

National Student Clearinghouse 13454 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 300 Herndon, Virginia 20171

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## About the National Student Clearinghouse

The National Student Clearinghouse is the nation's trusted source for student degree, diploma and enrollment verification. A non-profit organization established by the higher education community in 1993, the Clearinghouse serves as a central repository and single point of contact for the collection and timely exchange of accurate, comprehensive enrollment, degree, diploma, and certificate records on behalf of participating post-secondary and secondary institutions.

The Clearinghouse serves the nation's educational community by:

- Maintaining an electronic registry containing 80 million student records, more than any other single source
- Providing secure and accurate online verifications to more than 10,000 verifying entities each year, including most major employers, student service providers, insurance companies, credit issuers, the U.S. Department of Education, and others
- Performing over 100 million electronic student record verifications annually

More than 2,900 colleges, enrolling 91% of US college students, and scores of high school districts nationwide have partnered with the Clearinghouse and participate in our programs including:

- **Core Service:** The Clearinghouse provides enrollment status and deferment information for financial aid students on behalf of its member institutions to guaranty agencies, lenders, servicers and the Department of Education. Participating in our Core Service allows institutions to automate their deferment and enrollment processing, ensuring greater reporting accuracy and reduced loan default rates. All state and national guarantors and most lenders and servicers participate in the Clearinghouse.
- EnrollmentVerify: Every day, thousands of firms must verify student enrollment status: health insurers, employers, credit grantors, housing providers and companies that provide services and discounts to students. Through EnrollmentVerify, the Clearinghouse processes all the enrollment verification inquiries received by participating colleges and universities using the information that they already provide to us.
- **DegreeVerify:** On average, each college and university completes 1,000 degree verifications per year for every 5,000 enrolled students. Participating in DegreeVerify frees schools from the administrative burden of verifying degrees for employers, background search firms and recruiters. Institutions regularly provide the Clearinghouse with updated degree data and refer all degree verification requests to our Web site. Commercial verifiers can instantly confirm degrees online, providing them with an easy, fast and inexpensive way to validate educational records and combat credentials fraud.
- **StudentTracker:** By subscribing to our educational research service, StudentTracker, schools and educational authorities and organizations can query our database of 80 million post-secondary enrollment and degree records. This provides them with factual information on enrollment and graduation patterns nationwide, enabling them to evaluate student acquisition and retention efforts,

assess the effectiveness of educational policies and programs, track placement into four-year institutions and graduate schools, and perform other educational research studies. **StudentTracker for Outreach Programs** helps measure the college success of outreach program participants.

- **Transcript Ordering:** Our online transcript ordering service provides colleges and universities with a simple way to enable their students and alumni to order official transcripts via the Web at anytime, 24/7. All transcript ordering steps are fully automated, speeding delivery of transcripts to requestors and eliminating the cost and time involved in processing requests for institutions.
- Student Self-Service: Institutions that participate in DegreeVerify and EnrollmentVerify are eligible to join our Student Self-Service program, which allows students to view their enrollment histories, print enrollment certificates and more via the Web at no charge.
- StudentTracker for High Schools: The Clearinghouse offers its educational research and verification services to high schools through our StudentTracker program. StudentTracker enables high school educators to bridge the knowledge gap between their efforts to prepare their students for college and their graduates' actual college success. Administrators at high schools and district offices can access the Clearinghouse's database to obtain accurate information on the college attendance, persistence and degree attainments of their graduates anywhere in the US. Using this information, high schools are able to measure the effectiveness of their college preparation efforts and introduce improvements to ensure a more successful transition to college for their students.

As part of the program, high schools also outsource verification of their graduates' high school diplomas to the Clearinghouse, allowing them to realize the same time and cost saving benefits enjoyed by the nation's colleges and universities.

All of our programs are designed to reduce the administrative burden of providing educational record verification that is faced by educational institutions, while maintaining the confidentiality and privacy of records in our care in full compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The Clearinghouse's 14-year track record of providing automated student enrollment and degree verifications has made it the education community's most trusted partner for outsourced verification services and more. For more information, visit <u>www.studentclearinghouse.org</u>.