

COMMISSION FOR INDEPENDENT EDUCATION STAFF NEWS

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Important Dates:

November 17
Commission Meeting
Howey-In-The-Hills

December 16
Renewals due for
March agenda

CIE Website Links:

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Agenda Information

Location:	Date and Time:
Mission Inn Resort & Club 10400 County Road 48 Howey-In-The-Hills, FL 34737 (800) 874-9053 Map	November 17, 2010 Beginning at 9 a.m.
Webcast:	Webcast Requirements:
Go to http://www.fldoe.org/cie/agenda.asp the day of the meeting and click on the webcast link.	Windows Media Player version 9 or higher

MAKING THE U.S. #1 AGAIN

The August 2010 issue (Section 2) of Career Education Review contained an article by Tom Vander Ark entitled "Don't Kill the Guys That Will Make the U.S. #1 Again." Mr. Vander Ark begins his essay by stating that "President Obama thinks that the U.S. should lead the world in postsecondary degree completion by 2020. That will take more than 5 million graduates. Where will they come from? Congress and the Department of Education are blasting the most likely source of new seats - private enterprise."

A few years ago Mr. Vander Ark asked the Parthenon Group to study the private postsecondary education sector. Their report discovered that most private postsecondary institutions "...do a better job graduating students, deliver superior income gains, and do so at a societal cost comparable to public institutions." The report also arrived at the following "Five Conclusions."

- "1) Private operators invest nearly \$1 billion annually in growth.
- 2) Private sector postsecondary schools enroll a higher percentage of at-risk students (1/2 compared to 1/3 in public schools).
- 3) Private sector schools have an advantage over public institutions with a graduation rate nearly 20 percent higher [than public institutions].
- 4) Costs for public and private sector two-year colleges are about the same and students who enrolled in two-year (or shorter) institutions saw roughly comparable income gains - \$7500 (which is significant given the at-risk population served by private sector colleges).
- 5) Because public institutions are subsidized, debt levels for students attending private sector colleges may be higher. Students at private

sector colleges have an average debt of \$15,000. Because they have higher risk factors, they have higher default rates.”

The article also notes that private postsecondary institutions “...grant nearly a third of certificates and associate’s degrees. It will be a higher percentage if we achieve the President’s goals; that is, if we don’t kill them off with new regulations.”

The author concludes by stating that “At a time of spiraling higher education cost, the innovation that private operators are bringing to the sector is the only hope for expanded access to high quality education at an affordable price.” The Commission for Independent Education is proud to be associated with the nonpublic postsecondary education sector and will continue to work with our licensed institutions to see that Florida’s students continue to have that “expanded access to high quality education.”

ASK LICENSURE

How do I determine the amount of licensure fees I need to pay and how are those fees assessed?

Rule 6E-4.001, Florida Administrative Code, is the Commission Rule specifying the different types of licensure fees and the amounts that institutions are required to pay. The Commission staff send fee reminder letters to institutions before the end of their renewal periods which notify them of the type of fees that must be paid and the amounts that are due. These letters are sent out 135 days prior to an institution’s Annual Renewal date.

Each institution must pay a Base Fee and a Workload Fee that is assessed at one of six levels. The level of assessment is based upon the Florida student enrollment reported for the last fiscal year. For example, an institution that reported an enrollment of 150 students is at level 2 and would pay a \$1,000 Base Fee and a \$2,000 Workload Fee. Institutions must also pay a fee of \$50 per program of study, not to exceed a total of \$500, when applying for and renewing an Annual License. Institutions that are Licensed by Means of Accreditation do not pay the program fee.

Since the fees are based on student enrollment, it is important that institutions submit their student data during the CIE Annual Data Collection’s reporting period which begins October 1 and ends November 30. Institutions that do not submit their data in a timely manner will receive a fee reminder letter before their next renewal period containing fees assessed at the highest level. The fees will be adjusted after the institution enters the student data that was not submitted during the CIE Annual Data Collection.

All non-degree institutions are also required to pay a Student Protection Fund Fee (for all non-degree programs) in addition to Base and Workload fees. Institutions making an initial application for Provisional License pay a \$500 fee for the first year. Institutions applying for or renewing their Annual License or License by Means of Accreditation pay a specified amount equal to .0005 of their gross annual tuition revenue earned in Florida. For example, an institution that had \$150,000 in gross tuition

revenue for their previous fiscal year would pay \$75 in Student Protection Fund fees ($\$150,000 \times .0005 = \75).

It is very important for non-degree schools to ask their certified public accountants to report their annual gross tuition revenue earned in Florida as a separate item in their financial statements. This will enable Commission staff to determine if the institution submits the correct Student Protection Fund Fee amount.

Why do I have to mail applications to one address and the fees to another?

Institutions must mail the original check and original fee transmittal form directly to the Department of Education's Comptroller in order for the fees to be deposited correctly. The Comptroller's address is printed on the fee transmittal form.

Make sure that each fee submitted to the Department of Education Comptroller is accompanied by the corresponding fee transmittal form. The Comptroller's office must have the completed fee transmittal form before the fees can be posted to the correct institution and credited to your application.

Institutions should mail all application packages directly to the Commission's office. The Commission's address is printed on the application form.

Once the applications arrive at the Commission's office, they will be logged into our database and reviewed by your Program Specialist. Each application must also contain a copy of all of the checks as well as all of the fee transmittal forms that were sent to the Comptroller.

Are there any instances in which institutions are not required to pay fees?

Yes, the following applications illustrate situations in which institutions do not submit fees:

1. Name Change
2. Change of Location (if 45 miles or less from the current location)
3. Addition of a branch campus (for accredited colleges and universities)

It is important to note that any application presented to the Commission cannot be placed on an agenda until all fees are paid. Please ask your Program Specialist if you have any questions about the payment of fees.

Calendar

COMMISSION MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS	➤ NEW INSTITUTION MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN:	➤ ANNUAL RENEWALS PROGRAM ➤ ADDITIONS/MODIFICATIONS AND ALL OTHER LICENSE RELATED MATTERS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN:
November 17, 2010 Howey-In-The-Hills	July 18, 2010	August 17, 2010
January 7, 2011 Howey-In-The-Hills	September 18, 2010	October 18, 2010
March 16, 2011 Howey-In-The-Hills	November 16, 2010	December 16, 2010

How to Contact Us

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