

**AGENCY OF EDUCATION
Montpelier, Vermont**

TEAM: Finance

ACTION ITEM: Will the State Board of Education approve Prescott College, Prescott Arizona as the designated entity pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 175, to act as permanent repository for Goddard College student academic records?

SECRETARY'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the State Board of Education approve Prescott College, Prescott Arizona as the designated entity pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 175, to act as permanent repository for Goddard College student academic records.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 16 V.S.A. § 175, State Board Rule 2250

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State statute requires a postsecondary institution proposing to discontinue its course of instruction to take several steps with regard to student academic records. The institution must inform the State Board, prepare the academic record of each former and current student in a form satisfactory to the State Board, and deliver the records to the person designated by the Board. The Board has promulgated rules consistent with statute.

The statute and rules do not state any criteria that the State Board should consider when designating a person to act as permanent repository for a closing institution's student records. The statute states that students and former students "shall be entitled to copies of their records" after paying a "reasonable" fee. 16 V.S.A. § 175(c).

Prescott College will be the custodian of Goddard College academic records following the college's closure on September 14, 2024. Prescott will issue Goddard transcripts or transcript letters via Parchment from 1974 - 2024. Prescott College will also retain a SharePoint database of all Goddard's academic records on file.

The Agency of Education does not have the staff or space to act as an appropriate custodian of student academic records. The Agency is not authorized by law to charge a fee to a student who requests his or her student record, if the record were to be housed at the Agency.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS: None.

EDUCATION IMPLICATIONS: Protection of student right to access academic transcripts.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: None.

STAFF AVAILABLE: Cassandra Ryan, Director of Regulatory Compliance