



STATEMENT OF PAULINE ABERNATHY
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Statement on Education Department Actions to Provide Relief for Corinthian Students

“Today’s [announcement](#) is good news for thousands of former students of Corinthian Colleges. The Department appropriately extended the timeframe for closed-school discharges back to June 2014 and created a dedicated hotline for former Corinthian students, as [urged](#) by a broad coalition including TICAS.

“We praise the Department for recognizing the need for relief for students defrauded by Corinthian and other unscrupulous schools, and for committing to create a fair, clear, and efficient loan discharge process, including ‘debt relief to groups of students.’ Unfortunately, under the process announced today, all students will still need to apply for relief individually, although Heald students will have a much simpler process.

“Where there is a federal or state finding of fraud or deception, such as at the [Heald](#) campuses and the Georgia, West Virginia, and Minnesota [Everest](#) campuses where the Department found widespread misrepresentation, students should be granted automatic group discharges. And the process for other students should be further streamlined so they don’t need to hire a lawyer to fill out the required forms.

“We urge the Department to complete its investigation of other Corinthian campuses so defrauded students who attended them can more easily receive discharges, and to quickly develop and implement a comprehensive outreach plan so that all former Corinthian students know about the relief available to them.”

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An independent, nonprofit organization, The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS) works to make higher education more available and affordable for people of all backgrounds. Our Project on Student Debt works to increase public understanding of rising student debt and the implications for our families, economy, and society. For more information see www.ticas.org and follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/TICAS_org.