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**NOTICE: Division of Professional Licensure Announces Refund Procedures for Students  
at Three Closed Private Occupational Schools**

The Division of Professional Licensure (DPL) today announced tuition refund procedures for students at three closed private occupational schools:

**Horizon Learning Connection, Mattapan:** Horizon Learning Connection, a for-profit private professional and occupational training school based in Mattapan, closed on February 20, 2014. Prior to its closure, the school offered training to students pursuing careers as home health aides, nursing assistants, phlebotomy technicians, electrocardiogram technicians, and patient care technicians.

**Easter Seals Massachusetts, Boston & Worcester:** Easter Seals Massachusetts, a non-profit organization that offered employment and training services, closed its Boston and Worcester training locations on February 4, 2014. Prior to its closure, the school offered programs to disabled adults, helping them to assess their interests, skills and knowledge that would be applicable to the workplace. These programs included an accelerated career program, comprehensive office administration training, and certificates in project management and customer service.

**Kaplan Career Institute, Charlestown:** Kaplan Career Institute - Charlestown, a for-profit private career trade school closed on December 15, 2013. Prior to its closure, the school offered training to students pursuing careers as R-HVAC technicians, electricians, computer support technicians, medical assistants, and dental assistants. The school also offered professional training related to medical billing and coding, as well as CPR training.

DPL staff has been working closely with representatives from each of the schools to ensure an orderly closure and to provide students with “teach out” options, enabling them to complete any outstanding coursework or program requirements at another DPL-approved institution. In addition to these efforts, DPL has also established a claims process for students who believe they are eligible for a refund. Eligible students include:

- Students who did not complete their coursework or program of study through the school; and,
- Students who were denied a discharge of their private student loan(s); or
- Students who paid for products or materials from the school (for example, books, equipment, etc.), but did not receive them.



Students wishing to file a claim are encouraged to consult the relevant school closure bulletin available on DPL's [Closed School Bulletin](#) webpage, to check whether they are eligible. After determining their eligibility, students should contact DPL by phone at (617) 727-5811 to request a claim form. Priority will be given to claims for tuition refunds, followed by claims for reimbursement of other costs paid to each school.

All claims must be received **BEFORE** 5:00 pm EST on **Friday, April 18, 2014**. DPL will then evaluate the claims and notify eligible students about the determination of their claim. Claims will be paid from a surety established by each school as a prerequisite for licensure.

DPL gained oversight of private occupational schools and their sales representatives in August 2012 from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Currently, there are 170 occupational schools licensed to operate at approximately 245 locations in Massachusetts.

DPL is a regulatory agency within the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation, responsible for ensuring regulatory compliance and the integrity of the licensing process for more than 370,000 licensees in trades and professions under the jurisdiction of 31 boards of registration. DPL also licenses and regulates occupational schools. For more information, or to file a complaint against a private occupational school, visit [www.mass.gov/dpl/schools](http://www.mass.gov/dpl/schools).

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