

Board of Governors for Higher Education
Department of Higher Education
State of Connecticut



Higher Education Department Reaches Out to Galen Students

Urges Displaced Students to Register for Refunds and Training Options

HARTFORD, Dec. 15 — Students whose studies have been interrupted by the sudden closure of Galen Institute are urged to register with the Connecticut Department of Higher Education to obtain applications for tuition refunds, copies of their transcripts and information on finishing their massage therapy training.

Students may register on the Department's website — www.ctdhe.org — or call the Department's toll-free Education & Employment Information Center Hotline at **1/800-842-0229**.

Galen Institute, a private occupational school with campuses in Wethersfield, Willimantic, Stamford and New London, closed all branches abruptly on October 31st. Galen indicated that some 95 students may seek tuition refunds as a result of its closing, but the Department believes numbers may be higher based on recent enrollments (164 in 2003-04) and requests already received.

All eligible students from Connecticut and outside the state may apply for tuition refunds. To be eligible, the Department requires documentation of student enrollment and previous payments. Most student files transferred from Galen to the Department contain these materials; the Department will work with students whose files may be incomplete.

Tuition refunds will be paid from the State's Student Protection Account which is supported with fees paid by the state's 69 private occupational schools. The Department estimates the \$2.7 million in this account will be sufficient to cover reimbursements for Galen students.

In addition to helping students obtain refunds, the Department has made arrangements with the state's three other private occupational schools which offer massage therapy to take in displaced Galen students. The Department also is meeting with other state and national officials to help students who have graduated or who were nearing the end of their studies to prepare for exams and gain licensure as massage therapists in Connecticut.

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