

Students,

On March 6, 2019, The Art Institute of Seattle notified the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities that it would likely close as of Friday, March 8. The decision is deeply troubling and disappointing, and NWCCU and The Washington Student Achievement Council vehemently disagree with the decision to discontinue operations two weeks prior to the end of the Winter quarter. We recognize that this closure is frustrating and distressing to AI Seattle students. Please know that we are partnering with The Washington Student Achievement Council and with other colleges and universities to provide as much support and information as possible regarding student's academic options.

NWCCU and The Washington Student Achievement Council will offer Information Fairs to learn about transfer options will still take place at the AI Seattle campus on the following days:

Tuesday, March 12, 3pm-6pm

Wednesday, March 13, 10am-1pm

So far, at least 30 colleges and universities plan to participate. Many schools have already evaluated AI Seattle courses to determine their transferability and to help AI Seattle students receive credit for their coursework. Some schools plan to waive requirements relating to the number of credits that must be completed at the new school so that AI Seattle students can graduate as quickly as possible. Many schools have designated individual staff members to help AI Seattle students through the enrollment process and to understand scholarship opportunities. Additionally, some schools are attempting to develop teach-out programs for AI Seattle students who want to finish their current program. In short, the higher education community throughout Washington State is rallying to support students as fully as possible.

Please note that other groups may hold transfer fairs at AI Seattle on March 7 or 8. These events are not affiliated with NWCCU or The Washington Student Achievement Council.

The Washington Student Achievement Council's website contains additional [information for AI Seattle students](#), including a list of schools that plan to participate in the Information Fairs. The Washington Student Achievement Council will update that website to include information about programs offered at these schools that are comparable to AI Seattle degree programs, as well as information about the Department of Education's closed school discharge program. NWCCU and The Washington Student Achievement Council encourage students to check our websites for updated information over the next several days.

Please know that we are committed to doing everything possible to help students achieve their academic goals.