Dear Colleague:

Earlier today, ITT Technical Institutes (ITT) announced the closure of more than 100 campuses serving more than 35,000 students. These students need your help.

We will soon email each current ITT student today outlining their options and, also, Secretary King published an open letter to these students with links to helpful resources. One option that ITT students have is to complete an online form to request a discharge of their federal student loans and start their college journey anew. For many students, particularly those at the very beginning of their programs, this may be the right choice.

Another option is for ITT students to transfer to another institution of higher education. Students who have made significant progress toward their degrees may find this the most viable path forward, if they can identify programs that will accept their credits or grant them credit for prior learning. Your institutions are close to one or more ITT campuses and offer programs that align with several of ITT’s offerings. We hope that your institutions will step in to help these students.

While you will and should make independent decisions about admission, credit transfer, and the use of prior learning assessment, I hope you will find ways to reach out to ITT students to encourage them to continue their studies and, if appropriate, to contact your campus about potential transfer opportunities. At particular risk are students who have completed the majority of their requirements toward a degree.

We have spoken with several campuses who intend to conduct outreach to ITT students, identify points of contact to work with ITT students, and even set up additional courses and cohorts to accommodate the timing of the ITT closures. And we have heard from regional and national accreditors alike that they are ready to do whatever they can to support students.

I encourage you to identify the ways you might welcome ITT students to your campus, and to work with your accreditor if you have any questions about how to do it within their expectations.

If you would like to reach out to ITT directly to discuss how you might support their students, the CEO, Kevin Modany, has indicated he is the right person to field your inquiries: KModany@ittesi.com.

We know that completion of a college degree is a life-changer for students and critical for the health of our economy and our democracy, which why we all do this work. ITT students need our help right now.

As you consider how to engage these students, please let me if you have any questions or would like to be connected with other institutions developing strategies to help ITT students achieve their objectives.
Please contact Philip Martin, Philip.Martin@ed.gov, at the Department if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Ted Mitchell
Under Secretary of Education