

Florida State Approving Agency for Veterans' Education and Training9500 Bay Pines Blvd., Room 214, Bay Pines, FL 33744Phone: (727) 319-7406

Updated September 8, 2016

Important Information for ITT Technical Institute Students and Other Interested Parties

The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs received notice that all ITT Technical Institute schools, nationwide, closed on September 6, 2016. Approximately 500 Florida veteran beneficiaries and thousands of non-veteran students were enrolled in programs at the 12 Florida ITT Technical Institute schools which were also approved to administer VA Education Benefits.

The following information is intended to provide resources and identify services and assistance available to Florida students affected by the ITT Tech closures. Please know that you are not alone during these trying times. As you will see on the following pages, the school itself, ITT Technical Institute, is providing guidance and is offering information as to where you may acquire your transcripts as well as other pertinent information. The U.S. Department of Education has reached out to public community college and public postsecondary school leaders requesting them to provide assistance to former ITT Technical students. Other resources included in this document include information from the web pages of the Florida Department of Education, the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools and Veterans' Affairs.

Hopefully, the information provided below will help you find the resources that you need to proceed with your education plan. Topics addressed are transcript acquisition, federal student loan forgiveness, transfer of credit, prospective schools to transfer into and information pertinent to veteran beneficiaries. If you require assistance where a resource/contact is not provided to you below, please contact the Florida State Approving Agency for Veterans' Education and Training and we will do our best to locate the individuals who can best address your issues.

ITT Technical Institute Offerings:

Electronic and Campus Transcript Requests and Answers to Questions

Please link to the ITT Tech Portal to request grades, transcripts, etc. <u>https://studentportal.itt-tech.edu/CookieAuth.dll?GetLogon?curl=Z2F&reason=0&formdir=18</u>

Students may email <u>StudentQuestions@itt-tech.edu</u> with questions

ITT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE – Contact Info for Florida Campus Assistance

ITT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	ITT CONTACT
7011 A.C. Skinner Parkway Suite 140 Jacksonville, FL	Don Slayter 904-573-9100
1400 International Parkway Lake Mary, FL 5901 NW 183rd Street Hialeah, FL 3401 South University Drive Fort Lauderdale, FL	Tracey Schoonmaker 407-936-0600 Susan Jenkins 786-629-3800 Edward Tordesillas' 954-476-9300
4809 Memorial Highway Suite 100 Tampa, FL	Sheryl Gunning 813-885-2244
13500 Powers Court Suite 100 Fort Myers, FL	Jeffrey Peterman 239-603-8700
2639 North Monroe Street Building A Tallahassee, FL	Ross Bogash 850-422-6300
1400 International Parkway Suite 100 Lake Mary, FL	Tracey Schoonmaker 407-936-0600
1756 N. Congress Avenue West Palm Beach, FL 6913 North 9th Avenue Pensacola, Fl	Stephanie Wallace 561-233-4900 Cathy Vu Salazar 850-483-5700

<u>Following the closure of the campuses and when the Student Portal is no longer accessible</u>, students may obtain records and other key contact information at <u>www.itt-tech.edu</u> The site will house links to request transcripts, education verification and other information.

Transferring to Another School

Florida ITT Technical Institute Articulation Agreements:

Articulation agreements are formal, written agreements between two educational institutions. They define how courses taken at one school can be used to satisfy academic requirements in a program at another school.

Schools that have entered into articulation agreements with Florida ITT Technical Institutes are listed below. These articulation agreements have specific provisions relating to the transfer and award of academic credit, and may not be applicable for all courses offered. Not all ITT Technical Institutes offer all programs. Please refer to the particular ITT Technical Institute's school catalog for a complete listing of the programs of study offered at that institute. Please contact the following schools for additional information pertaining to a possible transfer of credit.

- 1. American Business & Technology University
- 2. American InterContinental University
- 3. Ashford University
- 4. Colorado Technical University
- 5. Harrison College
- 6. Kaplan University
- 7. National American University
- 8. Southwestern College Professional Studies
- 9. University of Phoenix
- 10. Webster University

Although formal articulation agreements have not been established, local community colleges and public postsecondary institution leaders have been contacted by the U.S. Department of Education and have been requested to assist ITT Technical Students as they review their options for transfer into another institution.

If you do choose to transfer to another institution and if you are a veteran beneficiary, please be sure to verify the institution you are transferring into is approved to administer VA Education Benefits by the State Approving Agency. Following the closure of the school a future resource may also be:

Florida Department of Education https://app2.fldoe.org/publicapps/cie/request.asp

Commission for Independent Education

- Transcript Request
- The Commission for Independent Education (CIE) maintains records for some independent postsecondary educational institutions that have closed. Institutions that are still currently open are required to maintain and service transcript requests. The Commission does not service transcript requests for public or secondary institutions.
- The Commission has some records for closed schools or may have information about where the
 records are maintained. If you go to CIE's website (above) and see that the CIE has records for a
 school that you attended and you would like to see if they can provide you with your transcript,
 please complete the <u>Transcript Request Form</u> (PDF) and submit it to the CIE.

Samuel Ferguson, Executive Director Florida Commission for Independent Education 325 W. Gaines St., Suite 1414 Tallahassee, Florida 32399 850-245-3200 Susan.Hood@fldoe.org www.fldoe.org

Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) – the former accrediting agency of ITT Tech

http://www.acics.org/news/content.asp?id=6769

http://www.acics.org/commission%20actions/content.aspx?id=6729

The Commission and staff of ACICS are committed to doing all they can to assist students who have been impacted by the closures. Websites have been created to help students find information regarding available options to complete their programs of study.

Helpful resources on the Site include:

• **Department of Education's Guide for Closed Schools** This guide is designed to help school administrators help students continue their education. • Discharge of Federal Loans

If your school closes while you're enrolled or soon after you withdraw, you may be eligible for discharge of your federal student loan.

- Guide for Students Facing a School Closure
- Questions about Title IV Federal Student Aid
 Have a question about Title IV federal student aid or one of the services the Department of
 Education provides

Other U.S. Department of Education Information: <u>http://www.ed.gov</u>

Click on Press Releases at bottom of main page for most recent updates such as:

<u>http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/statement-us-under-secretary-education-ted-</u> <u>mitchell-regarding-announced-itt-educational-services-inc-closure-education-department-plan-</u> <u>support-students</u>

http://www2.ed.gov/news/av/audio/2016/09062016.pdf

http://www2.ed.gov/documents/press-releases/itt-letter-to-comm-colleges.pdf

https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/announcements/itt

Important Information Regarding ITT Educational Services, Inc.

On this page you will find information related to the recent oversight and compliance actions imposed against ITT Educational Services and the subsequent closure of <u>ITT Technical Institutes</u>. Featured below is information on how former ITT students can continue their education, apply for closed school loan discharges, retrieve student records, and more.

While officials at ITT Technical Institutes will be contacting students to inform them of their options, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) will be directly contacting via email currently and recently enrolled students to inform them of ITT's closure and the options available to them.

In addition to participating in future meetings to inform ITT students about their options, ED is sponsoring a series of national webinars for all ITT students to share information and address students' questions and concerns. The webinars scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 7, are listed below.

Title: National Webinar for ITT Technical Institute Students Date: Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016 Times: 10 a.m., 12 noon, and 2 p.m. Eastern time

Webinar link: <u>http://fsatraining.acms.com/ittschoolclosureinformation</u> (To participate in the webinar, click on the webinar link, or copy and paste the URL into your browser's address bar.)

Note: The webinar "room" will open 30 minutes prior to the start of the presentation. Once the room opens, participants will see an introductory slide with the technical specifications needed to participate,

information on accommodations for the hearing impaired, and directions for how to ask questions using the online chat feature.

If you want to participate via your mobile device, you'll need to <u>download a mobile app</u> before the webinar.

The webinar will be recorded and archived to this site for future use and reference.

As additional webinars are scheduled, we will post the dates, time and links to this site. Please check back often.

Please go to Studentaid.gov/ITT for transfer fairs, at selected locations, which be held to inform students of their options.

If you have additional questions or need clarification from the U.S. Department of Education, you may email your questions to Press@Ed.gov

GI Bill[®] Beneficiaries (see main Education and Training page for news announcements): <u>http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/index.asp</u>

Veterans' Affairs (VA) employees, in conjunction with employees from your State Approving Agencies (SAA) are committed to assisting the thousands of veteran beneficiaries affected by the closure of the ITT Technical Institutes. With the sudden closing of the ITT Technical Institute schools, you may no longer receive GI Bill Education benefits, including the monthly housing allowance, even if your enrollment at ITT Tech for September and beyond was previously submitted to VA for payment. Prior payments for enrollment during September 2016 and beyond, may now be considered overpayments from VA and if a debt letter is generated to you, you may want to review the debt waiver request process.

To continue to receive VA Education Benefits, including the monthly housing allowance, you would need to transfer to an institution which is already approved to administer VA Education Benefits. Please utilize the GI Bill Comparison Tool on the GI Bill website to assist you in reviewing approved schools and for comparing alternative choices to ITT Tech. As noted above, the U.S. Department of Education has requested assistance from leaders in public postsecondary education facilities to provide information and resources to students affected by the ITT Tech closures.

VA Authority:

The US Department of Veterans' Affairs (USDVA) administers the GI Bill and makes determinations related to Veteran education benefit eligibility and payments. USDVA also regulates entitlement awarded to veterans and performs all calculations. All questions regarding eligibility and payment of GI Bill benefits must be directed to USDVA.

Please note that VA does not have legal authority to restore GI Bill entitlement you have used to attend ITT Technical Institute.

GI Bill beneficiaries, may also contact U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Education Call Center at 1-888-442-4551 or visit the GI Bill website by clicking <u>http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/</u> and click on "Contact Us" and then "Ask a Question" to send an email to VA.

If you need additional assistance, please contact the Florida State Approving Agency for Veterans' Education and Training by calling Paul Smith at (727) 319-7406 or by emailing him at <u>smithpa@fdva.state.fl.us</u> and Paul will make every effort to determine who can best assist you.

"GI Bill[®] is a registered Trade Mark of the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at <u>www.benefits.va.qov/qibill</u>."

The above resources are based on current information available in Florida and are subject to change.