

**Staff Report and Recommendation for
Johnson and Wales University**

Background

Johnson and Wales University (Johnson and Wales), an existing licensee in good standing, is a private, not-for-profit institution with a main campus located in Providence, Rhode Island and a large residential campus located in Charlotte. Johnson and Wales is regionally accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education and seeks licensure to expand its program offerings to include a Bachelor of Science in Public Health, a Bachelor of Science in Health Science, a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, a Bachelor of Arts in Economics, a Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and a Master of Science in Addiction Counseling. Each of these programs are offered on other Johnson and Wales campuses. Acting under authority delegated to her by the Board and the president, Dr. Kimberly van Noort issued Johnson and Wales a license to offer these programs on April 20, 2020.

Bachelor of Science in Public Health and Bachelor of Science in Health Science

Staff Recommendation: Approval
Program Site: Charlotte, NC
Projected start date: Fall 2020
Projected enrollment: 5-10 per program

The reviewer for these programs wrote a largely favorable report that required the institution to provide clarification regarding faculty credentials and certain course content. Johnson and Wales responded adequately to the report.

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Staff Recommendation: Approval
Program Site: Charlotte, NC
Projected start date: Fall 2020
Projected enrollment: 5-10

The reviewer for this program made several findings regarding the clinical component of this program, including how sites will be located and evaluated, what responsibility the student has for locating a site and how that expectation will be communicated to the student, and what steps Johnson and Wales has undertaken to ensure it will be able to offer its students an adequate number of sites. The reviewer also made findings regarding the adequacy of the proposed number of faculty teaching in the program. Johnson and Wales responded adequately to the report.

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Staff Recommendation: Approval
Program Site: Charlotte, NC
Projected start date: Fall 2021
Projected enrollment: 5-10

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The reviewer for this program wrote a largely favorable report that required the institution to provide clarification regarding which faculty who would be teaching in the program and their credentials. Johnson and Wales responded adequately to the report.

Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Master of Science in Addiction Counseling

Staff Recommendation: Approval

Program Site: Charlotte, NC

Projected start date: Fall 2020

Projected enrollment: 5-10 per program

The reviewer for this program made several findings regarding status of the programmatic accreditation for these program and the ability of the programs' graduates to become licensed in North Carolina. The reviewer also made findings regarding the adequacy of the proposed number of faculty teaching in the program. Johnson and Wales responded adequately to the report.

Institutional Metrics and Consumer Protection Information

Metric			
8-year outcomes ⁱ	Graduated	59%	
	Transferred Out	20%	
	Withdrew	21%	
Employment Placement Rate ⁱⁱ	Does not report – not required by accreditor		
Federal Financial Composite Score (3.0 is highest, -1.0 is lowest) ⁱⁱⁱ	2018	2017	2016
	2.9	3.0	2.4
Three-year cohort default rate ^{iv}	Class of 2016	Class of 2015	Class of 2014
	7.0	6.9	7.7

State authorization staff did not receive any complaints regarding Johnson and Wales in the 2018-2019 academic year.

Recommendation

Ratify the license Dr. van Noort issued to Johnson and Wales (OPEID 00340410) to offer Bachelor of Science in Public Health, a Bachelor of Science in Health Science, a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, a Bachelor of Arts in Economics, a Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and a Master of Science in Addiction Counseling.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, this is data reported by the institution to the U.S. Department of Education, and includes both full and part time students and first-time and transfer-in students.

² Unless otherwise noted, this data is reported by the institution to its accreditor according to its accreditor's standards and definitions. It is the most recent data available for the program under consideration.

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³This is a general measure of the institution's financial solvency. A score of 1.5 or greater means the institution does not face additional federal restrictions on operating because of financial solvency concerns. Charlotte campus only.

⁴ Three-year cohort default rate ("CDR") is the percentage of graduates who borrowed federal loans and who defaulted on those loans within three years of graduating. For example, a CDR for a cohort graduating in 2015 can be calculated three years later, in 2018. Charlotte campus only.

**Staff Report and Recommendation for
Northcentral University**

Background

Northcentral University (Northcentral), located in Scottsdale, Arizona, is a regionally accredited not-for-profit university and is an existing licensee in good standing. Northcentral seeks to expand program offerings in North Carolina to include a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology and a Doctor of Nursing Practice in Executive Leadership. Northcentral anticipates its students only performing clinical rotations and externships for these programs, and the university does not have any current plans to establish a brick-and-mortar presence in North Carolina. Staff most recently conducted a site visit on February 13, 2019.

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Staff Recommendation: Approval
Program Site: Various clinical sites
Projected start date: Upon licensure
Projected enrollment: Fewer than five

The reviewer for this program made findings, which included questions regarding the course syllabi, disclosure to students and prospective students that the programs are not designed to lead and do not lead to professional licensure, procedures for identifying appropriate clinical sites in North Carolina, and faculty qualifications. Northcentral adequately responded to each finding.

Doctor of Nursing Practice in Executive Leadership

Staff Recommendation: Approval
Program Site: Various clinical sites
Projected start date: Upon licensure
Projected enrollment: Fewer than five

The findings for this program included mandating that Northcentral disclose to prospective North Carolina students that the program is in programmatic accreditation candidacy status, that the program justify the recency of some of its instructional materials, and that the program justify the qualifications of some members of its faculty. Northcentral adequately responded to each finding.

Institutional Metrics and Consumer Protection Information

Metric			
8-year outcomes ⁱ	Graduated	35%	
	Transferred Out	34%	
	Withdrew	30%	
Employment Placement Rate ⁱⁱ	Does not report – not required by accreditor		
Federal Financial Composite Score (3.0 is highest, -1.0 is lowest) ⁱⁱⁱ	2018	2017	2016
	0.2	0.2	0.2
Three-year cohort default rate ^{iv}	Class of 2016	Class of 2015	Class of 2014
	5.4	5.3	5.6

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State authorization staff did not receive any complaints regarding Northcentral in the 2018-2019 academic year.

Recommendation

License Northcentral University (OPEID 03813300) to offer a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology and a Doctor of Nursing Practice in Executive Leadership.

ⁱ Unless otherwise noted, this is data reported by the institution to the U.S. Department of Education, and includes both full and part time students and first-time and transfer-in students.

ⁱⁱ Unless otherwise noted, this data is reported by the institution to its accreditor according to its accreditor's standards and definitions. It is the most recent data available for the program under consideration.

ⁱⁱⁱ This is a general measure of the institution's financial solvency. A score of 1.5 or greater means the institution does not face additional federal restrictions on operating because of financial solvency concerns.

^{iv} Three-year cohort default rate ("CDR") is the percentage of graduates who borrowed federal loans and who defaulted on those loans within three years of graduating. For example, a CDR for a cohort graduating in 2015 can be calculated three years later, in 2018.

**Staff Report and Recommendation for
St. Andrews University/Webber International University**

Background

St. Andrews University/Webber International University (OPEID 00154000) (St. Andrews), located in Laurinburg, is an existing licensee in good standing. St. Andrews is a branch of Webber International University (Webber), located in Babson Park, Florida, and is a member of the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU). St. Andrews is subject to licensure by the Board for all programs initiated after its 2011 merger with Webber. The institution is regionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and seeks authorization to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Staff Recommendation: Approval
Program Site: Laurinburg, NC Projected
Start date: Fall 2020 Projected
Enrollment: 20

Staff conducted a site visit to St. Andrews in October 2019 and assessed its institution-wide compliance with the Board's standards for licensure and determined that the institution met those standards. Because this program leads to professional licensure in nursing, the North Carolina Board of Nursing must also authorize it. After their own site visit and review, the Board of Nursing authorized the program, contingent on the Board of Governor's approval, in May 2020.

Institutional Metrics and Consumer Protection Information

Metric			
8-year outcomes ⁱ	Graduated	32%	
	Transferred Out	36%	
	Withdrew	32%	
Employment Placement Rate ⁱⁱ	90.4%		
Federal Financial Composite Score (3.0 is highest, -1.0 is lowest) (Webber) ⁱⁱⁱ	2017	2016	2015
	1.6	2.1	2.6
Three-year cohort default rate (Webber) ^{iv}	Class of 2016	Class of 2015	Class of 2014
	8.3	13.9	17.4

State authorization staff did not receive any complaints regarding St. Andrews in the 2018-2019 academic year.

Recommendation

Issue St. Andrews (OPEID 00154000) a license to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

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ⁱ Unless otherwise noted, this is data reported by the institution to the U.S. Department of Education, and includes both full and part time students and first-time and transfer-in students.

ⁱⁱ This data is reported pursuant to the state of Florida's standards, which is where Webber International University is based. "Employed" means all graduates who, six months after graduation, are employed full- or part-time, or who are pursuing an advanced degree, or who are serving the nation in the military, Peace Corps, etc.

ⁱⁱⁱ This is a general measure of the institution's financial solvency. A score of 1.5 or greater means the institution does not face additional federal restrictions on operating because of financial solvency concerns.

^{iv} Three-year cohort default rate ("CDR") is the percentage of graduates who borrowed federal loans and who defaulted on those loans within three years of graduating. For example, a CDR for a cohort graduating in 2015 can be calculated three years later, in 2018.

**Staff Report and Recommendation for
SKEMA Business School**

Background

SKEMA Business School (SKEMA), an existing licensee in good standing, is a private French institution with a campus in Raleigh on NC State University's Centennial Campus. It is not accredited by an American regional accreditor, but it is a member of similar French organizations and AACSB—The International Association for Management Education. SKEMA seeks to expand its programs by offering a Master of International Marketing and Business Development degree.

Master of International Marketing and Business Development

Staff Recommendation: Approval

Program Site: Raleigh, NC

Projected start date: Fall 2020 Projected enrollment: 15

This proposed program is already offered at other SKEMA campuses, and the program's learning objectives and curriculum are similar to the programs the Board already licenses. The reviewer for these programs wrote a favorable report focusing on the institution's compliance with faculty and program of study licensure requirements.

Institutional Metrics and Consumer Protection Information

Metric			
8-year outcomes	SKEMA does not participate in FSA funding and does not report 8-year rates. Its most recent self-reported retention rates for its currently-licensed programs are 100%.		
Employment Placement Rate	97% (self-reported in 2019 annual report)		
Federal Financial Composite Score (3.0 is highest, -1.0 is lowest)	Does not participate in FSA funding and does not report. Last independent System Office review of finances conducted in 2019.		
Three-year cohort default rate	Class of 2016	Class of 2015	Class of 2014
	No FSA funding/does not report		

State authorization staff did not receive any complaints regarding SKEMA in the 2018-2019 academic year.

Recommendation

Issue SKEMA a license to offer a Master of International Marketing and Business Development degree.

**Staff Report and Recommendation for
The University of Southern California**

Background

The University of Southern California (USC), an existing licensee in good standing, seeks approval to offer a Master's of Education in School Counseling and a Master of Science in Nutrition, Healthspan, and Longevity in North Carolina. USC seeks to offer clinical placements for these programs and has no current plans to establish a brick-and-mortar presence in the state. USC is regionally accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Master's of Education in School Counseling

Staff Recommendation: Approval
Program Site: Various clinical sites in NC
Projected start date: Upon Licensure
Projected enrollment: 5-10

USC's hybrid Master's of Education in School Counseling program is offered nationwide exclusively in a hybrid format. The reviewer for this program praised most aspects of the program while making findings regarding faculty qualifications, the manner in which clinical sites are selected and evaluated, guidelines for transferring in academic credit, and the ability of graduates to become licensed school counselors in North Carolina. USC thoroughly responded to the findings.

Master of Science in Nutrition, Healthspan, and Longevity

Staff Recommendation: Approval
Program Site: Various clinical sites in NC
Projected start date: Upon Licensure
Projected enrollment: Fewer than five

USC's hybrid Master of Science in Nutrition, Healthspan, and Longevity program combines elements of programs in gerontology and nutrition and is designed for those who want to pursue a career in nutrition and dietetics. It is programmatically accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics.

Institutional Metrics and Consumer Protection Information

Metric			
8-year outcomes ⁱ	Graduated	92%	
	Transferred Out	5%	
	Withdrew	3%	
Employment Placement Rate ⁱⁱ	Does not report – not required by accreditor		
Federal Financial Composite Score (3.0 is highest, -1.0 is lowest) ⁱⁱⁱ	2018	2017	2016
	2.9	3.0	3.0
Three-year cohort default rate ^{iv}	Class of 2016	Class of 2015	Class of 2014
	1.6	1.8	2.0

State authorization staff did not receive any complaints regarding USC in the 2018-2019 academic year.

Recommendation

License USC (OPEID 00132800) to offer a Master's of Education in School Counseling and a Master of Science in Nutrition, Healthspan, and Longevity.

ⁱ Unless otherwise noted, this is data reported by the institution to the U.S. Department of Education, and includes both full and part time students and first-time and transfer-in students.

ⁱⁱ Unless otherwise noted, this data is reported by the institution to its accreditor according to its accreditor's standards and definitions. It is the most recent data available for the program under consideration.

ⁱⁱⁱ This is a general measure of the institution's financial solvency. A score of 1.5 or greater means the institution does not face additional federal restrictions on operating because of financial solvency concerns.

^{iv} Three-year cohort default rate ("CDR") is the percentage of graduates who borrowed federal loans and who defaulted on those loans within three years of graduating. For example, a CDR for a cohort graduating in 2015 can be calculated three years later, in 2018.

**Staff Report and Recommendation for
Walden University**

Background

Walden University (OPEID 00154000) (Walden), located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is an existing licensee in good standing. The institution is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and seeks to authorization to offer a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW). Walden seeks to offer the BSW at clinical sites only and does not anticipate a brick-and-mortar presence in North Carolina.

Bachelor of Social Work

Staff Recommendation: Approval
 Program Site: Clinical sites throughout North Carolina
 Projected start date: Upon Licensure
 Projected enrollment: 90

Staff and examiners reviewed this program. The findings were generally favorable, and focused on elements such as course design and the practicum experience. Walden's BSW is programmatically accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Acting under authority delegated to her by the Board and the president, Dr. Kimberly van Noort issued Walden a license to offer this program on January 24, 2020.

Institutional Metrics and Consumer Protection Information

Metric			
8-year outcomes ⁱ	Graduated	22%	
	Transferred Out	35%	
	Withdrew	42%	
Employment Placement Rate ⁱⁱ	Does not report – not required by accreditor		
Federal Financial Composite Score (3.0 is highest, -1.0 is lowest) ⁱⁱⁱ	2018	2017	2016
	2.6	2.9	3.0
Three-year cohort default rate ^{iv}	Class of 2016	Class of 2015	Class of 2014
	6.9	7.3	7.5

State authorization staff did not receive any complaints regarding Walden in the 2018-2019 academic year.

Recommendation

Ratify the license Dr. van Noort issued Walden (OPEID 02504200) to offer a Bachelor of Social Work.

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ⁱ Unless otherwise noted, this is data reported by the institution to the U.S. Department of Education, and includes both full and part time students and first-time and transfer-in students.

ⁱⁱ Unless otherwise noted, this data is reported by the institution to its accreditor according to its accreditor's standards and definitions. It is the most recent data available for the program under consideration.

ⁱⁱⁱ This is a general measure of the institution's financial solvency. A score of 1.5 or greater means the institution does not face additional federal restrictions on operating because of financial solvency concerns. In Walden's case, the Department of Education agreed to provide Walden these unofficial scores based on Walden's finances separated from the finances of its parent company.

^{iv} Three-year cohort default rate ("CDR") is the percentage of graduates who borrowed federal loans and who defaulted on those loans within three years of graduating. For example, a CDR for a cohort graduating in 2015 can be calculated three years later, in 2018.