

917 Lakeridge Way Southwest Olympia, Washington 98502 360.753.7800 wsac.wa.gov

ITT Tech's Washington campuses no longer eligible for state financial aid programs

Olympia—On Friday Aug. 26, the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) did not renew ITT Tech's (ITT) eligibility to receive state financial aid. This decision follows an Aug. 25 announcement by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) that ITT may no longer enroll students who pay with federal financial aid.

In 2016-17, ITT can no longer disburse state financial aid to students. This includes aid from programs like the State Need Grant and College Bound Scholarship.

ITT has campuses in Spokane Valley, Everett and Seattle. The majority of ITT students are recipients of either state or federal financial aid. ED estimates that over 90 percent of ITT students receive federal financial aid. And in 2015-16, almost 480 ITT students in Washington State—more than half—received State Need Grant.

WSAC oversees ITT for eligibility in state financial aid and degree authorization. In that capacity, WSAC will notify ITT state aid recipients of the suspension.

WSAC also partners with the state's Workforce Board to approve schools for federal GI Bill funds. Over 200 ITT students used federal veterans' education benefits in Washington. WSAC has requested more information from ITT to review its status for degree authorization and GI Bill funds.

ITT students who have questions about state financial aid can email finaid@wsac.wa.gov or call 888-535-0747 and select option 4. Federal guidance for ITT students is provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and ED. On Thursday Aug. 25, ED published a news release and a blog post for students. The VA issued a news release.

############

Contact:

Emily Persky (<u>media@wsac.wa.gov</u>) Communications Program Manager 360-753-7817

About the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC)

The Washington Student Achievement Council is committed to increasing educational opportunities and attainment in Washington. The Council has three main functions:

- 1. Lead statewide strategic planning to increase educational attainment.
- 2. Administer programs that help people access and pay for college.
- 3. Advocate for the economic, social, and civic benefits of higher education.

The Council has <u>nine members</u>. Four members represent each of Washington's major education sectors: four-year public baccalaureates, four-year private colleges, public community and technical colleges, and K-12 public schools. Five are citizen members, including one current student.

Find us online at www.wsac.wa.gov, on Twitter @WSACouncil, and on Facebook.