



August 28, 2015

Mr. Robert Paul, President
DeVry University
3005 Highland Parkway
Downers Grove, IL 60515

UPS Tracking #
1ZA879640295217054

Re: *Placement Rate and Employability Advertisements and Representations*

Dear Mr. Paul:

Under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), institutions that participate in Title IV, HEA programs and that advertise job placement rates as a means of attracting students to enroll must make available to prospective students, at or before the time of application, the most recent available data concerning employment statistics, and any other information necessary to substantiate the truthfulness of the advertisements. 20 U.S.C. § 1094(a)(8). *See also* 34 C.F.R. § 668.14(b)(10). This statutory and regulatory requirement was expressly acknowledged by DeVry University (DeVry) in its Program Participation Agreement (PPA) dated July 9, 2014 (which expires on March 31, 2018).

In addition to this requirement, the HEA permits the Secretary of Education to take certain enumerated actions against a participating institution if the Secretary determines that the institution has made substantial misrepresentations about, *inter alia*, the employability of an institution's graduates. 20 U.S.C. § 1094(c)(3). *See also* 34 C.F.R. §§ 668.71, 668.74. Misrepresentations regarding the employability of an eligible institution's graduates include, but are not limited to, false, erroneous, or misleading statements about the institution's knowledge about the current or likely future conditions, compensation, or employment opportunities in the industry or occupation for which the students are being prepared. 34 C.F.R. § 668.74(c).

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) takes seriously these statutory and regulatory requirements, as it does an institution's responsibility to establish and maintain records required to ensure compliance with all Title IV, HEA program regulations. In order to permit the Department to assess DeVry's compliance with the substantiation requirement set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 1094(a)(8) and 34 C.F.R. § 668.14(b)(10), DeVry's compliance with the prohibition on substantial misrepresentations regarding the employability of graduates set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 1094(c)(3) and 34 C.F.R. §§ 668.71 & 668.74, as well as DeVry's administrative capabilities (34 C.F.R. § 668.16) and DeVry's conduct as a fiduciary of government funds (34 C.F.R. §§ 668.14(b)(1)-(2), 668.82(a)-(b)), **please provide the following within 21 days of the date of this letter.**

Federal Student Aid

An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

830 First St., N.E. Washington, D.C. 20202

StudentAid.gov

- (1) Describe in detail the factual basis for the following DeVry representations. Please include in your response a detailed description of the methodology used to derive the statistic contained in the representation and a description of the sources of the facts relied upon to make the representation.
 - a. “Since 1975, 90.1% of DeVry graduates system-wide in the active job market held positions in their fields of study within 6 months of graduation.” *See, e.g., Exhibit A.*¹
 - b. “One year after graduation, DeVry alumni report earning 15% more than median earnings reported by all bachelor’s degree graduates.” *See, e.g., Exhibit B.*²
 - c. “90 percent of DeVry University graduates who were actively seeking employment in 2012 had careers in their fields within six months of graduation.” *See, e.g., Exhibit C.*³
- (2) With respect to the representations listed in request (1)(a) above, please provide all summary charts or spreadsheets summarizing all student-by-student information, developed or maintained by DeVry, which DeVry believes is sufficient to substantiate the statistics for graduates between 1975 and 1990.
- (3) With further respect to the representations listed in request 1(a) above, please provide **all** evidence, organized by year and, within each year, by graduate, on which DeVry relies to substantiate job placement rates for all individuals who graduated from DeVry between 1975 and 1981. Without limitation, and in addition to the summary charts or spreadsheets described in request 2 above, this should include all graduate-specific evidence that DeVry believes is necessary (or on which DeVry relies) to substantiate the statistics (including communications between students or graduates, on the one hand, and DeVry, on the other) with respect to graduates between 1975 and 1981.
- (4) With respect to the representation listed in request 1(b) above, please provide a copy of the PayScale study on which the representation purportedly relies.
- (5) With respect to the representation listed in request 1(c) above, please provide a summary chart or spreadsheet that provides the student-level detail necessary to substantiate this representation including, without limitation, graduate’s first name, graduate’s last name, student ID, social security number, graduation date, degree type (*e.g., bachelors, associates*), program or major (*e.g., business administration, technical management*),

¹ Taken from: <http://www.devry.edu/d/Careers-in-Security.pdf> (last visited: August 26, 2015).

² Taken from <http://www.high-school.devry.edu/pdf/college-your-career-is-worth-it.pdf> (last visited: August 26, 2015).

³ Taken from <http://www.devry.edu/d/academic-annual-report.pdf> (last visited: August 26, 2015).

specialization or concentration, information regarding the employment status of the student 6-months following graduation from DeVry (e.g., when the employment began, the name and business of the employer, graduate job title), and information showing how DeVry classified each student for purposes of calculating the statistic included in the representation. If DeVry has information indicating that graduate's name has legally changed, DeVry should identify all of the names pertaining to that person in its response.

With respect to any information or documents produced in response to this letter, please identify with specificity to which request the documents or information is being provided. With respect to the documents called for in request 3 above, with the exception of any summary data that contains information pertaining to numerous years, all documents that substantiate placement rates should be organized **by year** (i.e., documentation of 1975 graduate employment should be organized separately from documentation of 1976 graduate employment) and, within those years, **by graduate** (i.e., documentation should be logically sequenced for each student who completed a DeVry educational program).

This information may be delivered to the Department or otherwise submitted by mail to:

Tara Johnston, Case Manager
Multi-Regional and Foreign School Participation Division
U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid
100 Penn Square East, Suite 511
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Please see the enclosure Protection of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) for instructions regarding submission of documents containing PII. In order to protect PII, when possible, please submit documentation by saving it to a computer disc that has been password protected.

If you have any questions, please contact Tara Johnston at (215) 656-6488. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Michael Frola
Division Director
Multi-Regional & Foreign School Participation Division

Enclosures:
Protection of Personally Identifiable Information
Exhibits A-C

cc: Thomas Babel, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs (*email courtesy copy: tbabel@devrygroup.com*)
Ms. Barbara Bickett, Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs (*emailed courtesy copy: bbickett@devrygroup.com*)