Private career institutions comprise the large career training segment in the United States, accounting for over 50% of all post secondary occupational/technical training. These schools have experienced a significant enrollment increase in the past decade due to major shifts in the economy and employment market. Private career schools were established in the 1800’s when independent schools responded to the increasing demand for skilled workers in factories and offices. Almost two centuries later, they are continuing the tradition of providing career education for today’s changing employment needs. Private career institutions produce the vast majority of computer technology graduates and electronics technicians in Virginia. Statewide, 69% of all electronics technicians and 86% of all computer technicians come from private career schools. Accredited private career institutions report that 78% of their graduates are placed in a job within six months of graduation. Over 90% of these students find employment in a field directly related to their training. Private career schools are successful because they offer short-term, intensive, practical education. This approach enables students to quickly prepare for entry-level employment. Classes are small, student-centered, and involve hands-on experience with business and technical equipment. Students attending private career schools have the unique opportunity to complete relevant career training programs and enter the employment market quickly. Here is a list of the private career schools certified to operate in the Commonwealth of Virginia by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV). For more information about these schools or any other post-secondary institution operating in Virginia, please contact SCHEV at 804-225-2600 or visit our website at www.schev.edu.

* denotes accredited institutions