## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
DATE OF REPORT (DATE OF EARLIEST EVENT REPORTED): March 6, 2008

## **Lincoln Educational Services Corporation**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

New Jersey (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 000-51371 (Commission File Number) 57-1150621 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

200 Executive Drive, Suite 340 West Orange, New Jersey 07052 (Address of principal executive offices) 07052 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (973) 736-9340

Not Applicable (Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

ck the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following isions:
Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

## Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On March 6, 2008, Lincoln Educational Services Corporation (the "Company") issued a press release announcing, among other things, its results of operations for the fourth quarter and twelve months ended December 31, 2007. A copy of the press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and attached hereto. The information contained under this Item 2.02 in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including the exhibit attached hereto, is being furnished and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section. Furthermore, the information contained under this Item 2.02 in this Current Report on Form 8-K shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

## Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (c) Exhibits
  - 99.1 Press release of Lincoln Educational Services Corporation dated March 6, 2008.

## **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

LINCOLN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Date: March 6, 2008

By: /s/ Cesar Ribeiro

Name: Cesar Ribeiro

Title: Senior Vice President, Chief Financial

Officer and Treasurer

# **Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Reports Strong Fourth Quarter and 2007 Year End Results**

West Orange, New Jersey, March 6, 2008 – Lincoln Educational Services Corporation (Nasdaq: LINC) ("Lincoln") today reported fourth quarter and 2007 year end results.

## Highlights:

- Diluted EPS from continuing operations of \$0.37 for the fourth quarter of 2007 versus consensus estimates of \$0.34.
- Revenue growth of 8.2% to \$90.3 million for the fourth quarter of 2007 from \$83.5 million for the fourth quarter of 2006.
- Student starts increased by 7.7% over the fourth quarter of 2006. Student population at December 31, 2007 increased 8.5% to 18,013 from 16,598 at December 31, 2006.
- 2008 Guidance
  - Revenue of \$355 million to \$365 million, up 8% to 11% over 2007.
  - Diluted EPS of \$0.62 to \$0.66, representing growth of 17% to 25% over 2007.
  - Guidance based on increase in expected student starts of 6% to 7% over 2007.
  - For the first quarter of 2008, we expect revenue of \$81.5 million to \$82.5 million, representing an increase of approximately 7.5% over the first quarter of 2007, diluted loss per share of (\$0.02) to \$0.0 and an increase in student starts of 6% to 7% over the first quarter of 2007.

With respect to student lending issues, as we have previously stated, we expect these issues to have a limited impact on the results of our operations, which is incorporated in our guidance.

#### Comment and Outlook

"We are pleased with our fourth quarter results as the positive momentum we experienced in the third quarter of 2007 continued into the fourth quarter," said David Carney, Lincoln's Chairman & CEO. "The additional investments in our marketing initiatives helped sustain this momentum, which enabled us to finish the quarter with student starts up 7.7% over the fourth quarter of 2006. More importantly, as we enter 2008 we will benefit from an 8.5% increase in our population versus the prior year.

"During the second half of 2005, our entire industry experienced a significant slow down in student starts. This challenging operating environment forced us to revisit all aspects of our business and take significant steps, including:

Continued . . .

- Realigning our business and creating separate managerial oversight for the Lincoln Technical Group and the Lincoln Educational Group.
- Re-branding our schools, with 80% of our campuses now operating under the "Lincoln Brand".
- Introducing new marketing initiatives, including a state of the art website.
- Restructuring our sales force.
- Implementing a uniform student management system across all of our campuses.
- Closing three underperforming schools.

"This new focus enabled us to achieve growth in spite of a difficult operating environment. Our strong carry-in population places us in a very good position for 2008. In 2008, we expect to achieve record revenue levels of \$355 million to \$365 million and diluted EPS of \$0.62 to \$0.66 based on continued strong growth in student starts of 6% to 7%. For the first quarter we expect revenues of \$81.5 million to \$82.5 million and diluted loss per share of (\$0.02) to \$0.0 on growth in starts of 6% to 7%. We expect to maintain the momentum we have experienced in the last six months and continue driving growth in student starts."

Mr. Carney concluded, "We have built a very strong foundation for our company. We have a talented and energized management team, a strong regulatory record, uniform student management systems throughout our schools, and a well positioned diversified portfolio of assets. Given our strong foundation, and in light of the current environment we operate in, we will also focus on acquisitions that increase shareholder value."

#### Discontinued Operations

As previously reported, on July 31, 2007 our Board of Directors approved a plan to cease operations at three of our campuses. As a result of that decision, we recognized a non-cash impairment charge related to goodwill at these three campuses of approximately \$2.1 million as of June 30, 2007. Additionally, we determined that certain long-lived assets would not be recoverable at June 30, 2007 and recorded a non-cash charge of \$0.9 million to reduce the carrying value of these assets to their estimated fair value.

As of September 30, 2007 all operations had ceased at these campuses, and accordingly, the results of operations of these campuses have been reflected in the accompanying statements of operations as "Discontinued Operations" for all periods presented.

The following amounts relate to discontinued operations (in thousands):

		Three Months Ended December 31,			Year Ended December 31,			
	2007	2006			2007		2006	
Revenue	\$	-	\$	2,665	\$	4,230	\$	10,876
Operating expenses				(3,020)		(13,760)		(13,493)
		-		(355)		(9,530)		(2,617)
Benefit for income taxes				(148)		(4,043)		(1,085)
Loss from discontinued operations	\$		\$	(207)	\$	(5,487)	\$	(1,532)

### Fiscal 2007 Operating Performance

Revenues increased by \$17.1 million, or 5.5%, to \$327.8 million for 2007 from \$310.6 million for 2006. Approximately \$7.4 million of this increase was a result of our acquisition of New England Institute of Technology at Palm Beach, Inc. ("FLA"), on May 22, 2006. The remainder of the increase was due to tuition increases. For the year ended December 31, 2007, our average undergraduate full-time student enrollment increased 1.7% to 17,687 compared to 17,397 for the year ended December 31, 2006. Excluding our acquisition of FLA, our average undergraduate student enrollment decreased by 0.4% to 16,682 from 16,757 in 2006.

Our operating income for the year ended December 31, 2007 was \$25.9 million, which represented a 15.4% decrease compared to the year ended December 31, 2006. The reduction in operating income was due primarily to lower average enrollment between years. The loss of revenue from these students coupled with high fixed costs of operating our business led to lower margins.

Our educational services and facilities expenses increased by \$10.2 million, or 7.9%, to \$139.5 million for 2007 from \$129.3 million for 2006. Our acquisition of FLA accounted for \$3.0 million or 29.4% of this increase. Excluding FLA, instructional expenses and books and tools expense increased by \$1.1 million or 1.7% and \$1.8 million or 11.9%, respectively, over the prior year primarily due to increased compensation and benefits expenses and due to higher volumes of sales for books and tools. The remainder of the increase in educational services and facilities expenses was primarily due to facilities expenses which increased \$4.3 million over the prior year. Of this amount, approximately \$3.7 million represents increases in facility costs and \$0.6 million represents additional depreciation expense during the year over prior year. The increase in facility costs is primarily due to a \$1.0 million increase in rent expense in 2007 due to our expanded campus facilities at our Rhode Island, Southwestern and Indianapolis campuses. We also experienced increased costs for insurance and real estate taxes, which increased approximately \$0.5 million from the prior year, utilities which increased approximately \$0.5 million over the prior year. Approximately \$0.8 million of the increase in repairs and maintenance expenses, which increased approximately \$1.4 million over the prior year. Approximately \$0.8 million of the increase in repairs and maintenance was due to higher than normal repairs and maintenance expenses at one of our schools. Educational services and facilities expenses as a percentage of revenues increased to 42.6% for 2007 from 41.6% for 2006.

Our selling, general and administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2007 were \$162.4 million, an increase of \$11.3 million, or 7.5%, from \$151.1 million for 2006. Approximately \$4.1 million of this increase was attributed to our acquisition of FLA. The remainder of the increase was primarily due to: (a) a \$1.0 million or 3.3% increase in sales expense resulting mainly from yearly compensation increases; (b) a \$0.6 million or 2.1%, increase in marketing costs as a result of increased advertising expenses associated with student leads and enrollment; and (c) a \$5.2 million or 7.0% increase in administrative expenses, over the prior year.

The increase in marketing expenses during 2007 included a shift from television advertising to internet based initiatives and the re-launching of our website. These initiatives increased student leads at a lower cost per lead. Included in administrative expenses during the year are an upfront non-cash charge of \$0.5 million incurred in connection with termination of certain lease agreements and a \$0.6 million charge incurred in connection with severance payments related to the separation of employment of two executives. The remainder of the increase in administrative expenses was attributable to a higher provision for bad debts in 2007 as compared to 2006. Bad debt expense, excluding FLA in 2007 increased \$1.8 million from \$14.9 million in 2006 to \$16.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2007. This increase was due to higher accounts receivable balances throughout the year as compared to

prior year, resulting from increased loans to our students. The remainder of the increase in administrative expenses is due to yearly compensation increases to existing personnel and higher benefit costs during the year.

As a percentage of revenue, selling, general and administrative expenses increased to 49.5% for 2007 from 48.7% for 2006.

As a result of the above, our operating margin for the year ended December 31, 2007 decreased to 7.9% from 9.9% in 2006.

Net income from continuing operations for the year ended December 31, 2007 was \$13.8 million, or \$0.53 per diluted share, as compared to \$17.1 million or \$0.65 per diluted share for 2006.

Fourth Quarter 2007 Operating Performance

Revenues increased by \$6.8 million, or 8.2%, to \$90.3 million for the fourth quarter of 2007 from \$83.5 million for the comparable period in 2006. Revenues for the fourth quarter of 2007 were positively impacted by a 7.7% increase in student starts and an increase in our average population of 5.4%. For the fourth quarter of 2007, our average population was 19,167 students compared to 18,193 students in the fourth quarter of 2006.

Our operating income for the fourth quarter of 2007 was \$17.0 million, which represented a 1.2% decrease compared to the fourth quarter of 2006. The reduction in operating income was due to increased investments in marketing during the fourth quarter of 2007 and severance related charges.

Educational services and facilities expenses increased by \$1.7 million, or 5.3%, to \$34.9 million for the fourth quarter of 2007 from \$33.2 million in the fourth quarter of 2006. Approximately \$0.8 million of the increase in educational services and facilities was due to yearly compensation increases to our instructional staff, increases in books and tool expenses resulting from annual cost increases, and higher volumes of sales for books and tools. The remainder of the increase is due to additional rent expense in the fourth quarter of 2007 due to our expanded campus facilities at our Rhode Island, Southwestern and Indianapolis campuses and higher depreciation expense during the year. Educational services and facilities expenses as a percentage of revenues decreased to 38.7% for the fourth quarter of 2007 from 39.8% in the fourth quarter of 2006.

Our selling, general and administrative expenses for the fourth quarter of 2007 were \$38.3 million, an increase of \$4.8 million, or 14.6%, from \$33.5 million for the fourth quarter of 2006. Of this increase approximately \$1.8 million relates to increases in advertising during the fourth quarter of 2007 as compared to the fourth quarter of 2006. Administrative expenses during the quarter accounted for an additional \$2.7 million of the increase. Included in this increase is approximately \$1.8 million in additional bad debt expense. The increase in bad debt expense is primarily due to the increase in day's sales outstanding to 25.1 days from 22.8 days in the fourth quarter of 2006. This increase was due to higher accounts receivable balances throughout the year as compared to prior year, resulting from an increase in funding of loans to our students. Included in administrative expenses for the fourth quarter of 2007 is a \$0.6 million charge incurred in connection with severance payments related to the separation of employment of two executives. The remainder of the increase in administration expenses as well as selling and general administrative expenses is due to yearly compensation increases and increases in the costs of employee benefits.

For the quarter ended December 31, 2007, our bad debt expense was 5.7% as compared to 3.9% for the same quarter in 2006.

As of percentage of revenue, selling, general and administrative expenses for the fourth quarter of 2007 increased to 42.4% from 40.1% for the fourth quarter of 2006.

As a result of the above, our operating margin for the fourth quarter of 2007 decreased to 18.8% from 20.6% in the fourth quarter of 2006.

Net income from continuing operations for the fourth quarter of 2007 was \$9.6 million, or \$0.37 per diluted share, as compared to \$9.8 million, or \$0.38 per diluted share, for the comparable period in 2006.

#### Balance Sheet

At December 31, 2007, we had \$3.5 million in cash and cash equivalents, compared to \$6.5 million at December 31, 2006. The reduction reflects our continued investment in our business.

At December 31, 2007, our stockholders' equity was \$162.5 million, compared to \$151.8 million at December 31, 2006, with the increase resulting from net income for the period and stock-based compensation expense.

Student Metrics

	Th	December 31,	d	Year Ended December 31,				
	2006	2007	Growth	2006	2007	Growth		
Student Starts	4,122	4,440	7.7%	22,581	24,185	7.1%		
Average population	18,193	19,167	5.4%	17,397	17,687	1.7%		
End of period population	16,598	18,013	8.5%	16,598	18,013	8.5%		

## Conference Call Today

Lincoln will host a conference call today at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. The conference call can be accessed by going to the IR portion of our website a t <a href="https://www.lincolneducationalservices.com">www.lincolneducationalservices.com</a>. Participants can also listen to the conference call by dialing 866-800-8651 (domestic) or 617-614-2704 (international) and citing code 77951232. Please log-in or dial-in at least 10 minutes prior to the start time to ensure a connection. An archived version of the webcast will be accessible for 90 days at <a href="http://www.lincolneducationalservices.com">http://www.lincolneducationalservices.com</a>. A replay of the call will also be available for seven days by calling 888-286-8010 (domestic) or 617-801-6888 (international) and citing code 83592369.

### About Lincoln Educational Services Corporation

Lincoln Educational Services Corporation is a leading and diversified for-profit provider of career-oriented post-secondary education. Lincoln offers recent high school graduates and working adults degree and diploma programs in five principal areas of study: automotive technology, health sciences, skilled trades, business and information technology and hospitality services. Lincoln has provided the workforce with skilled technicians since its inception in 1946. Lincoln currently operates 34 campuses in 17 states under five brands: Lincoln College of Technology, Lincoln Technical Institute, Nashville Auto-Diesel College, Southwestern College and Euphoria Institute of Beauty Arts and Sciences. Lincoln had a combined average enrollment of approximately 17,687 students as of December 31, 2007.

Statements in this press release regarding Lincoln's business which are not historical facts may be "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties. For a discussion of such risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, see "Risk Factors" in Lincoln's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006. All forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement, and Lincoln undertakes no obligation to revise or update this news release to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof.

(Please see financial attachments.)

#### Contacts:

Investors: Chris Plunkett/Brad Edwards Brainerd Communicators, Inc. 212-986-6667 Press or Media: Jennifer Gery Brainerd Communicators, Inc. 212-986-6667

## LINCOLN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

Three Months Ended December 31, (Unaudited)

Years Ended December 31,

		2007	2006		2007		_	2006
REVENUES	\$	90,294	\$	83,460	\$	327,774	\$	310,630
COSTS AND EXPENSES:		1						
Educational services and facilities		34,960		33,217		139,500		129,311
Selling, general and administrative		38,321		33,452		162,396		151,136
Loss (gain) on sale of assets		<u>-</u>		(428)		(15)		(435)
Total costs and expenses	<u> </u>	73,281		66,241		301,881		280,012
OPERATING INCOME		17,013		17,219		25,893		30,618
OTHER:								
Interest income		31		121		180		981
Interest expense		(501)		(551)		(2,341)		(2,291)
Other income (loss)		1		2		27		(132)
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES		16,544		16,791		23,759		29,176
PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES		6,924		6,992		9,932		12,092
NET INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	\$	9,620	\$	9,799	\$	13,827	\$	17,084
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax		<u> </u>		(207)		(5,487)		(1,532)
NET INCOME	\$	9,620	\$	9,592	\$	8,340	\$	15,552
Earnings per share - Basic -								
Earnings per share from continuing operations	\$	0.38	\$	0.39	\$	0.54	\$	0.67
Loss per share from discontinued operations		-		(0.01)		(0.21)		(0.06)
Net income per share	\$	0.38	\$	0.38	\$	0.33	\$	0.61
Earnings per share – Diluted -								
Earnings per share from continuing operations	\$	0.37	\$	0.38	\$	0.53	\$	0.65
Loss per share from discontinued operations		-		(0.01)		(0.21)		(0.05)
Net income per share	\$	0.37	\$	0.37	\$	0.32	\$	0.60
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding:								
Basic		25,598		25,440		25,479		25,336
Diluted		26,274		26,104		26,090		26,086
Other data:								
EBITDA (1)		21,021		20,723		41,031		44,315
Depreciation and amortization		4,007		3,502		15,111		13,829
Number of campuses		34		34		34		34
Average enrollment		19,167		18,193		17,687		17,397
Stock based compensation		500		291		1,849		1,424

Selected Consolidated Balance Sheet Data: (In thousands)	December 31, 2007				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	3,502			
Current assets		43,761			
Working capital/(deficit)		(17,952)			
Total assets		246,183			
Current liabilities		61,713			
Long-term debt and capital lease					
Obligations, including current portion		15,378			
Total stockholders' equity	\$	162,467			

## (1) Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

EBITDA is a measurement not recognized in financial statements presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"). We define EBITDA as income from continuing operations before interest expense (net of interest income), provision for income taxes and depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is presented because we believe it is a useful indicator of our performance and our ability to make strategic acquisitions and meet capital expenditure and debt service requirements. It is not, however, intended to represent cash flows from operations as defined by GAAP and should not be used as an alternative to net income (loss) as an indicator of operating performance or to cash flow as a measure of liquidity. EBITDA is not necessarily comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies. Following is a reconciliation of income from continuing operations to EBITDA:

	Three Months Ended December 31, (Unaudited)				Years Ended December 31,			
		2007		2006		2007		2006
Income from continuing operations	\$	9,620	\$	9,799	\$	13,827	\$	17,084
Interest expense, net		470		430		2,161		1,310
Provision for income taxes		6,924		6,992		9,932		12,092
Depreciation and amortization		4,007		3,502		15,111		13,829
EBITDA	\$	21,021	\$	20,723	\$	41,031	\$	44,315