

BOARD FOR PROPRIETARY EDUCATION

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

INFORMATION ITEM:

Matters Relating to the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS)

Background

The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) advises the Secretary of Education in the renewal of nationally recognized accrediting agencies. Each September the NACIQI publishes an annual report which includes findings and recommendations on recognition of accreditors. The report is submitted to the Secretary, who will then prepare and publish a list of nationally recognized accrediting agencies and associations.

ACICS must be evaluated by the NACIQI to continue recognition by the Secretary. The NACIQI will prepare an analysis of ACICS with review of accrediting activities being a significant component of the final recommendation for recognition. In a letter signed by 13 Attorneys General, the NACIQI was urged to refuse renewal of recognition. Sited in the letter was ACICS continued accreditation of Corinthian Colleges until the corporation declared bankruptcy. ACICS is scheduled for review of recognition during the NACIQI meeting June 22nd-24th, 2016.

In an ACICS Show-Cause Directive letter dated April 20, 2016 to ITT Educational Services, Inc., the institutions were directed to submit various documentation by June 15, 2016. In addition, ITT Educational Services, Inc., has been directed to make a personal appearance before the Council at its scheduled meeting August 1st-5th, 2016

In an ACICS Financial Show-Cause Directive letter dated May 4, 2016 to Education Management Corporation (EDMC), the institutions were directed to submit financial documentation by June 20, 2016. In addition, EDMC will make a personal appearance before the Council at its scheduled meeting August 1st-5th, 2016.

Supporting Documents

Indiana ACICS Accredited Institutions, Letter from 13 State Attorneys General to the U.S. DOE, ACICS Show-Cause Directive Letter to ITT Educational Services, Inc., ACICS Financial Show-Cause Director Letter to EDMC