FILE COPY

March 12, 2013

Jose L. Cela
President
Advanced Technical Centers
5600 NW 36 Street
Miami, Florida 33166

RE: **Final Program Review Determination**
OPE ID: 02293600
PRCN: 2013-1-04-28143

Dear President Cela:

The U.S. Department of Education's (Department's) School Participation Division - Atlanta issued a program review report on February 1, 2013 covering Advanced Technical Center's (ATC) administration of programs authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1070 et seq. (Title IV, HEA programs), for the 2012- 2013 award year. ATC's response was received on February 28, 2013. ATC failed to address adequately finding #7, as detailed in the attached report. A copy of the program review report (and related attachments) and the institution's response are attached. Any supporting documentation submitted with the response is being retained by the Department and is available for inspection by ATC upon request. The Department has made final determinations based on information obtained during the program review and from documentation already submitted by ATC. This Final Program Review Determination (FPRD), related attachments, and any supporting documentation may be subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and can be provided to other oversight entities after this FPRD is issued.

Purpose:

Final determinations have been made concerning all of the outstanding findings of the program review report. The purpose of this letter is to: (1) identify liabilities resulting from the findings of this program review report, (2) provide instructions for payment of liabilities to the Department, (3) notify the institution of its right to appeal and (4) close the review.

Record Retention:

Program records relating to the period covered by the program review must be retained until the later of: resolution of the loans, claims or expenditures questioned in the program review; or the end of the retention period otherwise applicable to the record under 34 C.F.R. §§ 668.24(e)(1), (e)(2), and (e)(3).

The Department expresses its appreciation for the courtesy and cooperation extended during the review. If the institution has any questions regarding this letter, please contact Lonnie Seal at (404)974-9240.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Charles Engstrom
Division Director

Enclosures:
Protection of Personally Identifiable Information

cc: Sofia Suarez, Financial Aid Administrator
FL Commission for Independent Education - Florida Department of Education
Council on Occupational Education

PROTECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) being submitted to the Department must be protected. PII is any information about an individual which can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity (some examples are name, social security number, date and place of birth).

PII being submitted electronically or on media (e.g., CD-ROM, floppy disk, DVD) must be encrypted. The data must be submitted in a .zip file encrypted with Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) encryption (256-bit is preferred). The Department uses WinZip. However, files created with other encryption software are also acceptable, provided that they are compatible with WinZip (Version 9.0) and are encrypted with AES encryption. Zipped files using WinZip must be saved as Legacy compression (Zip 2.0 compatible).

The Department must receive an access password to view the encrypted information. The password must be e-mailed separately from the encrypted data. The password must be 12 characters in length and use three of the following: upper case letter, lower case letter, number, special character. A manifest must be included with the e-mail that lists the types of files being sent (a copy of the manifest must be retained by the sender).

Hard copy files and media containing PII must be:

- sent via a shipping method that can be tracked with signature required upon delivery
- double packaged in packaging that is approved by the shipping agent (FedEx, DHL, UPS, USPS)
- labeled with both the "To" and "From" addresses on both the inner and outer packages
- identified by a manifest included in the inner package that lists the types of files in the shipment (a copy of the manifest must be retained by the sender).

PII data cannot be sent via fax.

Prepared for
Advanced Technical Centers

Federal Student Aid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND™

OPE ID 02293600
PRCN 2013-1-04-28143

Prepared by
U.S. Department of Education
Federal Student Aid
School Participation Division - Atlanta

Final Program Review Determination
March 12, 2013

61 Forsyth Street S.W., Suite 18T40, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8930
StudentAid.gov

Table of Contents

Page

A. Institutional Information....3
B. Scope of Review....4
C. Findings and Final Determinations....4
Resolved Findings....4
Findings with Final Determinations....5
Finding #7 Net Price Calculator Inaccurate....5
D. Appendices
Appendix A: Institution's Response
Appendix B: Program Review Report
Appendix C: Screenshots from Net Price Calculator Hypothetical Tests

A. Institutional Information

Advanced Technical Centers
5600 NW 36 Street
Miami, Florida 33166

Type: Private, Non-Profit

Highest Level of Offering: Non-degree (600-899 hours)

Accrediting Agency: Council on Occupational Education

Current Student Enrollment: 67

% of Students Receiving Title IV: 22% (2012-2013)

Title IV Participation (G5):	**2011/2012**
Federal Pell Grant	$19,500

B. Scope of Review

The U.S. Department of Education (the Department) conducted a program review of Advanced Technical Centers (ATC) from December 10, 2012 to December 13, 2012. The review was conducted by Lonnie Seal.

The focus of the review was validating compliance of Gainful Employment Disclosures. The review consisted of an examination of ATC's homepage of the institution's program and/or direct link to the single webpage that contained all of the required information.

Disclaimer:

Although the review was thorough, it cannot be assumed to be all-inclusive. The absence of statements in the report concerning ATC's specific practices and procedures must not be construed as acceptance, approval, or endorsement of those specific practices and procedures. Furthermore, it does not relieve ATC of its obligation to comply with all of the statutory or regulatory provisions governing the Title IV, HEA programs.

C. Findings and Final Determinations

Resolved Findings

ATC has taken the corrective actions necessary to resolve findings numbers 1 thru 6 of the program review report. Therefore, these findings may be considered closed. ATC's response to the program review report is located in Appendix A. Findings requiring further action by ATC are discussed below.

Findings with Final Determinations

The program review report finding requiring further action is summarized below. At the conclusion of each finding is a summary of ATC's response to the finding, and the Department's final determination for that finding. A copy of the program review report issued on December 20, 2012 is attached as Appendix B.

Finding 7. Net Price Calculator Inaccurate

Citation: Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA)

In accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA), by October 29, 2011, each postsecondary institution that participates in Title IV federal student aid programs must post a net price calculator on its website that uses institutional data to provide estimated net price information to current and prospective students and their families based on a student's individual circumstances. This calculator should allow students to calculate an estimated net price of attendance at an institution (defined as cost (price) of attendance minus grant and scholarship aid) based on what similar students paid in a previous year. The net price calculator is required for all Title IV institutions that enroll full-time, first-time degree- or certificate-seeking undergraduate students.

Noncompliance: The Net Price Calculator (NPC) at ATC does not accurately allow students to calculate an estimated net price of attendance at their institution (defined as cost (price) of attendance minus grant and scholarship aid) based on what similar students paid in a previous year. For example, the result for the *Estimated total grant* aid was $720, regardless of 2 hypothetical tests conducted based on similar criteria with household income significantly adjusted—see page 6 for tested criteria[1].

[1] See Appendix C for actual screenshots based on separate Household Income criteria.

Hypothetical Test I:

1. Age: 29
2. Living arrangement: Living on my own or with a roommate
3. Marital Status: No
4. Children: No
5. Number in family: 1
6. Number in college: 1
7. Household Income: **Less than $30,000**

Academic Year 2011-2012	
Estimated total price of attendance	**$4220**
a. Estimated tuition and fees	$3,250
b. Estimated room and board	**$720**
c. Estimated books and supplies	$250
d. Estimated other expenses	**$0**
Sub-Total	**$4,220**
Estimated total grant aid:	**$720**
Estimated total net price:	**$3,500**
(Price of attendance minus grant aid)	

Hypothetical Test II:

1. Age: 29
2. Living arrangement: Living on my own or with a roommate
3. Marital Status: No
4. Children: No
5. Number in family: 1
6. Number in college: 1
7. Household Income: **Between $60,000 - $69,000**

Academic Year 2011-2012	
Estimated total price of attendance	**$4220**
a. Estimated tuition and fees	$3,250
b. Estimated room and board	**$720**
c. Estimated books and supplies	$250
d. Estimated other expenses	**$0**
Sub-Total	**$4,220**
Estimated total grant aid:	**$720**
Estimated total net price:	**$3,500**
(Price of attendance minus grant aid)	

Additionally, the *Estimated other expenses* category result is $0; however, on ATC's homepage it stated $250 was estimated for transportation costs. Failure to properly input this data into the NPC template, skews the *Estimated Net Price after Grants* result and causes ATC's NPC not to meet the minimum required elements' criteria listed on the Net Price Calculator website located at: http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/resource/net_price_calculator.asp#NPCRequirement .

Minimum Required Elements
Output elements must include:

- Estimated total cost of attendance;
- Estimated tuition and fees;
- Estimated room and board;
- Estimated books and supplies;
- Estimated other expenses (personal expenses, transportation, etc.);
- Estimated total grant aid;
- Estimated net price;
- Percent of the cohort (full-time, first-time students) that received grant aid; and
- Caveats and disclaimers, as indicated in the HEA.

Required Action: ATC was required to upload the latest version of the Net Price Calculator (NPC) template to ensure that the minimum data elements were inputted into the NPC so that it yielded accurate estimates in accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA). For detailed instructions on how to complete this requirement, ATC was instructed to go to: http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/resource/net_price_calculator.asp.

In response to this finding, the institution was required to provide the link to where the updated Net Price Calculator is located on ATC's website and a written statement addressing when this requirement was completed.

ATC's Response: ATC e-mailed their response to the program review report which stated the institution added the required Net Price Calculator to its website at the respective hyperlink location: www.advancedtechnicenters.com/netprice/npcalc.htm. As of March 7, 2013, this finding has not been resolved.

Final Determination: ATC must have its auditor attest to the accuracy of the Net Price Calculator which is required to calculate an estimated net price of attendance at an institution (defined as cost (price) of attendance minus grant and scholarship aid) based on what similar students paid in a previous year.

Institutions using the Department's template must update their NPC after the Department posts updated versions for each award year. The Department plans to release updated versions in January annually.