

11. Success with respect to student achievement in relation to mission, including, as appropriate, consideration of course completion, State licensing examination and job placement rates;

12. Acceptable default rates in the student loan programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1061 et seq. based on the most recent data provided by the Secretary, U.S. Department of Education;

13. Resolution of student complaints received by, or available to, the New Jersey Department of Education; and

14. Compliance with the institution's program responsibilities under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1061 et seq., including any results of financial or compliance audits, program reviews, and such other information as the Commissioner may provide to the agency.

(d) Private vocational school owners shall appoint a resident director who is responsible for the total operation of the individual school site.

(e) Private vocational school owners shall report evidence of their business procedures to the Commissioner.

(f) Private school owners, in addition to submitting an application for program approval pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:18-2.2, shall submit an initial application for institutional approval to the Commissioner. The application shall include documentation of the following:

1. A business plan;
2. Audited financial statements;
3. A copy of a certificate of authority or corporate registration to conduct business in the State of New Jersey;
4. A tuition performance bond payable to the Commissioner and in a format designated by the Commissioner in the amount of \$10,000 or 2.5 percent of annual gross income, whichever is greater;
5. A criminal history of the private vocational school owners and resident director(s);
6. A dispute resolution policy;
7. Enrollment agreement;
8. School bulletin;
9. School application for admission; and
10. Advertising materials.

(g) Private school owners shall submit an annual application for renewal of a certificate of approval to operate a private vocational school or correspondence school. The

application shall include documentation current as of the time of application of:

1. Audited financial statements;
2. A tuition performance bond payable to the Commissioner and in a format designated by the Commissioner in the amount of \$10,000 or 2.5 percent of annual gross income, whichever is greater; and
3. Any other modifications to the documentation provided in the original application for institutional approval according to (f) above.

(h) Each private vocational school, within three years of receiving the initial certificate of approval, must apply for accreditation from one of the national accrediting agencies recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and receive accreditation within five years from the date of the initial application for a New Jersey certificate of approval.

(i) Resident directors shall provide to each enrolled student a copy of the:

1. School's bulletin;
2. Student's enrollment agreement;
3. Grievance procedures; and
4. Any information about school policies necessary for the student's successful attendance at the school including, but not limited to, the information specified in (f)5, 6 and 7 above.

(j) Resident directors shall file with the Commissioner any charges for tuition and fees not less than 60 calendar days prior to the effective date.

(k) The private vocational school owner shall adhere to the following refund policy in the event of notification by the student of withdrawal from the school or termination by the school prior to the completion of the course or program:

1. The school may retain all or part of the registration fee.
2. The school may require that all books, equipment and tools purchased from the school and issued to the student be retained by the student. However, the school may refund a portion of the monies paid if the books, equipment and tools are in proper condition for resale.

(l) The private vocational school owner shall calculate refunds of tuition paid in advance or sums due the school where tuition is paid on a weekly, monthly, or semester basis, to which the following shall apply:

1. For courses of 300 hours or less, the school may retain the registration fee plus a pro-rata portion of the tuition calculated on a weekly basis.

2. For full-time attendance in courses exceeding 300 hours in length but not exceeding 1,200 hours, the school may retain the registration fee plus:

- i. Ten percent of the total tuition if withdrawal occurs in the first week;
- ii. Twenty percent of the total tuition if withdrawal occurs in the second or third week;
- iii. Forty-five percent of the total tuition if withdrawal occurs after the third week but prior to the completion of 25 percent of the course;
- iv. Seventy percent of the total tuition if withdrawal occurs after 25 percent but not more than 50 percent of the course has been completed; or
- v. One hundred percent of the total tuition if withdrawal occurs after completion of more than 50 percent of the course.

3. For part-time attendance in courses over 300 hours in length, calculation of the amount the school may retain in addition to the registration fee shall be based on:

- i. Ten percent of the total tuition if withdrawal occurs in the first 25 hours of scheduled attendance;
- ii. Twenty percent of the total tuition if withdrawal occurs between 26 and 75 hours of scheduled attendance; or
- iii. After 75 hours of scheduled attendance, the amount the school retains shall be calculated on the same basis as for full-time attendance.

(1) In cases where other fees have been charged, the refund shall be based upon the extent to which the student has benefited. For example, the graduation fee shall be refunded; the activity fee shall be pro-rated.

(m) Private vocational schools shall accept for enrollment only adult students who demonstrate possession of a high school diploma or a GED or attainment of a passing score on a standardized ability to benefit test recognized by the United States Department of Education.

6A:18-2.5 Appeals process

(a) The Commissioner shall revoke or withhold a certificate of approval or place reasonable conditions upon the continued operation of the school when there exists evidence of these rules being violated.

(b) The Commissioner shall direct the owner of the school prior to the revocation of approval to show cause why such a sanction shall not be imposed in accordance with the procedures established under N.J.A.C. 6:24-3.1.

SUBCHAPTER 3. PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, OUT-OF-STATE PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AND CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

6A:18-3.1 Registration and approval at private vocational schools

(a) The Commissioner shall issue certificates of approval to private vocational schools pursuant to this chapter.

1. Private vocational schools, out-of-State private vocational schools and correspondence schools shall submit an application for a certificate of approval to operate in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:18-2.2, 2.3 and 2.4.

2. Private vocational schools, out-of-State private vocational schools, or correspondence schools shall register annually with the Commissioner for the purposes of delivering training programs as approved providers in the workforce readiness system as prescribed in N.J.S.A. 18A:69-2 and 18A:69-6.1.

3. Private vocational schools, out-of-State private vocational schools, and correspondence schools shall pay registration and renewal fees as prescribed by N.J.S.A. 18A:69-3 and 6.3.

4. Marketing representatives of out-of-State private vocational schools or correspondence schools shall register with the Commissioner and shall pay an annual fee according to N.J.S.A. 18A:69-6.1.

5. Private vocational schools, out-of-State private vocational schools, or correspondence schools shall furnish information and/or reports to the Commissioner as prescribed by N.J.S.A. 18A:69-4, 5 and 6.1.

6. Private vocational schools, out-of-State private vocational schools and correspondence schools shall apply for national accreditation as prescribed in N.J.A.C. 6A:18-2.4(h) prior to submission of the third annual renewal application by including a letter from a nationally recognized accreditation commission confirming application status in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:18-2.4(h).