

News Release

Office of Higher Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: [Connie Fraser](#) (860)947-1801 Work
(860)986-3508 Cell

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Three Information Sessions Scheduled in Hartford, New Haven & Bridgeport for Displaced Butler/Sawyer School Students

HARTFORD, January 30, 2013 – The Office of Higher Education will conduct three Information Sessions for students impacted by the sudden closures of the Butler Business School in Bridgeport, and the Sawyer Schools in Hartford and Hamden. Each session will be held from 10:00 am. to 5:00 pm. as follows:

- Monday, February 4 – **61 Woodland Street, Room B39**, Hartford. Participants should park in the back of the building, and enter on either side of the building.
- Thursday, February 7 – **Gateway Community College**, Room N100, New Haven. Participants should park in the Temple Street Garage and bring their parking ticket into the building for validation.
- Friday, February 8 – **Housatonic Community College**, Events Center Beacon Hall 214, Bridgeport. Click [here](#) for parking information; participants will not need a parking pass on the day of the event as the garage attendants will be aware of this event.

Former students need to bring a photo ID and if they have one, their federal PIN Number. All must report to the Security Station at each location. Staff from the Office of Higher Education will be available to greet students, help with sign-in, and provide guidance to resource tables. In addition to agency staff, U.S. Department of Education officials, transfer school representatives, other career schools and colleges will be available to respond to questions about student transcripts, transfer and other training options, completing externships, obtaining medical assisting certification, GED Information, tuition reimbursement, loan forgiveness and financial aid. Students will be able to obtain copies of their transcripts, and applications for tuition reimbursement and federal financial aid loan discharge at each location.

Participating career schools include Branford Hall Career Institute; Fox Institute of Business, Inc. d/b/a American Institute; Lincoln Technical Institute; Stone Academy; Porter & Chester Institute; and Ridley-Lowell, all of which have matched their curriculum to coursework provided formerly by the Butler and Sawyer Schools. College participants include Gateway Community College, Housatonic Community College and Central Connecticut State University among others.

“We are very grateful to all of the participating schools and colleges for so quickly stepping up to the plate to help these students,” stated Jane A. Ciarleglio, Executive Director of the Office of Higher Education. “From the U.S. Department of Education, to the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Universities, to the Association of Connecticut Career Schools, and the Board of Regents for Higher Education among others -- all have pulled together to map out workable options for these students and to provide resources for helping them put their education and careers back together. The Information Sessions will present all available options at each site so that students will have convenient access to transcripts, counseling and information on financial aid and training options.”

To date, 481 individuals have registered at www.ctohe.org to receive electronic updates on how to complete their studies; the vast majority of registrants were enrolled at the time of the schools’ abrupt closures. A roster obtained by the Office of Higher Education from the schools’ files shows 355 active students enrolled across

the three schools: 137 at Butler School in Bridgeport, 97 at the Sawyer School in Hamden, and 121 at the Sawyer School in Hartford. Within the past two weeks, the Office of Higher Education has sent copies of student transcripts to 88 former Butler and Sawyer School students who have requested them, and made arrangements with the National Healthcareer Association (NHA) for enrolled phlebotomy students to take their certification exams this past Saturday, January 26. These students are now finished with their studies. In addition, the Office is continuing to issue Certificates of Completion to students who completed their graduation requirements at the Butler and Sawyer Schools prior to the sudden closures.

For those who have not done so, the Office of Higher Education encourages students impacted by the school closures to register on its website at www.ctohe.org, or to contact its Education & Employment Information Center at 1(800)842-0229 or edinfo@ctohe.org.

* * * * *