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**NOTICE: State Authorization for Purposes of Federal Financial Aid  
June 17, 2013**

On July 1, 2011, new federal minimum requirements went into effect concerning “state authorization” of post-secondary institutions whose students may be eligible to receive federal financial aid. These requirements were codified in regulation at 34 CFR 600.9. Enforcement of these regulations was stayed until July 1, 2013 to allow states and institutions time to comply.

The Division of Professional Licensure (DPL) sought guidance from the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) to ensure that eligible private occupational schools in Massachusetts have state authorization that complies with the regulations. **The USDE has advised DPL that private occupational schools licensed under M.G.L. c. 112, § 263 meet the state authorization requirements of 34 CFR 600.9.**

The USDE recommends that schools include a statement similar to the following when applying for recertification under 20 U.S.C. § 1099c para. (g) and 34 CFR 668.13(b)(2):

*M.G.L. c. 112, § 263, the governing statute for private occupational schools in Massachusetts, provides the Division of Professional Licensure with state authorization powers that meet the requirements of 34 CFR 600.9.*

Please be advised that while enforcement of the regulation takes effect on July 1, 2013, individual schools will not have to provide this statement to USDE until their recertification is due.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rachael Phinney, Board Counsel, at 617-727-9715.

