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Medical School Loans Testimonials

Tyler R., Phoenix, AZ

While searching for lenders to do my consolidations, Medical School Loans was the only company willing to help me with a repayment plan to fit my needs. The people that I spoke with were willing to listen and eager to help. In the end, I found the plan that suited my financial needs perfectly.

SPELLINGS ANNOUNCES \$12 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR TRIBALLY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS

- AMIT AGARWAL

Nine tribally controlled colleges and universities will receive federal grants worth nearly \$12 million. U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings announced that the grant, provided under Title III of the Higher Education Act, will allow colleges and universities to develop activities to improve and expand their services for students with Native American heritages.

Spellings said, "Tribal colleges and universities provide thousands of students [with] the education foundation they need to be successful in the workforce and in life. They also perform a valuable service by helping to preserve the languages and rich cultural traditions of American Indians."

Schools in Montana, North Dakota, New Mexico, South Dakota, and Wisconsin were chosen for the grant awards totaling \$11,982,128. The funds will help strengthen the schools' abilities to assist American Indian students.

The following is a breakdown of the grant awards for American Indian tribally controlled colleges and universities for the 2007 fiscal year:

- Little Big Horn College in Crow Agency, MT-\$1,199,531
- Chief Dull Knife College in Lame Deer, MT-\$450,000

- Navajo Technical College in Crownpoint, NM-\$475,000
- Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, NM-\$1,499,893
- Turtle Mountain Community College in Belcourt, ND-\$2,125,000
- United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, ND-\$1,952,951
- Fort Berthold Community College in New Town, ND-\$1,639,753
- Oglala Lakota College in Kyle, SD-\$1,650,000
- Keshena College of Menominee Nation in Keshena, WI-\$990,000

On the Net:

US Chapter 27-Tribally Controlled School Grants
law.justia.com/us/codes/title25/chapter27_.html

Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988
www.oiep.bia.edu/NCBLNR/NCLBNGSECTIONS/SEC_1043.pdf

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To comment to the editor, Carleen Trapp, call 626-243-1881.

THE CHUBB INSTITUTE FAILS TO IMPROVE

- NIHIT AURORA

The Chubb Institute is a chain of job-training schools with locations in New Jersey, New York City, Springfield, Chicago, and Arlington. In operation since 1970, The Chubb Institute offers training programs in a variety of fast-growing career areas like medical billing, CAD/drafting technology, graphic design and animation, medical billing and coding, surgical technology, computer networking and security, medical assistant programs, and massage therapy. In 2004, however, the school ran into regulatory troubles. Former students claimed that the school had promised more than it could deliver, and the students proceeded to initiate legal action.

As a result, the school suffered financial troubles. According to the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia, The Chubb Institute's expenditures exceeded its income by more than \$9 million. Consequently, Boston-based Great Hill partners and other investors took over the school for \$1 and invested millions of dollars in fixing its problems.

However, The Chubb Institute continued to face numerous problems. The Chicago branch lost its accreditation after the Accrediting Council of Continuing Accreditation and Training faulted the branch for its high staff turnover. The ACCET also criticized the branch for enrolling students who had not taken the prerequisite courses.

The Chubb Institute also faces lawsuits in New Jersey and Pennsylvania for misrepresenting job-placement figures and providing inadequate teaching materials. Although The Chubb Institute changed the name of its Arlington branch to Banner College in an attempt to disassociate the branch from previous problems, the school still faces a delay in accreditation due to a delay in supplying the necessary information to ACCET. The Institute may close its Arlington branch due to a lack of funds.

It seems that investing heavily in a declining business already beset with problems does not yield desirable results. At the time of the takeover, many private-equity funds had invested in for-profit education after the collapse of the dot-com boom. Others began considering investing in for-profit education when it was expected that the service sector would gain popularity because of the growing number of technology and nursing professions.

On the Net:

New Owners Fail to Improve Chain of Career Schools
www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/12/AR2007081201029.html

Career School in Danger of Closing
www.hewi.net

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT MEETS WITH CONTROVERSY

U.S. News & World Report, which has ranked Princeton University as the nation's top college for the eighth consecutive time, has met with some controversy. A number of colleges have opted not to provide further information to the magazine. According to Lloyd Thacker, a former college counselor who heads the Oregon-based Education Conservancy, *U.S. News & World Report* "has distorted and skewed how admissions are perceived." Thacker, who says colleges should not be ranked on the basis of a uniform scale, is leading the nationwide opposition to the 24-year-old *U.S. News* rankings. Groups including the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), the Council of Independent Colleges, the Education Conservancy, and the Annapolis Group are working to develop an alternative system for collecting college information.

CUOMO INVESTIGATES STUDY-ABROAD PROGRAMS

New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo has initiated investigations into relations between colleges and third-party providers of study-abroad programs for students. According to Cuomo's office, some schools are receiving perks, including cash incentives, from vendors—a practice that benefits schools and vendors but not students. The attorney general has begun issuing subpoenas to organizations involved in providing study-abroad programs to schools. The move was instigated by a recent *New York Times* article that highlighted perks being offered by vendors to build relationships with colleges and encourage them to register their students for the vendors' study-abroad programs.

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ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY PROMOTES FINANCIAL AID OFFICERS

Illinois Wesleyan University's financial aid office has appointed two of its members to new roles. Lynn Nichelson, director of financial aid at the university, will take over as assistant dean of enrollment management. Nichelson previously served on the U.S. Department of Education's Negotiated Rulemaking Committee on Loan Issues. He was also the 2002 recipient

of the Distinguished Service Award from the College Board Midwestern Regional Assembly. Scott Seibring, director of new student financial aid, has been appointed director of financial aid. Seibring, who has had nine years of admissions office experience, has served the school's financial aid office for 13 years. His responsibilities will include managing the financial aid staff, overseeing the day-to-day operations of the office, and packaging financial aid.