



## State of Wisconsin / Educational Approval Board

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### List of Closed Schools and Colleges Available

Madison, WI – The Educational Approval Board (EAB) announced today that it has created a listing of postsecondary institutions that no longer operate in the state of Wisconsin. According to EAB executive secretary, David C. Dies, "The purpose of creating such a list is to assist former students in locating records that document their academic work." The list includes over 100 institutions ranging from non-degree schools to two and four-year colleges and universities. It can be obtained either from the EAB's website at <http://eab.state.wi.us> or by contacting the agency.

"The idea for a closed schools and colleges list arose in response to a growing number of inquiries from students and others about how to obtain transcript information from postsecondary institutions that no longer exist," Dies said. In addition to institutions that have been approved by the EAB, the list includes schools and colleges that were not subject to its oversight. "We get calls from all types of students – not just those who have attended an EAB-approved institution, but those who have attended public and private ones. What we have done is create a single comprehensive registry for these institutions."

It is believed the list will help the majority of students seeking transcript information from a closed school or college. However, because the state lacks a formal records retention policy for institutions, transcripts for some students have been lost or destroyed over time. To prevent these situations, the EAB has, in recent years, become the custodian of transcripts for institutions subject to its regulatory authority when there have been concerns that the records could become lost, destroyed or otherwise unavailable. In addition, the EAB is currently seeking legislation that would create a formal state records retention policy.

The EAB is an independent state agency responsible for protecting Wisconsin's consumers by regulating and monitoring for-profit postsecondary schools; out-of-state, non-profit colleges and universities; and in-state, non-profit institutions incorporated after January 1, 1992. The agency currently oversees more than 130 schools and colleges serving more than 30,000 adults in degree and non-degree programs.

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