction School, Minneapolis, MN	51.	Millie Lewis of Columbia
11.	At-Home Professions, Ft. Collins, CO	52.	Murrell Construction Institute, Marion
12.	ATP Gunsmithing, North Charleston	53.	NASCAR Technical Institute, Mooresville, NC
13.	Avalon School of Massage, Florence	54.	National Cat Groomers School, Greenville
14.	Barbizon Academy of Charlotte	55.	New Generations Job Training Center, Florence
15.	Care A Lot, Greenwood	56.	New Horizons Computer Learning Center; Columbia, Greenville, Charleston
16.	Career Arts Institute; Wagener, Lexington, Columbia	57.	Nurses on Call d/b/a NOC Training Center, Hartsville
17.	Caring Hands, Inman	58.	Palmetto HealthCare Training Center, Marion
18.	Carolina Career Institute, Columbia	59.	Palmetto School of Career Development, N. Charleston
19.	Carolina Film Institute, Greenville	60.	Palmetto Training, Inc. (SC Technical Institute d/b/a), Timmonsville
20.	Carolina Massage School & Wellness Center, Greenville	61.	Pathway Medical Training Center, Sumter
21.	Carolina Nurse Aide School, Bowman	62.	Pee Dee Medical Training Center, Lake City
22.	Centura College, Charleston and Columbia	63.	People Advocating to Change Humanity (PATCH) Training School, Charleston
23.	Charleston School of Dental Assisting	64.	Pittsburg Institute of Aeronautics, Myrtle Beach
24.	Charleston School of Massage	65.	Plumstead Quality and Training Service, Inc., Greenville
25.	Charleston School of Protocol & Etiquette, Inc.	66.	Professional Medical Training Center, Florence and Conway
26.	Clemson Montessori d/b/a Montessori Teacher Training Institute	67.	Ravenel Medical Center School for Nurse Aides and Phlebotomists, Ravenel
27.	Columbia Health Care Services	68.	SC School of Court Reporting, West Columbia
28.	Construction Training Center, Blair	69.	SC School of Dog Grooming, Columbia
29.	Court Reporting School of SC, Columbia and Greenville	70.	SC School of Horseshoeing, Inc., Aiken
30.	DeAbreu Modeling Consulting, LLC, Summerville	71.	SE Institute, Charleston and Columbia
31.	Dental Assisting School of SC, Mt. Pleasant	72.	SE School for Career Development, Greenville
32.	Discovery Training Center, Charleston	73.	Sunrise School of Dental Assisting; Charleston, Columbia, Florence, Greenville
33.	East Coast Grooming School, Beaufort	74.	Training Concepts LLC, Irmo
34.	Envision Health Training, Taylors	75.	Universal Technical Institute of Texas
35.	Georgia School of Construction, Conyers, GA	76.	Universal Technical Institute-Motorcycle Mechanics Division, Orlando, FL
36.	Groomadog Academy, Blythewood	77.	WyoTech, Blairsville, PA; Laramie, WY; Daytona Beach, FL
37.	H&R Blocks (various sites)		
38.	Health Tech, Greenville		
39.	Institute of Guided Studies, Camden		
40.	Integrated Technology Center, Columbia		
41.	International Diving Institute, Charleston		



#### **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, 2012, licensing staff received 72 complaints from 39 institutions. The complaints were about a variety of issues ranging from misunderstandings about financial aid administration and 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

<b>Number of Complaints</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Status</b>
2	ABC Bartending	Advertising, refunds	Illegally operating; previously licensed; did not respond to complaints
3	Independent, in-state	Various	Referred or resolved
5	Licensed non-degree	Various	Resolved
7	Woodfield University/High School	Validity of credentials, refuses to make refunds	Illegally operating, institution claims to be in Greenwood; unable to verify; did not respond to complaints or cease and desist
9	Exempt (other such as another agency, religious, or out-of-state)	Refunds, information	Referred
9	Public	Various	Referred or resolved
10	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
21	Private, for-profit degree-granting	Typically processing, accessing, and understanding financial aid	Resolved with information

The Commission is the repository for records of schools that have closed. The Commission received 248 requests for transcripts in fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

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 2011-12 fiscal year, the Commission issued 296 agent permits.