



PRESS RELEASE

Attorney General Frosh Announces Former Corinthian College Students Are Eligible for Federal Student Loan Cancellation

BALTIMORE, MD (April 12, 2017) – Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh today announced that his office, joined by at least forty-three other state attorneys general and the District of Columbia, is reaching out to notify Maryland consumers who attended schools operated by Corinthian Colleges, Inc., including Everest Institute, Everest College, Everest University, Heald College, and Wyotech, that they are eligible for cancellation of their federal student loans used to attend those schools.

Approximately, 1,900 Maryland residents are eligible for federal student loan cancellation and will receive a communication explaining the relief available and enclosing a short application that must be filed with the U.S. Department of Education. If a student’s federal loan is cancelled, the student will make no more payments on the loan, and any payments already made will be refunded.

After intense scrutiny by various government entities, for-profit Corinthian Colleges abruptly ceased operations in 2015, transferring some of its campuses to a non-profit called Zenith Education Group. The U.S. Department of Education then found that while it was operating, Corinthian Colleges made widespread misrepresentations between 2010 and 2014 about post-graduation employment rates at certain campus locations across the nation.

Lists of the affected campuses, programs, and dates of enrollment are available [here](#) and [here](#). Students who first enrolled in the identified campuses and programs during the specified time periods are eligible for streamlined discharge of their federal student loans.

“Students who were tricked into attending Corinthian Colleges based on fabricated statistics and the promise of a well-paying job should not be burdened by lifelong student debt,” said Attorney General Frosh. “Our office will continue to fight for students who are victims of predatory institutions like Corinthian Colleges.”

The Attorney General’s outreach will be sent to students who fall within the U.S. Department of Education’s findings of fraud, and who are eligible for a special “streamlined” process to discharge their federal student loans. However, *any* student who attended Corinthian Colleges and believes that the school lied about job prospects, the transferability of credits, or other issues may apply to have their federal student loans canceled using the Department of Education’s

application for borrower defense to loan repayment. Information about borrower defense can be found here: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/borrower-defense>

Borrowers should beware of student loan scams. You can apply for loan forgiveness, or get information on loan forgiveness, for **FREE** through the U.S. Department of Education. The U.S. Department of Education never charges application or maintenance fees, so if you're asked to pay, walk away.

It may take time for the U.S. Dept. of Education to process applications, so anyone who applies for loan discharge should continue making payments on the affected loans until informed by the U.S. Department of Education or their loan servicer that their federal loans are in forbearance while an application is pending or that their loans have been canceled. More information about the Office's outreach to former students of Corinthian Colleges can be found at www.corinthianoutreach.com. Students can also call the U.S. Department of Education hotline at 1-855-279-6207 or e-mail questions about discharge of their federal student loans to FSAOperations@ed.gov.

Earlier this year, Attorney General Frosh joined 17 other Attorneys General in sending a letter to the U.S. Department of Education and Congressional leaders expressing continued support of federal protections for students and taxpayers against the worst actors in the for-profit school industry. The letter was a follow-up to the U.S. Department of Education after Attorney General Frosh and other state attorneys general, in 2015, urged the U.S. Department of Education to provide debt relief to students harmed by for-profit schools. In addition, Attorney General Frosh helped obtain nearly \$1.4 million in loan forgiveness for nearly 1,000 Maryland students who attended schools operated by the Education Management Corporation.

In making today's announcement, Attorney General Frosh thanked Assistant Attorney General Christopher J. Madaio for his work on this outreach.