

Directory of State Authorization Agencies and Lead Contacts

September 2022

U.S. STATES, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico

ALABAMA

Alabama Commission on Higher Education

Ron Leonard

Director of Special Initiatives

(334) 242-2211

ron.leonard@ache.edu

<https://ache.edu>

Alabama Community College System

Tivoli Nash

Director of Private School Licensure

(334) 293-4653

tivoli.nash@accs.edu

<https://www.accs.edu>

Allaina Robinson

(334) 293-4654

allaina.robinson@accs.edu

<https://www.accs.edu>

Alabama Office of the Secretary of State

John Merrill

Secretary of State of Alabama

(334) 224-7200

john.merrill@sos.alabama.gov

<http://sos.alabama.gov/>

ALASKA

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

Tyler Eggen

Corporation Secretary

(907) 465-6741

EED.ACPE-IA@alaska.gov

<https://acpe.alaska.gov/ConsumerProtection>

ARIZONA

Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education

Kevin LaMountain

Executive Director Licensing / Compliance / Board / STRF

(602) 542-5716

kevin.lamountain@azppse.gov

<https://ppse.az.gov/>

ARKANSAS

Arkansas Department of Higher Education

Alana Boles

Program Director for Private Career and Out-of-State Education

(501) 371-2060

Alana.Boles@adhe.edu

<https://www.adhe.edu>

CALIFORNIA

California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education

Deborah Cochrane

Bureau Chief

(916) 574-8900

<http://www.bppe.ca.gov/>

COLORADO

Colorado Department of Higher Education

Heather DeLange

Director, Office of Private Postsecondary Education

(303) 862-3005

heather.delange@dhe.state.co.us

<http://highered.colorado.gov>

Colorado Division of Private Occupational Schools

Lorna Candler

Director of the Division of Private Occupational Schools

(303) 862-3004

lorna.candler@dhe.state.co.us

<https://highered.colorado.gov>

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Office of Higher Education

Sean Seepersad

Division Director, Academic Affairs

(860) 947-1837

sean.seepersad@ct.gov

<https://www.ctohe.org>

DELAWARE

Delaware Department of Education, Higher Education Office

Shana Payne

Director

(302) 735-4120

shana.payne@doe.k12.de.us

<https://www.doe.k12.de.us/>

Nicholas Buono

Education Specialist, College Success Program Administrator

(302) 735-4193

nicholas.buono@doe.k12.de.us

<https://www.doe.k12.de.us/>

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Higher Education Licensure Commission

Angela Lee

Executive Director

(202) 724-2905

angela.lee@dc.gov

<https://osse.dc.gov>

Alesia Henry
Education Compliance Specialist
(202) 727-6436
alesia.henry@dc.gov
<https://osse.dc.gov>

FLORIDA

Florida Department of Education, Commission for Independent Education

Meredith Pelton
Executive Director
(850) 245-3233
<http://www.fldoe.org>

GEORGIA

Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission

Adam Hawk
Deputy Director
(770) 414-3310
adamh@gnpec.ga.gov
<https://gnpec.georgia.gov>

HAWAII

Hawaii Post-Secondary Education Authorization Program (HPEAP)

Bobbi Lum-Mew
HPEAP Program Administrator
(808) 586-7327
blummew@dcca.hawaii.gov
<https://cca.hawaii.gov>

IDAHO

Idaho State Board of Education

Tamara Baysinger
State Authorization Program Manager
(208) 332-1587
Tamara.Baysinger@osbe.idaho.gov
<https://boardofed.idaho.gov/higher-education-private/>

ILLINOIS

Illinois Board of Higher Education

Nkechi Onwuameze

Senior Associate Director for Academic Affairs, Illinois SARA Coordinator

(217) 557-7382

sara@ibhe.org

<http://www.ibhe.org>

INDIANA

Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Ken Sauer

Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer

(317) 232-1090

ksauer@che.in.gov

<https://www.in.gov>

Indiana Office for Career and Technical Schools

Stephen Turner

Director of Institution Accreditation and Compliance

(317) 232-6702

OCTS@dwd.in.gov

<https://www.in.gov/dwd/octs.htm>

IOWA

Iowa College Student Aid Commission

Jayne M. Smith

Postsecondary Registration Administrator

(515) 725-0959

jayne.smith@iowa.gov

<https://www.iowacollegeaid.gov/>

Lisa Pundt

SARA State Portal Agent

(515) 725-3426

lisa.pundt@iowa.gov

<https://www.iowacollegeaid.gov>

KANSAS

Kansas Board of Regents

Crystal Puderbaugh

Director for Academic Affairs

(785) 430-4287

cpuderbaugh@ksbor.org

<https://www.kansasregents.org>

KENTUCKY

Kentucky Commission on Proprietary Education & Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education

Sarah Levy

Executive Director of Postsecondary Licensing

(502) 892-3034

sarah.levy@ky.gov

<http://cpe.ky.gov>

<http://www.kcpe.ky.gov>

LOUISIANA

Louisiana Board of Regents

Courtney Britton

Proprietary Schools Program Administrator

(225) 219-7150

courtney.britton@laregents.edu

<https://regents.la.gov/>

MAINE

Maine Department of Education

Angel Martinez Loreda

Director of Higher Education and Educator Support Services

(207) 624-6846

angel.loredo@maine.gov

<http://www.maine.gov/doe/highered>

Jason Libby
Higher Education Specialist
(207) 624-6856
jason.libby@maine.gov
<http://www.maine.gov/doe/highered>

MARYLAND

Maryland Higher Education Commission

Emily Dow
Assistant Secretary of Academic Affairs
(410) 767-3041
emily.dow@maryland.gov
<http://mhec.maryland.gov>

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

Kristen Stone
Assistant Director for Academic and Veterans Affairs
(617) 994-6959
kstone@dhe.mass.edu
<http://www.mass.edu/>

Massachusetts Division of Professional Licensure

Clinton Dick
General Council
(617) 727-5970
clinton.w.dick@mass.gov
<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/division-of-professional-licensure>

MICHIGAN

Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO)/ Employment & Training

James Farhat
Departmental Specialist
(517) 256-8670
farhatj@michigan.gov
<https://www.michigan.gov/leo/>

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Office of Higher Education

Betsy Talbot

Manager, Private Institution Registration and Licensing

(651) 259-3965

betsy.talbot@state.mn.us

www.ohe.state.mn.us

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Commission of Proprietary Schools and College Registration

Kim Verneuille

Director of the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration / MOA Compliance

(601) 432-6185

kverneuille@mccb.edu

<https://www.mccb.edu/>

Megan Akins

Administrative Assistant – AE, Proprietary, and Workforce

(601) 432-6518

makins@mccb.edu

<https://www.mccb.edu/>

Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation

Menia Dykes

Director of Accreditation

(601) 432-6372

mdykes@ihl.state.ms.us

<http://www.mississippi.edu/mcca/>

MISSOURI

Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development

Leroy Wade

Deputy Commissioner

(573) 751-1776

leroy.wade@dhe.mo.gov

<https://dhewd.mo.gov/>

MONTANA

Montana Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

Joe Thiel

Director of Academic Policy and Research

(406) 449-9134

jthiel@montana.edu

<https://mus.edu/>

NEBRASKA

Nebraska Department of Education – Private Postsecondary Career Schools

Marisol Birth

Program Director, Private Postsecondary Career Schools and Veterans Education

(402)-326-4519

Marisol.birth@nebraska.gov

<https://www.education.ne.gov/ppcs/>

Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

Kathleen Fimple

Academic Programs Officer

(402) 471-0030

kathleen.fimple@nebraska.gov

<https://ccpe.nebraska.gov>

NEVADA

Nevada Commission on Postsecondary Education

Kelly D. Wuest

Administrator, CPE

(702) 486-7330, ext. 229

kdwuest@detr.nv.gov

<http://cpe.nv.gov/>

NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Department of Education, Division of Educator Support and Higher Education

Katelyn Komisarek

Program Specialist, Higher Education Commission

(603) 271-6443

Katelyn.N.Komisarek@doe.nh.gov

<https://www.education.nh.gov/>

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey Center for Occupational Employment Information

Robert Grimmie

Executive Director

(609) 292-8658

Robert.Grimmie@dol.nj.gov

https://www.nj.gov/labor/lwdhome/coei/coei_index.html

New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education

Eric Taylor

Director of Licensure

(609) 984-3738

eric.taylor@oshe.nj.gov

<http://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/index.shtml>

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Higher Education Department

Pascal Buser

Director of the Private Post-Secondary Schools Division

(505) 476-8409

pascal.buser@state.nm.us

<https://hed.state.nm.us/>

NEW YORK

Office of College and University Evaluation

Institutional Approval and Program Registration

(518) 474-1551

ocueinfo@nysed.gov

IHEauthorize@nysed.gov

<http://www.highered.nysed.gov>

New York State Education Department

Lisa Stiles-Roy

Licensing Supervisor

Bureau of Proprietary School Supervision

(518) 474-3969

Lisa.Stiles-Roy@nysed.gov

BPSS@nysed.gov

<http://www.acces.nysed.gov/bpss>

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Post-Secondary Education Complaints
c/o Student Complaints
University of North Carolina Systems Office
(919) 962-4558
studentcomplaint@northcarolina.edu

For information about Student Complaints you can go directly to that site:
<https://www.northcarolina.edu/post-secondary-education-complaints/>

State Authorization Unit
140 Friday Center Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
stateauthorization@northcarolina.edu

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education

Michael Netzloff
Administrator in Educational Equity, Private Career Schools, & Special Populations
(701) 328-3187
Mnetzloff@nd.gov
<https://www.cte.nd.gov/>

North Dakota University System

Cheryl Thompson
Outreach Manager, Core Technology Services of the North Dakota University System
(701) 239-6676
cheryl.thompson@ndus.edu
<https://www.ndus.edu>

Lisa Johnson

Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

(701) 328-4143

lisa.a.johnson@ndus.edu

<https://www.ndus.edu>

OHIO

Ohio Department of Higher Education

Matt Exline
Director, Program Approval Operations
(614) 728-3095
mexline@highered.ohio.gov
<https://www.ohiohighered.org>

Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools

John Ware
Executive Director
(614) 466-7802
john.ware@scr.state.oh.us
<http://scr.ohio.gov/>

OKLAHOMA

The Oklahoma Board of Private Vocational Schools

Nora House
Director of Administration
(405) 528-3370, ext. 24
nhouse@obpvs.ok.gov
<http://obpvs.ok.gov/>

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Kyle Foster
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
(405) 225-9163
kfoster@osrhe.edu
<https://www.okhighered.org/>

OREGON

Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Veronica Dujon
Director, Office of Academic Policy and Authorization
(503) 947-5744
veronica.dujon@hecc.oregon.gov
<https://www.oregon.gov/highered>

Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission – Private Postsecondary Education

Sean Pollack

Program Administrator, Private Postsecondary Education

(503) 947-5925

sean.pollack@hecc.oregon.gov

<https://www.oregon.gov/highered>

PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania Department of Education

Gina Wetten

Higher Education Associate

(717) 256-7723

giwetten@pa.gov

<http://www.education.pa.gov>

PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico State Department – Board of Postsecondary Institutions

Departamento de Estado Oficina de Registro y Licenciamiento de Instituciones de Educación

Damaris Nolasco-Ortiz

Acting Director

(787) 722-2121, ext. 3801

dnolasco@estado.pr.gov

<http://www.agencias.pr.gov/agencias/cepr/inicio>

RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner

Deanna Velletri

Proprietary School and Special Academic Projects Specialist

(401) 736-1118

deanna.velletri@riopc.edu

<https://www.riopc.edu/>

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Stacey Price

Coordinator, Nonpublic Institution Licensing

(803) 856-0041

sprice@che.sc.gov

<https://www.che.sc.gov>

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota Secretary of State

Krista Rounds

Records Officer

(605) 773-2797

krista.rounds@state.sd.us

<https://sdsos.gov/>

TENNESSEE

Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Stephanie Bellard Chase

Associate Executive Director for Postsecondary State Authorization

(615) 741-5293

stephanie.bellard@tn.gov

<https://www.tn.gov/thec.html>

TEXAS

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Stacey Silverman

Assistant Commissioner, Academic Quality and Workforce

(512) 427-6206

Stacey.Silverman@highered.texas.gov

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us>

John Wyatt

Director, External Relations

(512) 427-6586

John.Wyatt@highered.texas.gov

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us>

Texas Workforce Commission

Ed Serna

Executive Director

(512) 305-9636

https://www.twc.texas.gov/executive-staff-contact?division=executive_director

<https://www.twc.texas.gov/>

UTAH

Utah Division of Consumer Protection

Marla Winegar

Administrator

(801) 530-6601

mwinegar@utah.gov

<https://dcp.utah.gov>

VERMONT

Vermont Agency of Education

Cassandra Ryan

Postsecondary Approval Coordinator

(802) 479-8545

cassandra.ryan@vermont.gov

<https://education.vermont.gov/>

VIRGINIA

Virginia State Council of Higher Education

Sandra Freeman

Education Director

(804) 225-3862

sandrafreeman@schev.edu

<http://www.schev.edu>

WASHINGTON

Washington Student Achievement Council

Tivoli Sharp

Program Administrator, Consumer Protection

(360) 485-1080

tivolis@wsac.wa.gov

<http://www.wsac.wa.gov>

Washington Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

Darlene Barlett

Consumer Protection Manager

(360) 709-4605

darlene.bartlett@wtb.wa.gov

<http://wtb.wa.gov>

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education

Carrie Watters

Compliance Officer

(681) 313-2290

carrie.watters@wvhepc.edu

<http://wvctcs.org>

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

Nikki Bryant

Director of Academic Programming

(304) 558-0261, ext. 26395

nikki.bryant@wvhepc.edu

<http://www.wvhepc.edu>

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin Education Approval Program

General Questions

(608) 266-2112, opt. 8

dspseap@wisconsin.gov

<https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/EducationalApproval>

WYOMING

Wyoming Department of Education

Elaine Marces

Education Consultant – Private School Licensing

(307) 777-6210

elaine.marces@wyo.gov

<https://edu.wyoming.gov>

OTHER US TERRITORIES

AMERICAN SAMOA**American Samoa Community College**

Sonny J. Leomiti

Vice President of Administration and Finance/Accreditation Liaison Officer

(684) 699-9155 x325

s.leomiti@amsamoa.edu

<http://www.amsamoa.edu>

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA**College of Micronesia**

(691) 320-2490

national@comfsm.fm

Frankie Harriss

Accreditation Liaison Officer

frankieh@comfsm.fm

<http://www.comfsm.fm/>

GUAM**Guam Community College**

Mary A.Y. Okada

President/CEO

(671) 735-5700

gccpresident@guamcc.edu

<http://www.guamcc.edu>

University of Guam

June L.G. Calvo

Administrative Officer, Academic & Student Affairs

(671) 735-2994

jcalvo@triton.uog.edu

<http://www.uog.edu>

REPUBLIC OF PALAU

Palau Community College

College Accreditation Liaison Officer

(680) 488-2470, ext. 271

palaucalo@palau.edu

<http://pcc.palau.edu/>

REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

State Higher Education Agency: Scholarship Grant and Loan Board

(692) 625-3108, ext. 5770

misglb@ntamar.net

THE COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Northern Marianas College

Randy Yates

Dean of Academic Programs and Services

(670) 237-6706

randy.yates@marianas.edu

<https://www.marianas.edu>

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

US Virgin Islands Department of Education

Shamika Williams

Chief of Staff

(340) 774-0100

shamika.williams@vide.vi

<http://vide.vi>