
Dear Students,

We want to share an important development about your education.

Center for Excellence in Higher Education, the parent company of Independence University (“IU”), Stevens-Henager College (“SHC”), CollegeAmerica (“CA”), and California College San Diego (“CCSD”), has made the difficult decision to close all its colleges as of August 1, 2021. You will be notified of any change to that date.

This decision was not taken lightly. In April 2021 our accreditor withdrew IU’s accreditation. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education (“USDOE”) is withholding all student funding since May of this year. We are seeking an appeal of the withdrawal of accreditation and pursuing options to obtain the funding held by USDOE. However, the combination of these two actions has made it impossible to effectively continue academic operations. We will begin a process of winding down our operations through a process called a “teach-out.”

We are heartbroken by this decision and truly wish to see our students continue their educational efforts to complete their degrees. We continue to strive to help our students succeed.

Pending regulatory approvals, we have entered Teach Out Agreements with a regionally accredited institution of higher education that will permit most currently enrolled students to complete the same or similar programs online. We are in the process of identifying any on ground options that may also be available. Staff will be contacting you and holding a series of meetings to help explain your options and answer your questions. After those meetings, you will be asked to select an option and sign a document attesting to your choice. If after meeting with the staff, you decide not to complete your degree by accepting one of the transfer options, you may withdraw.

It is our sincere hope that you decide to select the transfer option so that you can complete your education, graduate, and earn your degree. This has always been our mission, and you have always been our focus. Regardless of your choice, we will do everything we can to make this transition as smooth as possible.

Student Services, including Financial Aid and Registrar services, will continue to be available to students through our teach-out partner. Upon closure, we plan to move student records and transcripts to one or more of our teach-out partners and, if that is not possible, to the applicable state education agency. Students and graduates will be advised on the process to request records.

We understand that news of this decision will be met with uncertainty and disappointment. We are committed to keeping you informed of our progress through ongoing communication. Information and updates regarding this transition to closure will be delivered via mail, email, and the student portal.

We are honored that you have chosen IU, SHC, CA and CCSD. We are committed to providing a quality education and to fulfilling our promise to help you reach your career goals, and we pledge our total support in assisting you through this transition.

Sincerely,

Paul Gardner
Interim CEO
Center for Excellence in Higher Education, Inc.