

STATE OF COLORADO

Department of Higher Education
DIVISION OF PRIVATE OCCUPATIONAL SCHOOLS

Lorna A. Candler
Director

Colorado Board of Private Occupational Schools

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June 7, 2013

Re: Press Release – Boulder College of Massage Therapy (BCMT) Ceasing Operation

The Private Occupational School Board and Division (DPOS) have attempted to support BCMT in its efforts to regain financial stability and to resolve other important issues. However, because of a culmination of unfortunate circumstances including: the school's financial instability; its inability to meet the contractual obligations of its real estate bond; and its inability to meet the requirement of its accrediting body, ACCSC; and the federal regulations governing Title IV funds, our Board deemed it was necessary for BCMT to cease operation to protect the interests of the students currently enrolled in the school.

In order to provide the students with the most beneficial option in these difficult circumstances, representatives from the Division will meet with the BCMT students, faculty and administration on Friday at 12:30 at BCMT to discuss options available to currently enrolled students once the school closes at the end of the current quarter. The Division has identified a school with a program substantially similar to the current program at BCMT to allow students to pursue their professional goals. The Colorado School of Healing Arts (CSHA) is located in Lakewood, Colorado just 39 miles from BCMT. In order to secure the availability of federal funds and to maintain eligibility for a smooth transition, CSHA has agreed to offer BCMT students the option to transfer.

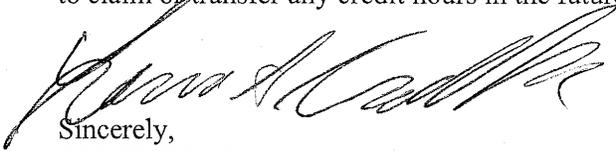
The transfer option would allow the students who avail themselves of this option to matriculate into CSHA as a student with full benefits including: the opportunity to graduate with a degree or certificate from a reputable and operational school in good standing; the opportunity to bridge or re-apply for their remaining eligible portion of federal student loans and/or federal grants through CSHA; the opportunity to benefit from the graduation package which includes job placement assistance, career counseling, and may also include payment of licensure fees for the state exam, and other items necessary to prepare the graduates for their profession.

During the meeting on June 7, 2013, the Division will also explain that those students who do not elect the opportunity to transfer to CSHA will be left with the following options:

- **Train out:** The train out will be provided by and at CSHA with the receiving school's curriculum. The train out will replace the original enrollment agreement between the student and the school ceasing operation. While the student who elects train out will be welcomed as a student of CSHA,

the train out student(s) will not be eligible for the graduation package which includes ongoing job placement assistance, career counseling, and may also include payment of licensure fees for the state exam, and other items necessary to prepare the graduate for their profession. Furthermore, the train out student will only receive a "train out certificate or degree" from BCMT issued by the state.

- Refund for prepaid unearned tuition: For those students who choose not to elect the transfer or train out option, the student(s) may elect to file a claim against the bond for the student's prorated share of the prepaid unearned tuition. If, and only if, bond money remains after the train out is completed, that remaining money would be apportioned on a pro-rate basis to students who are eligible for refund and can provide proof of pre-paid unearned tuition. Therefore, it is unclear whether students who elect this option would be able to recoup 100% of their eligible pre-paid unearned tuition or whether they would receive a lesser value.
- Loan forgiveness: Lastly, students may elect to forgo all credits in lieu of a refund of Title IV funds. This means the student would apply to USDOE for loan forgiveness and would not be able to claim or transfer any credit hours in the future.



Sincerely,

FOR THE PRIVATE OCCUPATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD

Lorna A. Candler
Director