

**TOPIC: DEGREE AUTHORIZATION ACT – CHAMBERLAIN
COLLEGE OF NURSING**

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I. SUMMARY

At its March 7, 2008 meeting, the Commission granted Chamberlain College of Nursing Preliminary Authorization. In October, Department staff received a letter from Chamberlain requesting withdrawal of this authorization. Chamberlain College of Nursing has determined, after an internal review and in consultation with the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence, that the Colorado clinical environment is in a state of flux and precludes the College from pursuing full onsite operations at this time. Chamberlain College of Nursing is withdrawing its preliminary authorization status and its application to operate in Colorado. The college intends to market its online program to Colorado students, as permitted under statute.

II. BACKGROUND

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education has statutory responsibility for administration of Title 23, Article 2 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, which authorizes certain types of institutions to offer degrees or degree credits. These are: (1) Colorado publicly supported colleges and universities; (2) properly accredited private colleges and universities; (3) post-secondary seminaries and bible colleges; and (4) private occupational schools authorized by the Division of Private Occupational School. Persons or unauthorized organizations that violate the provisions of the statute are subject to legal penalties.

All private colleges and universities, out of state public colleges and universities, and seminaries or bible colleges are required to register with the Colorado Department of Higher Education and to meet criteria found in CCHE Policy Section I Part J, Degree Authorization Act, in order to be granted authorization to offer degrees within Colorado. Such authorization must be received by the institution prior to offering any program of instruction, academic credits, or degrees; opening a place of business; soliciting students or enrollees; or offering educational support services.

III. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

No action is required by the Commission.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

23-2-101 C.R.S.