



ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION & TRAINING
1722 N. Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone : 202-955-1113 Fax: 202-955-1118
<http://www.accet.org>

December 15, 2017

VIA FEDEX AND EMAIL
(fdionot@lacademie.com)
(cmclure@lacademie.com)

Mr. Francois Dionot, Majority Owner
Ms. Carol McClure, Academic Dean
L'Academie de Cuisine
16006 Industrial Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-1414

***Re: Accreditation Withdrawn;
Precipitous School Closure;
Effective December 15, 2017
ACCET ID #364***

Dear Mr. Dionot and Ms. McClure:

This letter is written to serve as a formal record of withdrawal of accreditation for L'Academie de Cuisine located in Gaithersburg, Maryland and Bethesda, Maryland by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training (ACCET), as a result of its precipitous closure, as of December 15, 2017. The precipitous closure of both locations of the institution has placed its students in serious jeopardy of disrupting the educational objectives sought in their earlier enrollment.

It is noted for the record that the institution was directed on December 12, 2018 to provide ACCET Document 32 - Teach-Out Plan/Closure Policy for the students enrolled at the time of closure, but did not provide this information prior to cessation of operations. ACCET is working closely with the Maryland Higher Education Commission and US Department of Education to assist current students and will monitor the impact of efforts by L'Academie de Cuisine's ownership/leadership to mitigate the hardship placed on these current students. Failure to adequately communicate, refund, and assist enrolled students affected by this closure at both campuses could conceivably result in debarment of the owner and/or senior leadership of the institution as detailed in ACCET Document 11 - Policies and Practices of the Accrediting Commission.

The appropriate state and federal agencies are copied on this notification along with the Executive Committee of the Accrediting Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William V. Larkin".

William V. Larkin, Ed.D.
Executive Director

cc: Mr. Herman Bounds, Director, Accreditation Division, USED (aslrecordsmanager@ed.gov)
Mr. Ron Bennett, Director, School Eligibility Service Group, USED (ron.bennett@ed.gov)
Mr. Alan Gallegos, Associate Director for Career & Workforce Development, MD Higher Education Commission, (alan.gallegos@maryland.go)
Mr. Ken Ingram, White Taylor & Preston LLP, (KIngram@wtplaw.com)
ACCET Executive Committee