

Arkansas State Board of Private Career Education

Board Members



Josh Blevins
Little Rock, AR

Doug Carter – Vice Chair
Malvern, AR

Chris Comer – Chair
Magnolia, AR

Staci Croom – Raley
Maumelle, AR

Mary Harris
Little Rock, AR

Danny Knight
Sherwood, AR

Dr. Ann Thomas
Vilonia, AR

*Visit our website for
more information.*

www.sbpce.org



Who are they?

*Consumer protection
for students that
enroll in private
post-secondary
career schools.*



MISSION: The Arkansas State Board of Private Career Education (SBPCE) was established to provide consumer protection for Arkansas residents by licensing and monitoring organizations that offer training that leads to or enhances a career or occupational qualifications. The Board's authority extends to organizations that offer education in Arkansas or that recruit students to attend a school located in another state.

Board Staff

SBPCE

501 Woodlane, Suite 312 South
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
Phone: 501.683.8000
Fax: 501.683.8050
Email: sbpce@arkansas.gov

Brenda Germann, Director
Sara Hill
Joyce Wilkerson
Betty Mitchell



SBPCE

501 Woodlane, Suite 312 South
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

The Board was established in 1989 with responsibilities and authority as set forth in Arkansas Code Annotated 6-51-601 et. seq. The Governor appointed Board consists of seven members; four (4) members from the general public and three (3) members from the private career education industry, as well as ex officio members representing the Department of Higher Education and Career Education.

Currently 213 schools and 111 admissions representatives are licensed. The original licensure process and continued monitoring includes review and approval of items such as facilities, equipment, instructor qualifications, financial stability, advertising practices, record maintenance, transcripts, placement records, catalogs, program content and goals, processing student complaints, etc. and school visits. Review of student complaints can include the convening of the SBPCE Arbitration Panel, if requested by either the student or school.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A SCHOOL CEASES TO OPERATE?

When a school ceases to operate and students are enrolled, it is the responsibility of the SBPCE Director to attempt to place each student of the school in another private career school. When a school closes, the Board receives the academic transcripts that are then scanned, maintained and serviced. Financial aid records from closed schools are maintained for one (1) to three (3) years depending on the type of school. We currently have over 56,000 student transcripts available from closed schools.

WHAT IS THE STUDENT PROTECTION FUND?

The Student Protection Trust Fund (SPF) is funded by an annual assessment to each licensed school. On May 30, 2004 for the first time since the establishment of the Board the SPF had a balance in excess of \$500,000. Schools originally licensed anytime during 1989-1991 and maintained their licensure for

fifteen (15) years will not be assessed additional fees unless the fund has a balance of less than \$500,000 on May 30 of any year. Schools that were not licensed in 1989 will continue to be assessed the fee until they have paid into the fund for fifteen (15) years.

The primary purpose of the SPF is to cover the expenses associated with providing the remaining education, known as a teach out, to students enrolled in a closed school or to pay claims filed by students when a teach out cannot be arranged.



**SBPCE is here to serve
and protect...**

Give us a call.

501.683.8000