



TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION

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RICK PERRY
Governor

December 15, 2003

Mr. Tim Lambert, President
Texas Home School Coalition Association
P.O. Box 6747
Lubbock, Texas 79493

Dear Mr. Lambert:

Thank you for copying me on your December 3, 2003 letter to ITT Technical Institute. You raise important issues in regard to career school admission policies.

As you are aware, the Texas Workforce Commission (Commission) regulates Career Colleges and Schools in Texas. As a part of that oversight, the Commission has outlined certain admission requirements. In fact, Commission rules specifically provide that successful completion of home schooling at the high school level is a sufficient credential for admission to a career college's program, 40 T.A.C. §§ 807.2(22), .142(a). As you mention, however, as private entities, the schools may have other, more restrictive admission criteria. I would, nonetheless, encourage schools to carefully reconsider placing any additional requirements on successful home school students. As we both recognize, home school students often meet or exceed traditional testing standards.

You additionally point out the recent enactment of section 51.9241 of the Education Code. It provides that public institutions of higher learning must have consistent admissions policies for public school graduates and home school students. While it is my understanding that this provision does not technically apply to private career colleges and schools, it is my hope that the schools will consider this most important state policy. Career colleges and schools should make use of this Legislative direction in formulating their own admissions policies.

Again thank you for bringing this issue to our attention. Please contact me if I can ever be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane".

Diane Rath
Chair and Commissioner Representing the Public

cc: Dean Heather Alleman
Executive Director Temple, TWC