

# COLLEGE ACCREDITATION PLINKO



The Department of Education gives institutions of higher education more than \$150 billion of federal student financial aid each year under Title IV of the *Higher Education Act*. In an attempt to provide quality assurance and prevent fly-by-night operations from gaming the system and ripping off students, the government relies on private accrediting agencies to determine which institutions are eligible.

But the current system of 37 different accrediting agencies responsible for overseeing over 7,500 institutions sorts wildly diverse schools unpredictably between national, regional, and specialized agencies. Can this jumbled accreditation process really provide a high standard of quality assurance for the millions of students who take out student loans every year?



## 12 REGIONAL AGENCIES

3,671 covered institutions



Maryland Institute College of Art



Pennsylvania Institute of Technology



Westminster Theological Seminary



Ohio State University



Massachusetts School of Law



The University of Phoenix

## 8 NATIONAL AGENCIES

3,662 covered institutions



Paul Quinn College



Trumbull Career & Technical Center



Faith Theological Seminary



Sentara College of Health Sciences



Beauty Schools of America



ITT Technical Institute

## 17 SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

354 covered institutions



Rhode Island School of Design



Talmudical Yeshiva of Philadelphia



Dallas Institute of Funeral Services



Midwives College of Utah



Vermont Law School



Acupuncture and Massage College



Art School



Career School



For-Profit School



Professional School



Traditional Non-profit College



Theological School