

# Report from the Accrediting Commission

July 14, 2017

The Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) met on June 13-14, 2017 in Cary, North Carolina. This report summarizes the accreditation actions taken by the Accrediting Commission in accordance with its procedure for Notification and Information Sharing, Section X(F), Policies and Procedures, DEAC *Accreditation Handbook*. In addition to the accreditation actions listed in this report, the Commission approved final revisions to its standards, policies and procedures for financial responsibility that were proposed in a [Call for Comment](#) on February 28, 2017. Lastly, DEAC is pleased to announce that it has engaged the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) to conduct an external assessment of DEAC's accreditation standards and procedures. Together with NCHEMS researchers, DEAC looks forward to collaborating with its accredited institutions, students, graduates, volunteers and other communities of interest on ways DEAC can improve its accreditation process to enhance accountability measures and assure quality in teaching and learning. DEAC will provide updates on the status of this project on its website at [www.deac.org](http://www.deac.org).

## Report of Accreditation Actions

### Grant of Accreditation

**Wright Graduate University for the Realization of Human Potential**

**Founded in 2008**

Dr. Robert J. Wright  
Chief Executive Officer  
N7698 County Highway H  
Elkhorn, WI 53121  
[drbob@wrightgrad.edu](mailto:drbob@wrightgrad.edu)  
[www.wrightgrad.edu](http://www.wrightgrad.edu)  
(262) 742-4444

The institution operates under a DBA, Wright Graduate School for the Realization of Human Potential, in the state of Illinois.

#### Accredited Programs

- Master of Arts Degree in Transformational Leadership and Coaching
- Doctor of Education Degree in Transformational Leadership and Coaching
- Graduate Certificate in Emotional Intelligence for Leadership and Coaching
- Graduate Certificate in Social Intelligence for Leadership and Coaching
- Graduate Certificate in Transformational Leadership
- Graduate Certificate in Transformational Coaching

The Commission took action to grant initial accreditation to Wright Graduate University following a comprehensive evaluation of the institution and its programs. The institution is accredited through June 2020.

## **Renewal of Accreditation**

### **APT College**

**Founded in 1993**

Mr. Anthony Moreno  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
APT College, LLC  
1939 Palomar Oaks Way, Suite A  
Carlsbad, CA 92011  
[aptc@aptc.edu](mailto:aptc@aptc.edu)  
<http://www.aptc.edu>  
(800) 431-8488

#### Accredited Programs

- Associate of Applied Science in Telecommunications Technology
- Associate of Applied Science in Electric Power Systems
- Associate of Applied Science in Renewable Energy
- Professional Certificate in Telecommunications Technology
- Proficiency Certificate in Electric Power Systems
- Professional Certificate in Wireless Essentials
- Professional Certificate in Internetworking Essentials
- Professional Certificate in Fiber Optics Essentials and Advanced Applications
- Professional Certificate in Electrical Fundamentals
- Professional Certificate in Transmission Fundamentals
- Professional Certificate in Power Transmission Operations
- Career Certificate in Renewable Energy

The Commission took action to grant renewal of accreditation without condition to APT College following a comprehensive review of the institution and its programs. The institution has been found to meet or exceed each of the Commissions standards for accreditation. The institution is accredited through June 30, 2022.

### **Ashworth College**

**Founded in 1987**

Mr. Rob Klapper  
Chief Executive Officer  
6625 The Corners Parkway  
Norcross, Georgia 30092  
[education@ashworthcollege.edu](mailto:education@ashworthcollege.edu)  
<http://www.ashworthcollege.edu>  
(800) 615-8232 or (770)729-8400

Ashworth College also includes the following divisions Ashworth College (Career Diploma and Certificate), James Madison High School and PCDI Canada.

## Accredited programs

### Undergraduate Certificates

- Undergraduate Certificate in Accounting
- Undergraduate Certificate in Business Management
- Undergraduate Certificate in Computer Information Management
- Undergraduate Certificate in Construction Management
- Undergraduate Certificate in Criminal Justice
- Undergraduate Certificate in Early Childhood Education
- Undergraduate Certificate in Finance
- Undergraduate Certificate in General Studies
- Undergraduate Certificate in Healthcare Management
- Undergraduate Certificate in Human Resource Management
- Undergraduate Certificate in Marketing
- Undergraduate Certificate in Paralegal Studies
- Undergraduate Certificate in Psychology
- Undergraduate Certificate in Retail Management
- Undergraduate Certificate in Security Management

### Associate Degrees

- Associate of Applied Science in Accounting
- Associate of Applied Science in Business Management
- Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Management
- Associate of Applied Science in Construction Management
- Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice
- Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education
- Associate of Applied Science in Finance
- Associate of Applied Science in Healthcare Management
- Associate of Applied Science in Human Resource Management
- Associate of Applied Science in Marketing
- Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies
- Associate of Applied Science in Psychology
- Associate of Applied Science in Retail Management
- Associate of Applied Science in Security Management
- Associate of Arts in General Studies
- Associate of Science in Accounting
- Associate of Science in Computer Information Systems
- Associate of Science in Construction Management
- Associate of Science in Criminal Justice
- Associate of Science in Early Childhood Education
- Associate of Science in Finance
- Associate of Science in General Business
- Associate of Science in Healthcare Administration

- Associate of Science in Human Resource Administration
- Associate of Science in Marketing
- Associate of Science in Paralegal Studies
- Associate of Science in Psychology
- Associate of Science in Retail Administration
- Associate of Science in Security Administration

#### Bachelor's Degrees

- Bachelor of Arts in General Studies
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
- Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education
- Bachelor of Science in eBusiness
- Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management
- Bachelor of Science in Management
- Bachelor of Science in Marketing
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-BSN)
- Bachelor of Science in Psychology
- Graduate Certificates
- Graduate Certificate in Business Administration
- Graduate Certificate in Criminal Justice
- Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Management
- Graduate Certificate in Human Resource Management
- Graduate Certificate in Management
- Graduate Certificate in Marketing
- Masters Degrees
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Management
- Master of Business Administration in Human Resource Management
- Master of Business Administration in International Business
- Master of Business Administration in Marketing
- Master of Science in Criminal Justice
- Master of Science in Healthcare Management
- Master of Science in Human Resource Management
- Master of Science in Management
- Master of Science in Marketing

#### Diplomas

- Administrative Assistant Career Diploma
- AutoCad Career Diploma
- Automotive Technician Career Diploma
- Basic Accounting Career Diploma
- Basic Electronics Career Diploma

- Bookkeeping Career Diploma
- Carpentry Career Diploma
- Child Care Provider Career Diploma
- Child Development Associate (CDA) Certificate Career Diploma
- Computer Accounting Career Diploma
- Computer Network Security Career Diploma
- Computer Programming Career Diploma
- Computer Service and Repair Career Diploma
- Conservation Career Diploma
- Dental Office Assistant Career Diploma
- Diesel Mechanic Career Diploma
- Dog Obedience Trainer Career Diploma
- Electrician Training Career Diploma
- Electronic Health Records Management Career Diploma
- Event Planning Career Diploma
- Fashion Retailing Career Diploma
- Floral Design Career Diploma
- Forensic Science Career Diploma
- Gourmet Cooking and Catering Career Diploma
- Graphic Design Career Diploma
- Gunsmithing Career Diploma
- Heating and Air Conditioning Career Diploma
- Home Health Aide Career Diploma
- Home Inspection Career Diploma
- Hotel and Restaurant Management Career Diploma
- Interior Decorating Career Diploma
- Introduction to Psychology Career Diploma
- Jewelry Design and Repair Career Diploma
- Landscape Design Career Diploma
- Locksmithing Career Diploma
- Marketing Communications Career Diploma
- Massage Techniques Career Diploma
- Medical Billing and Coding Career Diploma
- Medical Office Assistant Career Diploma
- Medical Transcription Career Diploma
- Motorcycle Mechanics Career Diploma
- Nutrition, Diet, and Health Science Career Diploma
- Occupational Therapy Aide Career Diploma
- Paralegal Studies Career Diploma
- Payroll Clerk Career Diploma
- Personal Financial Planning Career Diploma

- Personal Trainer Career Diploma
- Pharmacy Technician Career Diploma
- Physical Therapy Aide Career Diploma
- Plumbing Career Diploma
- Private Investigation Career Diploma
- Property Management Career Diploma
- Retail Management Career Diploma
- Security Services Career Diploma
- Small Business Management Career Diploma
- Sport Psychology for Peak Performance Career Diploma
- Sterile Processing Career Diploma
- Substance Abuse Counseling Career Diploma
- Tax Preparation Career Diploma
- Teacher Assisting Career Diploma
- Travel Agent Career Diploma
- Veterinary Assisting Career Diploma
- Wedding Planner Career Diploma
- Writing Children's Books Career Diploma
- Auto Mechanics Career Diploma
- Bridal Consulting Career Diploma
- Computer Networking Career Diploma
- Fitness and Exercise Career Diploma
- Internet Marketing Career Diploma
- Introduction to Sales Career Diploma
- Online Business Management Career Diploma
- Professional Blogging Career Diploma
- Real Estate Appraisal Skills Career Diploma
- Residential Energy Auditor Career Diploma
- Website Design Career Diploma
- High School General Diploma
- High School College Prep Diploma
- High School Career Track Diploma

#### Career Certificates

- Automotive Automatic Transmissions Career Certificate
- Automotive Engine Performance Career Certificate
- Automotive HVAC Career Certificate
- Automotive Manual Drive Trains Career Certificate
- Civil Litigation Career Certificate
- Criminal Law and Procedure Career Certificate
- HIPAA Compliance Career Certificate
- ICD 10 Transition Career Certificate

- Medical Billing Career Certificate
- Medical Office Assistant - Administrative Procedures Career Certificate
- Medical Terminology Career Certificate
- Medical Transcription Fundamentals Career Certificate
- Real Estate Law Career Certificate
- Sterile Compounding Career Certificate

The Commission took action to grant renewal of accreditation without condition to Ashworth College following a comprehensive review of the institution and its programs. The institution has been found to meet or exceed each of the Commissions standards for accreditation. The institution is accredited through January 31, 2022.

### **Westcliff University**

**Founded 1993**

Dr. Anthony Lee

President

University Tower, 4199 Campus Drive #650

Irvine, CA 92612

[services@westcliff.edu](mailto:services@westcliff.edu)

<http://www.westcliff.edu>

888-491-8686 or 949-825-5999

Westcliff University includes a second location, a residential training site located at 18000 Studebaker Road, #300, Cerritos, California.

Accredited Programs

#### Undergraduate Certificates

- Certificate in Teaching English to Students of Other Languages
- Undergraduate Certificate in Business Administration
- Undergraduate Certificate in Leadership

#### Undergraduate Degrees

- Bachelor of Arts in Education
- Bachelor of Business Administration

#### Graduate Certificates

- Graduate Certificate in Business Administration
- Graduate Certificate in Marketing
- Graduate Certificate in Executive Management
- Graduate Certificate in Organizational Leadership
- Graduate Certificate of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

#### Graduate Degrees

- Master of Business Administration
- Doctor of Business Administration
- Master of Arts in Teaching English to Students of Other Languages

The Commission took action to grant renewal of accreditation without condition following a comprehensive evaluation of the institution and its programs. The institution has been found to meet or exceed each of the Commission's standards of accreditation. The institution is accredited through June 2022.

### **Change of Ownership**

The Commission took action to affirm a change of ownership for APT College, LLC  
1939 Palomar Oaks Way, Suite A, Carlsbad, CA 92011

APT College, LLC is owned by APT College, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ed-Tech Institute, LLC, which is in turn owned 20 percent by APT Global and 80 percent by the principals of The Sage Group, LLC.

### **Change of Location**

The Commission took action to affirm a change of location for the following institutions.

#### **California Institute of Management and Technology**

2361 Campus Drive, Suite 180  
Irvine, CA 92612

The institution was previously located at 1000 Bayview Circle, Suite 560, Newport Beach, California 92660.

#### **PCDI Canada (a division of Ashworth)**

55 Head Street, Suite 204  
Dundas, Ontario, L9H 3H8 Canada

The institution was previously located at 206-1075 North Service Road, Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6M 2G2.

### **Additional Sites**

The Commission took action to affirm the addition of a new site for the following institution.

#### **American College of Healthcare Sciences**

5005 SW Macadam Avenue  
Portland, OR 97238

The Commission affirmed the addition of a new administrative site at 81-958 Halekii Street, Suite 5C, Keelakekua, Hawaii, 96750.



### **Affirmation of an Administrative Site**

The Commission took action to accept a visit report and affirm an administrative site for the following institution.

#### **University of the People**

225 South Lake Ave., Suite 300  
Pasadena, CA 91101

The Commission affirmed a site located at 30 A Hamasger Street, 4th Floor, Tel Aviv, 6721117, Israel.

### **Follow – up on a Degree Program**

The Commission took action to approve the on-site evaluation report and affirm the implementation of a new degree program at the following institution.

- **EC-Council University, Albuquerque, NM**  
Bachelor of Science in Cyber-Security

### **New Programs**

The Commission affirmed the following actions taken by the Academic Review Subcommittee of the Accrediting Commission.

The Academic Review Subcommittee met on January 18, 2017 and approved the following programs.

- **Aspen University, Denver, CO**  
Doctor of Nursing Practice
- **Penn Foster, Scranton, PA**  
Guest Service Agent Diploma  
Home Health Aide Diploma  
Security Guard Diploma

The Academic Review Subcommittee met on March 22, 2017 and approved the following programs.

- **Grantham University, Lenexa, KS**  
Associate of Arts in Business Administration and Management
- **Penn Foster, Scranton, PA**  
Career Readiness Bootcamp Program  
Retail Supervisor Program  
Virtual Assistant Program

The Academic Review Subcommittee met on May 17, 2017 and approved the following programs:

- **Grantham University, Lenexa, KS**  
Bachelor of Science in Health Information
- **Union University of California, Westminster, CA**  
Doctor of Ministry

### **Report on Changes to Accreditation Standards, Policies and Procedures**

At its June 2017 meeting, the Accrediting Commission voted to formally adopt changes to its standards, policies and procedures for financial responsibility. The changes were proposed in a Call for Comment distributed to members and the public on February 28, 2017. The changes will be effective **January 1, 2018**.

#### **PART 2, SECTION I – ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, DEAC ACCREDITATION HANDBOOK (p. 11)**

- F. The institution documents, through audited or reviewed comparative financial statements that cover its two most recent fiscal years, that it is financially sound and can meet its financial obligations to provide instruction and service to its students. All financial statements submitted to DEAC are prepared in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and in accordance with the Financial Responsibility standards under Part 3, Section XI, Accreditation Standards.

#### **PART 2, SECTION XVI – ANNUAL REPORTS, DEAC ACCREDITATION HANDBOOK (p. 59)**

- C. Significant Changes in Financial Condition: The institution is required to report and explain the reasons for any significant change in financial condition since the last Annual Report.
  - 1. An institution is required to submit audited or reviewed comparative financial statements with its annual report.
  - 2. If the institution is a subsidiary or division of another company, audited or reviewed financial statements of the ultimate parent must be submitted.
  - 3. In the event the financial operations of the institution are supported by shareholders or another entity, audited or reviewed financial statements of the supporting entity or a letter of credit as outlined in Standard XI.C and D., must be submitted.
  - 4. If the institution reports a loss ~~in its net income~~ or a decrease in net assets (not for profits) or a deficit in working capital or total equity/fund balance, the Commission reviews the financial statements and determines whether further reporting is required or other appropriate action is necessary.
  - 5. An institution participating in Federal Student Assistance Title IV programs reports additional information describing its participation and submits audited comparative financial statements, including its compliance audit for its most recent fiscal year, no later than June 30.

PART 3, SECTION XI – FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, ACCREDITATION STANDARDS, DEAC *ACCREDITATION HANDBOOK* (pp. 96-97)

## **XI. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

### **C. FINANCIAL STABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY**

The institution maintains adequate administrative staff and other resources to operate effectively as a going concern and is not exposed to undue or insurmountable risk. Any risk that exists is adequately monitored, manageable, and insured. In the event the financial operations of the institution are supported by a parent company, shareholders or a third party, the supporting entity must provide one of the following to demonstrate that the supporting entity possesses sufficient financial resources to provide the institution continued financial sustainability, as well as the commitment to do so:

1. Audited or reviewed financial statements prepared in accordance with the requirements of XI(D), or
2. A letter of credit in an amount sufficient to cover any projected annual operating cash deficits for the institution's next year.

### **D. FINANCIAL REPORTING**

Financial statements are prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America often referred to as "GAAP," including the accrual method of accounting. An independent certified public accountant (CPA) audit or review report accompanies these statements.

1. The institution's financial statements reflect sufficient liquid assets to provide for a staff and faculty.
2. Annually, the institution has the option of submitting one of these two types of financial statements, unless the Commission directs the institution to submit audited financial statements.
  - Audited comparative financial statements containing an audit opinion by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, or
  - Reviewed comparative financial statements containing a review report by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

3. Institutions that operate as subsidiaries or divisions must submit the parent company's audited or reviewed financial statements annually.
4. Institutions that are financially supported by shareholders or another entity must submit audited or reviewed financial statements for the supporting entity or a letter of credit as outlined in Standard XI.C.
5. Financial statements submitted must include the institution's fiscal statement for either the most recent fiscal year end or the date specified by the Commission, the CPA's opinion letter or review report, and a letter of financial statement validation.

#### **Reminder: 2018-2019 Annual Dues and Fees**

At the January 2017 meeting, the DEAC Board of Directors approved an increase in the minimum amount for annual dues for the 2018-2019 year. The minimum amount was increased from \$1,000 to \$3,000. This change was made pursuant to the Bylaws of the corporation, Article III, Section 6 which states that annual dues and fees rates shall be set by the Board of Directors. The increase in the minimum amount was first announced in the February 27, 2017 Report from the Commission.

#### **Dues for April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019**

DEAC Dues shall be the following: Annual dues shall be eighty-six hundredths of one percent (.86% or .0086) of school cash collections up to \$3,500,000, but in no case shall an organization pay dues of less than \$3,000. For school cash collections exceeding \$3,500,000, the organization shall pay \$600 per million or part thereof. Subsequent changes in dues shall be based on the .86 percent amount and shall be stated as a percentage of organizational cash collections.