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Macias, Wendy

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2009 6:16 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Letters to US Department of Education
Attachments: Apollo Letter to US Dept of Educ 06-2009.pdf

Letter attached as requested, unfortunately I have been traveling and unable to print and sign the letter until now.

With Regards,

[Redacted Signature Block]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2009 1:25 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Letters to US Department of Education
Importance: High

Dear campus leaders,

As many of you know, the US Department of Education is at the very beginning stages of forming teams of education experts to discuss and draft rules relative to recent changes to the Higher Education Act. To prepare for this process, more commonly known as negotiated rulemaking, the Department has held a series of hearing aimed at engaging the public in this process. For those unable to attend the hearings, the Department has encouraged submission of written comments.

We would like to enlist your help in communicating the vital contribution of our students and institutions. To that end, attached are email drafts, one specific to your institution, that we would like your help completing and sending. We request that by **4pm Central tomorrow**, you complete the attached draft to include vital information and context specific to your students and campus location. Once complete, please email your signed and completed draft on your campus specific letterhead to negreg09@ed.gov and copy [Redacted] Director of Government Relations & Licensing at [Redacted]. When rounding out your draft, **please be sure to address all areas highlighted in yellow.**

Thank you for your partnership in providing the Department with the most complete picture of our students and institutions. Again, please submit your signed letter, on campus-specific letterhead, **no later than tomorrow, 6.23.09 at 4pm Central.**

Please do not hesitate in contacting me or Helena should you have any questions.

Thank you.



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June 23, 2009

Ms. Wendy Macias
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, N.W. Room 8017
Washington, DC 20006

Sent via Electronic Mail: negreg09@ed.gov

Dear Ms. Macias:

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of Apollo College – Las Vegas, Nevada, thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments concerning the forthcoming negotiated rulemaking process.

Apollo College has a long and distinguished history in health care education. Students attend Apollo College to pursue health care careers in medical assisting, dental hygiene, physical therapy, respiratory care and medical radiography to name only a few high-demand fields. Apollo has worked tirelessly to develop and maintain strong and ongoing relationships with health care industry employers. Leading medical organizations, corporations and institutions regularly recruit Apollo graduates. Over the expanse of three decades, Apollo has served over 50,000 graduates who have gone on to meet the growing demand for high-quality health care professionals.

We strongly support that students attending all accredited institutions of higher education, regardless of an institution's public, private not-for-profit or proprietary status, be availed the resources and equal opportunity to attend the institution of their choice. If the United States is to emerge from the current economic downturn, it will require all sectors of education and multiple access and engagement points for a diverse array of students.

Apollo also heeds the Department's and Obama Administration's call to address the academic progress of American students from cradle to career. For most, but especially first time, first-generation students, discovering tangible college pathways is key to attaining educational success.

The Apollo College in Las Vegas, Nevada specifically serves students seeking Associate Degrees in either Registered Nursing or Respiratory Care. These students come from various backgrounds and range in age. Apollo has created an opportunity for these students to continue their education without the need to navigate long waiting that exists at other schools in the community in order to enter their program of choice. Additionally we provide these opportunities through offering day and evening classes.

The Las Vegas healthcare community has interacted with the school and our students in many ways that continue to enhance our programs and provide opportunities for improvement as they are identified. The community serves on our Advisory Boards, provides a wide variety of clinical sites, and even participates in career fairs and employs our students upon graduation. We continually seek the advice of our community as well as our respective accrediting bodies to ensure a quality education for all of our students.

Sincerely,

