UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT **UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

LINCOLN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

New Jersey (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

57-1150621 (I.R.S. Employer **Identification Number)**

200 Executive Drive, Suite 340 West Orange, New Jersey 07052 (Address of Registrant's principal executive offices)

Amended and Restated 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan Amended and Restated 2005 Non-Employee Directors Restricted Stock Plan

(Full title of the plan)

Shaun E. McAlmont **Chief Executive Officer Lincoln Educational Services Corporation** 200 Executive Drive, Suite 340 West Orange, New Jersey 07052 (973) 736-9340

(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

John J. Cannon, Esq. Shearman & Sterling LLP 599 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10022 Tel: (212) 848-8159

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the	ıe
definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):	

Large accelerated filer	Accelerated filer	$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$
Non-accelerated filer	Smaller reporting company	

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities to be	Amount to be	0		Proposed	Amount of		
Registered	Registered (1)			Aggregate O	Registration Fee		
Common Stock, no par value per share	1,000,000	\$	5.65	\$	5,650,000	\$	770.66

- (1) This registration statement on Form S-8 (this "Registration Statement") represents an aggregate of 1,000,000 shares, no par value per share, of Common Stock (the "Shares") of Lincoln Educational Services Corporation (the "Company" or the "Registrant"). Of the 1,000,000 Shares, 800,000 will be available for issuance under the Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "LTI Plan") and 200,000 will be available for issuance under the Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Non-Employee Directors Restricted Stock Plan (the "Directors Plan"). In addition, this Registration Statement shall also cover any additional Shares that become issuable under the Plan by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or any other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of the Registrant's outstanding Shares.
- (2) Pursuant to Rules 457(h) and 457(b) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), the Proposed Maximum Offering Price per Share and Proposed Maximum Offering Price is based on the average of the high and low prices of the Registrant's Class A Common Stock reported on the Nasdaq National Market on April 23, 2013 and is estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee.

STATEMENT PURSUANT TO GENERAL INSTRUCTION E TO FORM S-8

With respect to the Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "LTI Plan"), this Registration Statement is being filed to register additional securities of the same class as were registered on the Forms S-8 filed by Lincoln Education Services Corporation (the "Company" or the "Registrant") with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 27, 2006 (Registration No. 333-132749) and May 3, 2011 (Registration No. 333-173880), the contents of which are incorporated by reference herein.

With respect to the Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Non-Employee Directors Restricted Stock Plan (the "Directors Plan"), this Registration Statement is being filed to register additional securities of the same class as were registered on the Forms S-8 filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 27, 2006 (Registration No. 333-132749) and April 30, 2009 (Registration No. 333-158923), the contents of which are incorporated by reference herein.

Explanatory Statement

We are filing this Registration Statement to register an additional 1,000,000 shares, no par value per share, of Common Stock (the "Shares") for issuance pursuant to the LTI Plan and the Directors Plan. Of the 1,000,000 Shares covered by this Registration Statement, 800,000 will be available for issuance under the LTI Plan and 200,000 will be available for issuance under the Directors Plan.

With respect to the LTI Plan, earlier registration statements on Form S-8 were filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 27, 2006 and May 3, 2011 with respect to a total of 2,300,000 Shares issued under the Plan. On March 1, 2013, the Company's board of directors approved, subject to shareholders' approval, amending the LTI Plan to increase the aggregate number of Shares available under the LTI Plan to a total of 3,100,000 Shares. On April 30, 2013, the shareholders approved this amendment.

The Directors Plan was initially adopted in 2005 and, subject to certain adjustments authorized a maximum of 100,000 Shares that may be issued for all purposes under the Plan. Additional Shares were registered on April 30, 2009, bringing the total to 300,000. On March 1, 2013, the Company's board of directors also approved, subject to shareholders' approval, amending the Directors Plan to increase the aggregate number of Shares available under the Directors Plan to a total of 500,000 Shares. On April 30, 2013, the shareholders approved this amendment.

Information Not in Earlier Registration Statement

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

Kenneth M. Swisstack, General Counsel of the Company, has given an opinion on the validity of the securities being registered. Mr. Swisstack beneficially owns, or has the right to acquire under the Company's employee benefit plans, an aggregate of less than 1% of the Company's common stock.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of West Orange, State of New Jersey on April 30, 2013.

LINCOLN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION

By: /s/ Cesar Ribeiro

Name: Cesar Ribeiro

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints each of Shaun E. McAlmont and Cesar Ribeiro as such person's true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for such person and in such person's name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to the Registration Statement, including post-effective amendments, and registration statements filed pursuant to Rule 462 under the Securities Act, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Commission, and does hereby grant unto each said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as such person might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that each said attorney-in-fact and agent, or any substitute therefor, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons on April 30, 2013, in the capacities indicated below.

Signature	Title						
/s/ Shaun E. McAlmont Shaun E. McAlmont	Chief Executive Officer and Director						
/s/ Cesar Ribeiro Cesar Ribeiro	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Principal Accounting and Financial Officer)						
/s/ Alvin O. Austin Alvin O. Austin	Director						
/s/ Peter S. Burgess Peter S. Burgess	Director						
/s/ James J. Burke, Jr. James J. Burke, Jr.	Director						
/s/ Celia H. Currin Celia H. Currin	Director						
/s/ Paul E. Glaske Paul E. Glaske	Director						
/s/ Charles F. Kalmbach Charles F. Kalmbach	Director						
/s/ Alexis P. Michas Alexis P. Michas	Director						
/s/ J. Barry Morrow J. Barry Morrow	Director						

EXHIBIT INDEX

The following exhibits are filed as part of this Registration Statement:

Exhibit No.	<u>Description of Document</u>
4.1	Amended and Restated By-laws of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Form 8-K filed June 28, 2005).
4.2	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A filed June 7, 2005).
4.3	Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan.*
<u>4.4</u>	Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Non-Employee Directors Restricted Stock Plan.*
5.1	Opinion of Kenneth M. Swisstack, General Counsel of the Registrant, as to the legality of the securities registered hereby.*
23.1	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent registered public accounting firm for the Registrant.*
23.2	Consent of Counsel (included in Exhibit 5.1).*
24	Power of Attorney (included in this Registration Statement under "Signatures").*
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^{*} Filed herewith

LINCOLN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION AMENDED AND RESTATED 2005 LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PLAN

1. Purposes of the Plan

The purpose of the Plan is to provide an incentive to certain officers, employees and consultants of the Company and its Subsidiaries to increase their interest in the Company's success by offering them an opportunity to obtain a proprietary interest in the Company through the grant of equity-based awards.

2. Definitions and Rules of Construction

(a) <u>Definitions</u>.

For purposes of the Plan, the following capitalized words shall have the meanings set forth below:

"Award" means an Option, Restricted Share, Restricted Share Unit, Performance Share Unit, Stock Appreciation Right or Other Award granted by the Committee pursuant to the terms of the Plan.

"Award Document" means an agreement, certificate or other type or form of document or documentation approved by the Committee which sets forth the terms and conditions of an Award. An Award Document may be in written, electronic or other media, may be limited to a notation on the books and records of the Company and, unless the Committee requires otherwise, need not be signed by a representative of the Company or a Participant.

"Board" means the Board of Directors of the Company.

"CEO" means the Chief Executive Officer of the Company.

"Change in Control" means

- a. when a "person" (as defined in Section 3(a)(9) of the Exchange Act), including a "group" (as defined in Section 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act), either directly or indirectly becomes the "beneficial owner" (as defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act) of 25% or more of either (i) the then outstanding Common Stock, or (ii) the combined voting power of the then outstanding voting securities of the Company entitled to vote generally in the election of directors; provided, however, that the following acquisitions shall not constitute a Change in Control: (1) any acquisition directly from the Company; (2) any acquisition by the Company; or (3) any acquisition by an employee benefit plan (or related trust) sponsored or maintained by the Company or any corporation controlled by the Company;
- b. when, during any period of 24 consecutive months of employment, the individuals who, at the beginning of such period, constitute the Board (the "Company Incumbent Directors") cease for any reason other than death to constitute at least a majority thereof; provided, however, that a director who was not a director at the beginning of such 24-month period shall be deemed to be a Company Incumbent Director if such director was elected by, or on the recommendation of or with the approval of at least two-thirds of the directors of the Company, who then qualified as Company Incumbent Directors;
- c. when the stockholders of the Company approve a reorganization, merger or consolidation of the Company without the consent or approval of a majority of the Company Incumbent Directors;

- d. consummation of a merger, amalgamation or consolidation of the Company with any other corporation, the issuance of voting securities of the Company in connection with a merger, amalgamation or consolidation of the Company or sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company or the acquisition of assets of another corporation (each, a "Business Combination"), unless, in each case of a Business Combination, immediately following such Business Combination, all or substantially all of the individuals and entities who were the beneficial owners of the Common Stock outstanding immediately prior to such Business Combination beneficially own, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of the then outstanding shares of common stock and 50% of the combined voting power of the then outstanding voting securities entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, as the case may be, of the entity resulting from such Business Combination (including, without limitation, an entity which as a result of such transaction owns the Company or all or substantially all of the Company's assets either directly or through one or more subsidiaries) in substantially the same proportions as their ownership, immediately prior to such Business Combination, of the Common Stock; or
- e. a complete liquidation or dissolution of the Company or the sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company.

"Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and the applicable rulings and regulations thereunder.

"Committee" means the Compensation Committee of the Board or such other committee appointed by the Board to administer the Plan which committee shall meet the requirements of Section 162(m) of the Code, Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act and the applicable rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market; provided, however, that, if any Committee member is found not to have met the qualification requirements of Section 162(m) of the Code and Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act, any actions taken or Awards granted by the Committee shall not be invalidated by such failure to so qualify.

"Common Stock" means the common stock of the Company, no par value per share, or such other class of shares or other securities as may be applicable under Section 13(b) of the Plan.

"Company" means Lincoln Educational Services Corporation or any successor to substantially all of its business.

"EBITDA" means earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization.

"EBITA" means the Company's earnings before interest, taxes and amortization.

"Effective Date" means the date in 2013 on which the Plan (as amended and restated) is approved by the stockholders of the Company.

"Eligible Individual" means an individual described in Section 4(a) of the Plan.

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder.

"Fair Market Value" means (i) if the Common Stock is listed on a securities exchange or is traded over the NASDAQ Stock Market, the closing sales price on such exchange or over such system on such date or, in the absence of reported sales on such date, the closing sales price on the immediately preceding date on which sales were reported, or (ii) if the Common Stock is not listed on a securities exchange or traded over the NASDAQ Stock Market, the mean between the bid and offered prices as quoted by the NASDAQ Stock Market for such date, provided that if it is determined that the fair market value is not properly reflected by such NASDAQ Stock Market quotations, Fair Market Value shall be determined by such other method as the Committee determines in good faith to be reasonable.

- "Incentive Stock Option" means an Option that is intended to comply with the requirements of Section 422 of the Code or any successor provision thereto.
- "Nonqualified Stock Option" means an Option that is not intended to comply with the requirements of Section 422 of the Code or any successor provision thereto.
 - "Option" means an Incentive Stock Option or Nonqualified Stock Option granted pursuant to Section 7 of the Plan.
- "Other Award" means any form of Award other than an Option, Restricted Share, Restricted Share Unit, Performance Share Unit or Stock Appreciation Right granted pursuant to Section 11 of the Plan.
 - "Participant" means an Eligible Individual who has been granted an Award under the Plan.
- "Performance Period" means the period established by the Committee and set forth in the applicable Award Document over which Performance Targets are measured.
- "Performance Share Unit" means a right to receive a Target Number of shares of Common Stock (or cash, if applicable) payable at the end of a Performance Period, subject to the achievement of the applicable Performance Targets, granted pursuant to Section 9 of the Plan.
- "Performance Target" means the targets established by the Committee from among the performance criteria set forth in Section 6(f) and set forth in the applicable Award Document.
- "Permitted Transferee" means (i) a charitable institution, (ii) a Participant's family member, (iii) one or more trusts established in whole or in part for the benefit of one or more of such family members, (iv) one or more entities which are beneficially owned in whole or in part by one or more such family members, or (v) any other individual or entity permitted under law and the rules of NASDAQ Stock Market or any other exchange that lists the applicable Award.
 - "Plan" means the Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan as described herein.
- "Plan Limit" means the maximum aggregate number of shares that may be issued for all purposes under the Plan as set forth in Section 5(a) of the Plan.
 - "Prior Plan" means the Lincoln Technical Institute Management Stock Option Plan.
 - "Restricted Share" means one or more Restricted Shares granted or sold pursuant to Section 1(a) of the Plan.
- "Restricted Share Unit" means a right to receive a share of Common Stock (or cash, if applicable) in the future, subject to time vesting and the Participant's continued employment with the Company, granted pursuant to Section 8(b) of the Plan.
- "Stock Appreciation Right" means a right to receive all or some portion of the appreciation on shares of Common Stock granted pursuant to Section 10 of the Plan.
- "Subsidiary" means (i) a corporation or other entity with respect to which the Company, directly or indirectly, has the power, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise, to elect at least a majority of the members of such corporation's board of directors or analogous governing body, or (ii) any other corporation or other entity in which the Company, directly or indirectly, has an equity or similar interest and which the Committee designates as a Subsidiary for purposes of the Plan. For purposes of determining eligibility for the grant of Incentive Stock Options under the Plan, the term "Subsidiary" shall be defined in the manner required by Section 424(f) of the Code.

"Target Number" means the target number of shares of Common Stock or cash value established by the Committee and set forth in the applicable Award Document.

(b) Rules of Construction.

The masculine pronoun shall be deemed to include the feminine pronoun and the singular form of a word shall be deemed to include the plural form, unless the context requires otherwise. Unless the text indicates otherwise, references to sections are to sections of the Plan.

3. Administration

(a) Committee.

The Plan shall be administered by the Committee, which shall have full power and authority, subject to the express provisions hereof, to:

- (i) select the Participants from the Eligible Individuals;
- (ii) grant Awards in accordance with the Plan;
- (iii) determine the number of shares of Common Stock subject to each Award or the cash amount payable in connection with an Award:
- (iv) determine the terms and conditions of each Award, including, without limitation, those related to term, vesting, forfeiture, payment, settlement, exercisability, Performance Periods, Performance Targets, Target Numbers, and the effect, if any, of a Participant's termination of employment with the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or a Change in Control or similar transaction of the Company;
 - (v) subject to Section 16 of the Plan, to amend the terms and conditions of an Award after the granting thereof;
 - (vi) specify and approve the provisions of the Award Documents delivered to Participants in connection with their Awards;
 - (vii) construe and interpret any Award Document delivered under the Plan;
 - (viii) prescribe, amend, waive and rescind rules and procedures relating to the Plan;
 - (ix) make factual determinations in connection with the administration or interpretation of the Plan;
- (x) employ such legal counsel, independent auditors and consultants as it deems desirable for the administration of the Plan and to rely upon any opinion or computation received therefrom;
- (xi) vary the terms of Awards to take account of tax, securities law and other regulatory requirements of foreign jurisdictions or to procure favorable tax treatment for Participants; and
 - (xii) correct any defects, supply any omission or reconcile any inconsistency in any Award Document or the Plan; and
- (xiii) make all other determinations and take any other action desirable or necessary to interpret, construe or implement properly the provisions of the Plan or any Award Document.

- (b) <u>Plan Construction and Interpretation</u>. The Committee shall have full power and authority, subject to the express provisions hereof, to construe and interpret the Plan.
- (c) <u>Determinations of Committee Final and Binding.</u> All determinations by the Committee in carrying out and administering the Plan and in construing and interpreting the Plan shall be made in the Committee's sole discretion and shall be final, binding and conclusive for all purposes and upon all persons interested herein.
- (d) <u>Delegation of Authority</u>. To the extent not prohibited by applicable laws, rules and regulations, the Committee may, from time to time, delegate some or all of its authority under the Plan to a subcommittee or subcommittees thereof or other persons or groups of persons as it deems necessary, appropriate or advisable under such conditions or limitations as it may set at the time of such delegation or thereafter; *provided*, *however*, that the Committee may not delegate its authority (i) to make Awards to employees (A) who are subject on the date of the Award to the reporting rules under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, (B) whose compensation for such fiscal year may be subject to the limit on deductible compensation pursuant to Section 162(m) of the Code or (C) who are officers of the Company who are delegated authority by the Committees hereunder, or (ii) pursuant to Section 17(d) of the Plan. For purposes of the Plan, reference to the Committee shall be deemed to refer to any subcommittee, subcommittees, or other persons or groups of persons to whom the Committee delegates authority pursuant to this Section 3(d).
- (e) <u>Liability of Committee and its Delegates</u>. Subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations: (i) no member of the Board or Committee (or its delegates) shall be liable for any good faith action, omission or determination made in connection with the operation, administration or interpretation of the Plan and (ii) the members of the Board or the Committee (and its delegates) shall be entitled to indemnification and reimbursement in the manner provided in the Company's Certificate of Incorporation as it may be amended from time to time. In the performance of its responsibilities with respect to the Plan, the Committee shall be entitled to rely upon information and advice furnished by the Company's officers or employees, the Company's accountants, the Company's counsel and any other party the Committee deems necessary, and no member of the Committee shall be liable for any action taken or not taken in reliance upon any such information or advice.
- (f) <u>Action by the Board</u>. Anything in the Plan to the contrary notwithstanding, subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations, any authority or responsibility that, under the terms of the Plan, may be exercised by the Committee may alternatively be exercised by the Board.

4. Eligibility

(a) <u>Eligible Individuals</u>. Awards may be granted to officers, employees, directors, consultants, advisers and independent contractors of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries; *provided*, *however*, that only employees of the Company or a parent or Subsidiary may be granted Incentive Stock Options. The Committee shall have the authority to select the persons to whom Awards may be granted and to determine the type, number and terms of Awards to be granted to each such Participant. Under the Plan, references to "employment" or "employed" include the engagement of Participants who are consultants, advisors and independent contractors of the Company or its Subsidiaries and the service of Participants who are Non-Employee Directors, except for purposes of determining eligibility to be granted Incentive Stock Options.

(b) Grants to Participants

. The Committee shall have no obligation to grant any Eligible Individual an Award or to designate an Eligible Individual as a Participant solely by reason of such Eligible Individual having received a prior Award or having been previously designated as a Participant. The Committee may grant more than one Award to a Participant and may designate an Eligible Individual as a Participant for overlapping periods of time.

5. Common Stock Subject to the Plan

(a) Plan Limit. Subject to Section 13(b), the maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be awarded for all purposes under the Plan shall be the aggregate of 3.1 million shares of Common Stock, plus any shares of Common Stock that are available for issuance under the Prior Plan. Shares of Common Stock issued pursuant to Awards under the Plan may be either authorized and unissued shares of Common Stock or shares of Common Stock held by the Company in its treasury, or a combination thereof. All of the shares of Common Stock available under the Plan may be issued as Incentive Stock Options.

- (b) Rules Applicable to Determining Shares Available for Issuance. The number of shares of Common Stock remaining available for issuance will be reduced by the number of shares of Common Stock subject to outstanding Awards and, for Awards that are not denominated by shares, by the number of shares actually delivered upon settlement or payment of the Award. For purposes of determining the number of shares of Common Stock that remain available for issuance under the Plan, the number of shares that are tendered by a Participant or withheld by the Company to pay the exercise price of an Award or to satisfy the participant's tax withholding obligations in connection with the vesting, exercise or settlement of an Award will not be added back to the Plan Limit. In addition, for purposes of determining the number of shares that remain available for issuance under the Plan, the number of shares corresponding to Awards under the Plan or the Prior Plan that are forfeited or cancelled or otherwise expire for any reason without having been exercised or settled or that is settled through the issuance of consideration other than shares (including, without limitation, cash) shall be added back to the Plan Limit and again be available for the grant of Awards; provided, however, that this provision shall not be applicable with respect to (A) the cancellation of a Stock Appreciation Right granted in tandem with an Option upon the exercise of the Option or (B) the cancellation of an Option granted in tandem with a Stock Appreciation Right upon the exercise of the Stock Appreciation.
- (c) Special Limits. Anything to the contrary in Section 5(a) above notwithstanding, but subject to Section 13(b), the following special limits shall apply to shares of Common Stock available for Awards under the Plan:
 - (i) the maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be subject to Options or Stock Appreciation Rights granted to any Eligible Individual in any calendar year shall equal 300,000 shares;
 - (ii) the maximum amount of Awards (other than those Awards set forth in Section 5(c)(i)) that may be awarded to any Eligible Individual in any calendar year is \$5,000,000 measured as of the date of grant (with respect to Awards denominated in cash) or 300,000 shares measured as of the date of grant (with respect to Awards denominated in shares).

6. Awards in General

- (a) Types of Awards. Awards under the Plan may consist of Options, Restricted Shares, Restricted Share Units, Performance Share Units, Stock Appreciation Rights and Other Awards. Any Award described in Sections 7 through 11 of the Plan may be granted singly or in combination or tandem with any other Awards, as the Committee may determine. Awards under the Plan may be made in combination with, in replacement of, or as alternatives to awards or rights under any other compensation or benefit plan of the Company, including the plan of any acquired entity.
- (b) Terms Set Forth in Award Document. The terms and conditions of each Award shall be set forth in an Award Document in a form approved by the Committee for such Award, which shall contain terms and conditions not inconsistent with the Plan. Notwithstanding the foregoing and subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations and Section 6(c) below, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, at any time (i) accelerate the vesting, settlement or payment of any Award, (ii) accelerate the lapse of restrictions on any Award, (iii) eliminate any conditions applicable to an Award, (iv) accelerate the date on which any Award first becomes exercisable or (v) extend the post-termination exercise period of an Award (but not later than the original expiration date). The terms of Awards may vary among Participants and the Plan does not impose upon the Committee any requirement to make Awards subject to uniform terms. Accordingly, the terms of individual Award Documents may vary.
- Termination of Employment. (i) In connection with a Participant's termination of employment with the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, the Committee shall have full authority and discretion to accelerate the vesting, exercisability or settlement of, eliminate the restrictions and conditions applicable to, or extend the post-termination exercise period of an outstanding Award, which provisions may be specified in the applicable Award Document or determined at a subsequent time; provided, however, that if a Participant's termination of employment with the Company or any of its Subsidiaries is for "cause" (as such term is defined in the Award Document) or if the Committee fails to take any action to the contrary, any unexercised Stock Options, whether vested or not, and any unvested Restricted Share Units, Performance Share Units, Stock Appreciation Rights or Other Awards granted to such Participant under this Plan shall lapse and become void as of the date of such termination. The employment of a Participant shall not be deemed to have terminated if such Participant is transferred among the Company and any of its Subsidiaries.

- Change in Control Transactions. In connection with a merger, consolidation, liquidation, dissolution, sale of substantially all of the assets or other Change in Control transaction of the Company, the Committee shall have full authority and discretion to determine the effect, if any, of such event on the vesting, exercisability, settlement, payment or lapse of restrictions applicable to an Award, which effect may be specified in the applicable Award Document or determined at a subsequent time. Subject to applicable laws, such actions may include, without limitation: (A) providing for the acceleration of any vesting conditions relating to the exercise or settlement of an Award or that an Award shall terminate or expire unless exercised or settled in full on or before a date fixed by the Committee; (B) modifying the Award to reflect the transaction; (C) providing for the assumption, substitution, replacement or continuation of any Award by the surviving corporation in such transaction (or a parent or subsidiary thereof) with cash, securities, rights or other property to be paid or issued, as the case may be; or (D) terminating or cancelling any outstanding Award in exchange for a cash payment (including, if as of the date of the Change in Control, the Committee determines that no amount would have been realized upon the exercise of the Award, then the Award may be cancelled by the Company without payment of consideration).
- (e) <u>Dividends and Dividend Equivalents</u>. The Committee may provide Participants with the right to receive dividends or payments equivalent to dividends or interest with respect to an outstanding Award, which payments can either be paid currently or deemed to have been reinvested in shares of Common Stock, and can be made in shares of Common Stock, cash or a combination thereof, as the Committee shall determine; *provided*, *however*, that (i) the terms of any reinvestment of dividends must comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, including, without limitation, Section 409A of the Code. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no dividends or dividend equivalents shall be paid with respect to Options or Stock Appreciation Rights.
- (f) Rights of a Stockholder. A Participant shall have no rights as a stockholder with respect to shares of Common Stock covered by an Award until the date the Participant or his nominee becomes the holder of record of such shares. No adjustment shall be made for dividends or other rights for which the record date is prior to such date, except as provided in Section 13(b).
- Performance-Based Awards. (i) The Committee may determine whether any Award under the Plan is intended to be "performancebased compensation" as that term is used in Section 162(m) of the Code. Any such Awards designated to be "performance-based compensation" shall be conditioned on the achievement of one or more Performance Targets to the extent required by Section 162(m) of the Code and will be subject to all other conditions and requirements of Section 162(m). The Performance Targets will be comprised of specified levels of one or more of the following performance criteria as the Committee deems appropriate: net income; cash flow or cash flow on investment; pre-tax or post-tax profit levels or earnings; operating earnings; return on investment; net operating profit after tax; earned value added; earned value added expense reduction levels; free cash flow; free cash flow per share; earnings per share; net earnings per share; return on assets; return on net assets; return on equity; return on capital; return on sales; growth in managed assets; operating margin; sales growth; sales volume; economic profit; profit in excess of cost of capital; return on invested capital; net operating profit after tax; total stockholder return or stock price appreciation; operating income; dividends; market share, market penetration or other performance measures with respect to specific designated products or product groups and/or specific geographic areas; reduction of losses, loss ratios or expense ratios; reduction in fixed costs; operating cost management; cost of capital; debt reduction; productivity improvements; inventory turnover measurements; or customer satisfaction based on specified objective goals or a Company-sponsored customer survey; EBITDA; adjusted EBITA; adjusted EBITA; revenue; revenue before deferral; net revenues; operating revenues; share price, in each case determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (subject to modifications approved by the Committee). Each Performance Target shall be consistently applied on a business unit, divisional, subsidiary or consolidated basis or any combination thereof. The Performance Targets may be described in terms of objectives that are related to the individual Participant or objectives that are Company-wide or related to a Subsidiary, division, department, region, function or business unit and may be measured on an absolute or cumulative basis or on the basis of percentage of improvement over time, and may be measured in terms of Company performance (or performance of the applicable Subsidiary, division, department, region, function or business unit) or measured relative to selected peer companies or a market index. The Performance Targets shall be determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (subject to adjustments and modifications approved by the Committee in advance) consistently applied on a business unit, division, Subsidiary or consolidated basis or any combination thereof. At the time of grant, the Committee may provide for adjustments to the Performance Targets in accordance with Section 162(m) of the Code.

- (ii) The Participants will be designated, and the applicable Performance Targets will be established, by the Committee within ninety (90) days following the commencement of the applicable Performance Period (or such earlier or later date permitted or required by Section 162(m) of the Code). Each Participant will be assigned a Target Number payable if Performance Targets are achieved. Any payment of an Award granted with Performance Targets shall be conditioned on the written certification of the Committee in each case that the Performance Targets and any other material conditions were satisfied. The Committee may determine, at the time of Award grant, that if performance exceeds the specified Performance Targets, the Award may be settled with payment greater than the Target Number, but in no event may such payment exceed the limits set forth in Section 5(c). The Committee retains the right to reduce any Award notwithstanding the attainment of the Performance Targets. In the event that all members of the Committee are not "outside directors" as that term is defined in Section 162(m) of the Code, the grant and terms of Awards intended to qualify as "performance-based compensation" shall be made by a subcommittee of the Committee consisting of two or more "outside directors" for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Code.
- (iii) The Committee may also grant Awards not intended to qualify as "performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m) of the Code. With respect to such awards, the Committee may establish Performance Targets based on other criteria as it deems appropriate.
- (h) <u>Recoupment</u>. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, all Awards granted under the Plan, any payments made under the Plan and any gains realized upon exercise or settlement of an Award shall be subject to claw-back or recoupment as permitted or mandated by applicable law, rules, regulations or any Company policy as enacted, adopted or modified from time to time.

7. Terms and Conditions of Options

- (a) <u>General</u>. The Committee, in its discretion, may grant Options to eligible Participants and shall determine whether such Options shall be Incentive Stock Options or Nonqualified Stock Options. Each Option shall be evidenced by an Award Document that shall expressly identify the Option as an Incentive Stock Option or Nonqualified Stock Option, and be in such form and contain such provisions as the Committee shall from time to time deem appropriate.
- (b) <u>Exercise Price</u>. The exercise price of an Option shall be fixed by the Committee at the time of grant or shall be determined by a method specified by the Committee at the time of grant, but in no event shall the exercise price of an Option be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock on the date of grant. Payment of the exercise price of an Option shall be made in any form approved by the Committee at the time of grant.
- (c) <u>Term.</u> An Option shall be effective for such term as shall be determined by the Committee and as set forth in the Award Document relating to such Option, and the Committee may extend the term of an Option after the time of grant; *provided*, *however*, that the term of an Option may in no event extend beyond the tenth anniversary of the date of grant of such Option.
- (d) Incentive Stock Options. The exercise price per share of an Incentive Stock Option may not be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value per share of Common Stock on the date of grant (or, if the exercise price is not fixed on the date of grant, on such date as the exercise price is fixed). No Incentive Stock Option may be issued pursuant to the Plan to any individual who, at the time the Incentive Stock Option is granted, owns stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, unless (i) the exercise price determined as of the date of grant is at least 110% of the Fair Market Value on the date of grant of the shares of Common Stock subject to such Incentive Stock Option and (ii) the Incentive Stock Option is not exercisable more than five years from the date of grant thereof. No Participant shall be granted any Incentive Stock Option which would result in such Participant receiving a grant of Incentive Stock Options that would have an aggregate Fair Market Value in excess of \$100,000, determined as of the time of grant, that would be exercisable for the first time by such Participant during any calendar year. The terms of any Incentive Stock Option granted under the Plan shall comply in all respects with the provisions of Section 422 of the Code, or any successor provision thereto, and any regulations promulgated thereunder. No Incentive Stock Option may be granted under the Plan after the tenth anniversary of the Effective Date.

8. Terms and Conditions of Restricted Shares and Restricted Share Units

- (a) <u>Restricted Shares</u>. The Committee is authorized to grant or sell Restricted Shares to Eligible Individuals. An Award of Restricted Shares shall consist of one or more Restricted Shares granted or sold to an Eligible Individual, and shall be subject to the terms, conditions and restrictions set forth in the Plan and applicable Award Document. Restricted Shares may, among other things, be subject to restrictions on transferability, vesting requirements or other specified circumstances under which it may be canceled.
- (b) <u>Restricted Share Units.</u> The Committee is authorized to grant Restricted Share Units to Eligible Individuals. A Restricted Share Unit shall entitle a Participant to receive, subject to the terms, conditions and restrictions set forth in the Plan and applicable Award Document, one or more shares of Common Stock in consideration of the Participant's employment with the Company or any of its Subsidiaries. If and when the forfeiture provisions lapse, the Restricted Share Units shall become shares of Common Stock owned by the corresponding Participant or, at the sole discretion of the Committee, cash, or a combination of cash and shares of Common Stock, with a value equal to the Fair Market Value of the shares at the time of payment.

9. Terms and Conditions of Performance Share Units

The Committee is authorized to grant Performance Share Units to Eligible Individuals. A Performance Share Unit shall entitle a Participant to receive, subject to the terms, conditions and restrictions set forth in the Plan and applicable Award Document, a Target Number of shares of Common Stock based upon the achievement of Performance Targets over the applicable Performance Period. At the sole discretion of the Committee, Performance Share Units shall be settled through the delivery of shares of Common Stock or cash, or a combination of cash and shares of Common Stock, with a value equal to the Fair Market Value of the shares of Common Stock as of the last day of the applicable Performance Period.

10. Stock Appreciation Rights

(a) General. The Committee is authorized to grant Stock Appreciation Rights to Eligible Individuals. A Stock Appreciation Right shall entitle a Participant to receive, upon satisfaction of the conditions to payment specified in the applicable Award Document, an amount equal to the excess, if any, of the Fair Market Value on the exercise date of the number of shares of Common Stock for which the Stock Appreciation Right is exercised, over the exercise price for such Stock Appreciation Right specified in the applicable Award Document. The exercise price per share of Common Stock covered by a Stock Appreciation Right shall be fixed by the Committee at the time of grant or shall be determined by a method specified by the Committee at the time of grant, but in no event shall the exercise price of a Stock Appreciation Right be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock on the date of grant. At the sole discretion of the Committee, payments to a Participant upon exercise of a Stock Appreciation Right may be made in cash or shares of Common Stock, or in a combination of cash and shares of Common Stock, having an aggregate Fair Market Value as of the date of exercise equal to such cash amount. A Stock Appreciation Right shall be effective for such term as shall be determined by the Committee and as set forth in the Award Document relating to such Stock Appreciation Right, and the Committee may extend the term of a Stock Appreciation Right after the time of grant; provided, however, that the term of a Stock Appreciation Right may in no event extend beyond the tenth anniversary of the date of grant of such Stock Appreciation Right.

- (b) <u>Methods of Exercise</u>. In accordance with the rules and procedures established by the Committee for this purpose, and subject to the provisions of the applicable Award Document, the Committee shall determine the permissible methods of exercise for a Stock Appreciation Right.
- (c) Stock Appreciation Rights in Tandem with Options. A Stock Appreciation Right granted in tandem with an Option may be granted either at the same time as such Option or subsequent thereto. If granted in tandem with an Option, a Stock Appreciation Right shall cover the same number of shares of Common Stock as covered by the Option (or such lesser number of shares as the Committee may determine) and shall be exercisable only at such time or times and to the extent the related Option shall be exercisable, and shall have the same term and exercise price as the related Option (which, in the case of a Stock Appreciation Right granted after the grant of the related Option, may be less than the Fair Market Value per share on the date of grant of the tandem Stock Appreciation Right). Upon exercise of a Stock Appreciation Right granted in tandem with an Option, the related Option shall be canceled automatically to the extent of the number of shares covered by such exercise; conversely, if the related Option is exercised as to some or all of the shares covered by the tandem grant, the tandem Stock Appreciation Right shall be canceled automatically to the extent of the number of shares covered by the Option exercise.

11. Other Awards

The Committee shall have the authority to specify the terms and provisions of other forms of equity-based or equity-related Awards not described above that the Committee determines to be consistent with the purpose of the Plan and the interests of the Company, which Awards may provide for cash payments based in whole or in part on the value or future value of shares of Common Stock, for the acquisition or future acquisition of shares of Common Stock, or any combination thereof.

12. Certain Restrictions

- (a) <u>Transfers.</u> No Award shall be transferable other than by the laws of descent and distribution or pursuant to a domestic relations order, as the case may be; *provided, however*, that the Committee may, subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations and such terms and conditions as it shall specify, permit the transfer of the Award, including, without limitation, for no consideration to a Permitted Transferee. Any Award transferred to a Permitted Transferee may not be further transferable without the Committee's approval and any Award transferred to a Permitted Transferee shall be further transferable only by last will and testament or the laws of descent and distribution or, for no consideration, to another Permitted Transferee of the Participant.
- (b) Award Exercisable Only by Participant. During the lifetime of a Participant, an Award shall be exercisable only by the Participant or a Permitted Transferee to whom such Award has been transferred in accordance with Section 12(a). The grant of an Award shall impose no obligation on a Participant to exercise or settle the Award.

13. Recapitalization or Reorganization

- (a) Authority of the Company and Stockholders. The existence of the Plan, the Award Documents and the Awards granted hereunder shall not affect or restrict in any way the right or power of the Company or the stockholders of the Company to make or authorize any adjustment, recapitalization, reorganization or other change in the Company's capital structure or business, any merger or consolidation of the Company, any issue of stock or of options, warrants or rights to purchase stock or of bonds, debentures, preferred or prior preference stocks whose rights are superior to or affect the shares of Common Stock or the rights thereof or which are convertible into or exchangeable for shares of Common Stock, or the dissolution or liquidation of the Company, or any sale or transfer of all or any part of its assets or business, or any other corporate act or proceeding, whether of a similar character or otherwise.
- Change in Capitalization. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan or any Award Document, the number and kind of shares authorized for issuance under Section 5 of the Plan, including the maximum number of shares available under the special limits provided for in Section 5(c), shall be equitably adjusted in the manner deemed necessary by the Committee in the event of a stock split, reverse stock spit, stock dividend, recapitalization, reorganization, partial or complete liquidation, reclassification, merger, consolidation, separation, extraordinary cash dividend, split-up, spin-off, combination, exchange of shares, warrants or rights offering to purchase shares at a price substantially below Fair Market Value, or any other corporate event or distribution of stock or property of the Company affecting the shares of Common Stock in order to preserve, but not increase, the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available under the Plan. In addition, upon the occurrence of any of the foregoing events, the number and kind of shares subject to any outstanding Award and the exercise price per Share (or the grant price per Share, as the case may be), if any, under any outstanding Award shall be equitably adjusted in the manner deemed necessary by the Committee (including by payment of cash to a Participant) in order to preserve the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available to Participants. Unless otherwise determined by the Committee, such adjusted Awards shall be subject to the same restrictions and vesting or settlement schedule to which the underlying Award is subject.

(c) Repricing of Options and Stock Appreciation Rights. Except in connection with a corporate transaction involving the Company (including, without limitation, any stock dividend, stock split, extraordinary cash dividend, recapitalization, reorganization, merger, consolidation, split-up, spin-off, combination, or exchange of shares), the terms of outstanding Awards may not be amended, without stockholder approval, to reduce the exercise price of outstanding Options or Stock Appreciation Rights, or to cancel outstanding Options or Stock Appreciation Rights with an exercise price that is less than the exercise price of the original Options or Stock Appreciation Rights.

14. Term of the Plan

Unless earlier terminated pursuant to Section 16, the Plan shall terminate on the 10th anniversary of the Effective Date, except with respect to Awards then outstanding. No Awards may be granted under the Plan after the 10th anniversary of the Effective Date.

15. Effective Date

The Plan shall become effective on the Effective Date; provided, however, that, if the Plan is not approved by the stockholders upon submission to them for approval, the Plan shall be void ab initio and of no further force and effect.

16. Amendment and Termination

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary and subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations, the Board may, at any time, terminate or, from time to time, amend, modify or suspend the Plan; provided, however, that no termination, amendment, modification or suspension of the Plan (i) shall be effective without the approval of the stockholders of the Company if such approval is required under applicable laws, rules and regulations, including the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market or (ii) shall materially and adversely alter or impair the rights of a Participant in any Award previously made under the Plan without the consent of the holder thereof and no amendment which increases the Plan Limit shall be effective without stockholder approval (other than in connection with a transaction or event described in Section 13(b) of the Plan). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board shall have broad authority to amend the Plan or any Award under the Plan without the consent of a Participant to the extent it deems necessary or desirable to (a) comply with, or take into account changes in or interpretation of applicable tax laws, securities laws, employment laws, accounting rules and other applicable laws, rules and regulations, (b) to take into account unusual or nonrecurring events or market conditions (including, without limitation, the events described in Section 13(b)), or (c) to take into account significant acquisitions or dispositions of assets or other property by the Company.

17. Miscellaneous

(a) Tax Withholding. The Company or a Subsidiary, as appropriate, may require any individual entitled to receive a payment in respect of an Award to remit to the Company, prior to such payment, an amount sufficient to satisfy any applicable tax withholding requirements. In the case of an Award payable in shares of Common Stock, the Company or a Subsidiary, as appropriate, may permit or require such individual to satisfy, in whole or in part, such obligation to remit taxes by directing the Company to withhold shares that would otherwise be received by such individual or to repurchase shares that were issued to such individual to satisfy the minimum statutory withholding rates for any applicable tax withholding purposes, in accordance with all applicable laws and pursuant to such rules as the Committee may establish from time to time. The Company or a Subsidiary, as appropriate, shall also have the right to deduct from all cash payments made to a Participant (whether or not such payment is made in connection with an Award) any applicable taxes required to be withheld with respect to such payments.

- (b) No Right to Awards or Employment. No person shall have any claim or right to receive Awards under the Plan. Neither the Plan, the grant of Awards under the Plan, nor any action taken or omitted to be taken under the Plan shall be deemed to create or confer on any Eligible Individual any right to be retained in the employ of the Company or any Subsidiary or other affiliate thereof, or to interfere with or to limit in any way the right of the Company or any Subsidiary or other affiliate thereof to terminate the employment of such Eligible Individual at any time. No Award shall constitute salary, recurrent compensation or contractual compensation for the year of grant, any later year or any other period of time. Payments received by a Participant under any Award made pursuant to the Plan shall not be included in, nor have any effect on, the determination of employment-related rights or benefits under any other employee benefit plan or similar arrangement provided by the Company and the Subsidiaries, unless otherwise specifically provided for under the terms of such plan or arrangement or by the Committee.
 - (c) Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act. The Plan is intended to comply in all respects with Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act.
- (d) Section 162(m) of the Code. The Plan is intended to comply in all respects with Section 162(m) of the Code; provided, however, that in the event the Committee determines that compliance with Section 162(m) of the Code is not desired with respect to a particular Award, compliance with Section 162(m) of the Code will not be required. In addition, if any provision of this Plan would cause Awards that are intended to constitute "qualified performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m) of the Code to fail to so qualify, that provision shall be severed from, and shall be deemed not to be a part of, the Plan, but the other provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.
- (e) Securities Law Restrictions. An Award may not be exercised or settled, and no shares may be issued in connection with an Award, unless the issuance of such shares (i) has been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, (ii) has qualified under applicable state "blue sky" laws (or the Company has determined that an exemption from registration and from qualification under such state "blue sky" laws is available) and (iii) complies with all applicable foreign securities laws. The Committee may require each Participant purchasing or acquiring shares of Common Stock pursuant to an Award under the Plan to represent to and agree with the Company in writing that such Participant is acquiring the shares of Common Stock for investment purposes and not with a view to the distribution thereof. All certificates for shares of Common Stock delivered under the Plan shall be subject to such stock-transfer orders and other restrictions as the Committee may deem advisable under the rules, regulations, and other requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, any exchange upon which the shares of Common Stock are then listed, and any applicable securities law, and the Committee may cause a legend or legends to be put on any such certificates to make appropriate reference to such restrictions.
- (f) <u>Award Document</u>. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the Plan and any Award Document, the Plan shall govern and the Award Document shall be interpreted to minimize or eliminate any such conflict or inconsistency.
- (g) <u>Headings</u>. The headings of sections herein are included solely for convenience of reference and shall not affect the meaning of any of the provisions of the Plan.
- (h) Section 409A of the Code. To the extent that the Committee determines that any Award granted under the Plan is subject to Section 409A of the Code, the Award Document evidencing such Award shall incorporate the terms and conditions required by Section 409A of the Code. To the extent applicable, the Plan and Award Documents shall be interpreted in accordance with Section 409A of the Code and interpretive guidance issues thereunder. Notwithstanding any contrary provision in the Plan or an Award Document, if any provision of the Plan or an Award Document contravenes any regulations or guidance promulgated under Section 409A of the Code or would cause an Award to be subject to additional taxes, accelerated taxation, interest and/or penalties under Section 409A of the Code, such provision of the Plan or Award Document may be modified by the Committee without consent of the Participant in any manner the Committee deems reasonable or necessary. In making such modifications the Committee shall attempt, but shall not be obligated, to maintain, to the maximum extent practicable, the original intent of the applicable provision without contravening the provisions of Section 409A of the Code. Moreover, any discretionary authority that the Committee may have pursuant to the Plan shall not be applicable to an Award that is subject to Section 409A of the Code to the extent such discretionary authority would contravene Section 409A of the Code or the guidance promulgated thereunder.

	(i)	Satisfaction of Ob	ligations.	Subject to ap	plicable law,	the Compar	ny may a	apply any c	ash, Shares,	, securities o	r other	consideration
received upon ex	ercise or	settlement of an A	ward to any	y obligations	a Participant	owes to the	e Compa	iny and the	Subsidiarie	es in connec	tion wit	h the Plan or
otherwise, includ	ing, with	out limitation, any	tax obliga	tions or oblig	gations under	a currency f	facility e	stablished	in connection	on with the	Plan.	

- (j) No Limitation on Corporate Actions. Nothing contained in the Plan shall be construed to prevent the Company or any Subsidiary from taking any corporate action, whether or not such action would have an adverse effect on any Awards made under the Plan. No Participant, beneficiary or other person shall have any claim against the Company or any Subsidiary as a result of any such action.
- (k) <u>Successors</u>. All obligations of the Company under the Plan with respect to Awards granted hereunder shall be binding on any successor to the Company, whether the existence of such successor is the result of a direct or indirect purchase, merger, consolidation, or otherwise, of all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company.
- (1) <u>Severability</u>. If any provision of this Plan is held unenforceable, the remainder of the Plan shall continue in full force and effect without regard to such unenforceable provision and shall be applied as though the unenforceable provision were not contained in the Plan.
 - (m) <u>Expenses</u>. The cost and expenses of administering the Plan shall be borne by the Company.
- (n) <u>Application of Funds</u>. The proceeds received by the Company from the sale of shares of Common Stock pursuant to Awards shall be used for general corporate purposes.
- (o) <u>Governing Law.</u> The Plan and all agreements entered into under the Plan shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of New York.
- (p) <u>Unfunded Plan</u>. The Plan is intended to constitute an unfunded plan for incentive compensation. Prior to the issuance of shares in connection with an Award, nothing contained herein shall give any Participant any rights that are greater than those of a general unsecured creditor of the Company. In its sole discretion, the Committee may authorize the creation of trusts or other arrangements to meet the obligations created under the Plan to deliver shares with respect to awards hereunder.

LINCOLN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION AMENDED AND RESTATED 2005 NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTORS RESTRICTED STOCK PLAN

1. Purpose of the Plan

The Plan is intended to encourage ownership of Common Stock by Non-Employee Directors of the Company, upon whose judgment and interest the Company is dependent for its successful operation and growth, in order to increase their proprietary interest in the Company's success and to encourage them to serve as directors of the Company.

2. Definitions and Rules of Construction

- (a) <u>Definitions</u>. For purposes of the Plan, the following capitalized words shall have the meanings set forth below:
 - "Annual Meeting" means an annual meeting of the Company's stockholders.
 - "Award" means an award of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units made pursuant to the terms of the Plan.
- "Award Document" means an agreement, certificate or other type or form of document or documentation approved by the Committee which sets forth the terms and conditions of an Award. An Award Document may be in written, electronic or other media, may be limited to a notation on the books and records of the Company and, unless the Committee requires otherwise, need not be signed by a representative of the Company or a Non-Employee Director.
 - "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Company, including any directors who may be participants in the Plan.

"Change in Control" means

- a. when a "person" (as defined in Section 3(a)(9) of the Exchange Act), including a "group" (as defined in Section 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act), either directly or indirectly becomes the "beneficial owner" (as defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act) of 25% or more of either (i) the then outstanding Common Stock, or (ii) the combined voting power of the then outstanding voting securities of the Company entitled to vote generally in the election of directors; provided, however, that the following acquisitions shall not constitute a Change in Control: (1) any acquisition directly from the Company; (2) any acquisition by the Company; or (3) any acquisition by an employee benefit plan (or related trust) sponsored or maintained by the Company or any corporation controlled by the Company;
- b. when, during any period of 24 consecutive months of service, the individuals who, at the beginning of such period, constitute the Board (the "Company Incumbent Directors") cease for any reason other than death to constitute at least a majority thereof; provided, however, that a director who was not a director at the beginning of such 24-month period shall be deemed to be a Company Incumbent Director if such director was elected by, or on the recommendation of or with the approval of at least two-thirds of the directors of the Company, who then qualified as Company Incumbent Directors;
- c. when the stockholders of the Company approve a reorganization, merger or consolidation of the Company without the consent or approval of a majority of the Company Incumbent Directors;

- d. consummation of a merger, amalgamation or consolidation of the Company with any other corporation, the issuance of voting securities of the Company in connection with a merger, amalgamation or consolidation of the Company or sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company or the acquisition of assets of another corporation (each, a "Business Combination"), unless, in each case of a Business Combination, immediately following such Business Combination, all or substantially all of the individuals and entities who were the beneficial owners of the Common Stock outstanding immediately prior to such Business Combination beneficially own, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of the then outstanding shares of common stock and 50% of the combined voting power of the noutstanding voting securities entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, as the case may be, of the entity resulting from such Business Combination (including, without limitation, an entity which as a result of such transaction owns the Company or all or substantially all of the Company's assets either directly or through one or more subsidiaries) in substantially the same proportions as their ownership, immediately prior to such Business Combination, of the Common Stock; or
- e. a complete liquidation or dissolution of the Company or the sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company.
- "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the applicable rulings and regulations thereunder.
- "Committee" means the Compensation Committee of the Board or such other committee appointed by the Board to administer the Plan.
- "Common Stock" means the common stock of the Company, no par value per share, or such other class of share or other securities as may be applicable under Section 9(b) hereof.
 - "Company" means Lincoln Education Services Corporation, or any successor to substantially all of its business.
 - "Date of Grant" means the date on which a Non-Employee Director is granted an Award.
- "Deferral Election" means a Non-Employee Director's irrevocable, written election to defer his Award of Restricted Stock in accordance with Section 8 hereof.
 - "Deferral Plan" means the Company's 2005 Deferred Compensation Plan or any successor plan thereto.
 - "Effective Date" means the date on which the Plan, as amended and restated, is approved by the stockholders of the Company.
 - "Exchange Act" means the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder.
- "Fair Market Value" means (i) if the Common Stock is listed on a securities exchange or is traded over the Nasdaq Stock Market, the closing sales price on such exchange or over such system on such date or, in the absence of reported sales on such date, the closing sales price on the immediately preceding date on which sales were reported, or (ii) if the Common Stock is not listed on a securities exchange or traded over the Nasdaq Stock Market, the mean between the bid and offered prices as quoted by the Nasdaq Stock Market for such date, provided that if it is determined that the fair market value is not properly reflected by such Nasdaq Stock Market quotations, Fair Market Value shall be determined by such other method as the Committee determines in good faith to be reasonable.

- "Non-Employee Director" means a director of the Company who is not an officer or employee of the Company or any Subsidiary.
- "Plan" means this Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated Non-Employee Directors Restricted Stock Plan, as described herein.
 - "Plan Limit" has the meaning assigned to such term in Section 5 hereof.
- "Restricted Stock" means restricted shares of Common Stock granted to a Non-Employee Director pursuant to Section 7 hereof. One share of Restricted Stock corresponds to one share of Common Stock.
- "Restricted Stock Units" mean a contractual right to receive shares of Common Stock at a subsequent date upon satisfaction of the conditions to vesting and settlement pursuant to Section 8 hereof. One Restricted Stock Unit corresponds to one share of Common Stock.
- "Subsidiary" means (i) a corporation or other entity with respect to which the Company, directly or indirectly, has the power, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise, to elect at least a majority of the members of such corporation's board of directors or analogous governing body, or (ii) any other corporation or other entity in which the Company, directly or indirectly, has an equity or similar interest and which the Committee designates as a Subsidiary for purposes of the Plan. For purposes of determining eligibility for the grant of Incentive Stock Options under the Plan, the term "Subsidiary" shall be defined in the manner required by Section 424(f) of the Code.
 - "Vesting Date" has the meaning assigned to such term in Section 8(c) hereof.
- (b) <u>Rules of Construction</u>. The masculine pronoun shall be deemed to include the feminine pronoun and the singular form of a word shall be deemed to include the plural form, unless the context requires otherwise. Unless the text indicates otherwise, references to sections are to sections of the Plan.

3. Administration

- (a) Authority. Subject to the provisions of Section 12 hereof, the Committee shall have authority to (i) construe and interpret the provisions of the Plan and any Award Document, (ii) to establish such rules and procedures as may be necessary or advisable to administer the Plan, (iii) to make all determinations necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan, including, without limitation, factual and legal determinations, (iv) to employ such legal counsel, independent auditors and consultants as it deems desirable for the administration of the Plan and to rely upon any opinion or computations received therefrom and (v) to correct any defects, supply any omission or reconcile any inconsistency in any Award Document or the Plan; provided, however, that no such interpretation or determination shall change or affect the selection of persons eligible to receive an Award under the Plan, the number of shares authorized under the Plan or the terms and conditions thereof. The interpretation and construction by the Committee of any provision of the Plan or of any Award Document shall made in the Committee's sole discretion and shall be final, binding and conclusive for all purposes and upon all persons interested herein.
- (b) <u>Delegation</u>. To the extent not prohibited by applicable laws, rules and regulations, the Committee may, from time to time, delegate some or all of its authority under the Plan to a subcommittee or subcommittees thereof or other persons or groups of persons as it deems necessary, appropriate or advisable under such conditions or limitations as it may set at the time of such delegation or thereafter.
- (c) <u>Liability of Committee and its Delegates</u>. Subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations: (i) no member of the Board or Committee (or its delegates) shall be liable for any good faith action, omission or determination made in connection with the operation, administration or interpretation of the Plan and (ii) the members of the Board or the Committee (and its delegates) shall be entitled to indemnification and reimbursement in the manner provided in the Company's Certificate of Incorporation as it may be amended from time to time. In the performance of its responsibilities with respect to the Plan, the Committee shall be entitled to rely upon information and advice furnished by the Company's officers or employees, the Company's accountants, the Company's counsel and any other party the Committee deems necessary, and no member of the Committee shall be liable for any action taken or not taken in reliance upon any such information or advice.

4. Eligibility

Awards under the Plan shall be granted pursuant to the provisions hereof to persons who are Non-Employee Directors.

5. Common Stock Subject to the Plan

- (a) <u>Plan Limit.</u> Subject to Section 9(b) hereof, the Company is authorized to issue up to 500,000 shares of Common Stock under the Plan (the "*Plan Limit"*). Such shares may be authorized but unissued shares of Common Stock or reacquired shares of Common Stock held in the treasury of the Company.
- (b) Rules Applicable to Determining Shares Available for Issuance. The number of shares of Common Stock remaining available for issuance will be reduced by the number of shares of Common Stock subject to outstanding Awards and, for Awards that are not denominated by shares, by the number of shares actually delivered upon settlement or payment of the Award. For purposes of determining the number of shares of Common Stock that remain available for issuance under the Plan, the number of shares that are tendered by a participant or withheld by the Company to pay the exercise price of an Award or to satisfy the participant's tax withholding obligations in connection with the vesting, exercise or settlement of an Award will not be added back to the Plan Limit. In addition, for purposes of determining the number of shares that remain available for issuance under the Plan, the number of shares corresponding to Awards under the Plan that are forfeited or cancelled or otherwise expire for any reason without having been exercised or settled or that is settled through the issuance of consideration other than shares (including, without limitation, cash) shall be added back to the Plan Limit and again be available for the grant of Awards.

6. Awards in General

- (a) <u>General.</u> The terms and conditions of each Award shall be set forth in an Award Document, which shall contain terms and conditions not inconsistent with the Plan. Each Award made to a Non-Employee Director under the Plan shall be granted for no consideration other than the provision of services (or such minimum payment as may be required under applicable law) or for such other consideration as the Committee may determine.
- (b) <u>Effect of Termination of Service</u>. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, in the event that a Non-Employee Director's service on the Board terminates, the Committee shall have full authority and discretion to accelerate the vesting of an Award, which provisions may be specified in the applicable Award Document or determined at a subsequent time. In the absence of any action by the Committee to the contrary, upon such termination of service, the Non-Employee Director's Award shall, to the extent unvested, be immediately forfeited as of such date of termination of service. The date of a Non-Employee Director's termination of service from the Board for any reason shall be determined in the sole discretion of the Committee.

7. Terms and Conditions of Restricted Stock Awards

The terms of this Section 7 are subject to the terms and provisions set forth above in Section 6.

- (a) <u>Initial Grant of Restricted Stock.</u> Subject to the provisions of Section 8, each Non-Employee Director shall receive an Award of shares of Restricted Stock equal to \$60,000 (based on the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock on the Date of Grant) or such other amount as the Committee may determine from time to time for service as a director of the Company on the first day of the calendar month following the month in which such Non-Employee Director becomes a Non-Employee Director.
- (b) Annual Grants of Restricted Stock. Subject to the provisions of Sections 7 and 8, on the date of each Annual Meeting, each Non-Employee Director shall automatically receive an Award of shares of Restricted Stock equal to \$55,000 (based on the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock on the Date of Grant) for service as a director of the Company, provided that such Non-Employee Director shall continue to serve as a director of the Company immediately after such Annual Meeting, provided further that if a person is elected, appointed or otherwise becomes a Non-Employee Director during a period of 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting in any year, then such Non-Employee Director shall not receive any Award of Restricted Stock pursuant to this Section 7(b) for such year.

- (c) <u>Vesting</u>. Unless otherwise set forth in an Award Document, an Award of Restricted Stock shall vest and become nonforfeitable on the first anniversary of the Date of Grant (subject to early vesting, if so provided by the Committee in its sole discretion in the applicable Award Document or at a subsequent time, upon a Change in Control of the Company).
- (d) <u>Issuance of Shares</u>. A certificate representing the whole shares of Common Stock covered by an Award of Restricted Stock shall be issued in the Non-Employee Director's name, subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan and the applicable Award Document, promptly after the Date of Grant, and such a Non-Employee Director shall be deemed to own such number of whole shares of Common Stock, including, without limitation, for purposes of dividends and voting, as of the Date of Grant. The Board may require that the certificate evidencing such shares be held in custody by the Company until the restrictions thereon shall have lapsed, and that, as a condition of any Award of Restricted Stock, the Eligible Director shall have delivered a stock power, endorsed in blank, relating to the Common Stock covered by such Award of Restricted Stock.
- (e) <u>Restrictions on Transfer of Restricted Stock.</u> Unless the Committee determines otherwise, Restricted Stock shall not be transferable other than by the laws of descent and distribution until such Restricted Stock has vested pursuant to Section 7(c) but, in no event, prior to the expiration of a period of six (6) months from the Date of Grant.

8. Deferral Election; Terms and Conditions of Restricted Stock Unit Awards

The terms of this Section 8 are subject to the terms and provisions set forth above in Section 6.

- (a) <u>Deferral Election</u>. Notwithstanding any provision of Section 7, each Non-Employee Director may, in the discretion of the Committee, be given the opportunity to irrevocably elect to defer under the Deferral Plan receipt of all or any portion of an Award of Restricted Stock otherwise receivable by him under paragraph (a) or (b) of Section 7 through a Deferral Election. Except for the year in which a Non-Employee Director becomes eligible to participate in the Plan, any Deferral Election must be made by a Non-Employee Director within the requisite time specified by the Committee, but in no event later than December 31st of the taxable year prior to the year in which the applicable Award of Restricted Stock is granted to such Non-Employee Director. For the first year in which a Non-Employee Director becomes eligible to participate in the Plan, a Non-Employee Director must make a Deferral Election within 30 days after the date he or she becomes eligible to participate in the Plan.
- (b) <u>Grant of Restricted Stock Units.</u> When a Non-Employee Director makes a Deferral Election, he shall receive a number of Restricted Stock Units in lieu of, and equal to, the number of shares of Restricted Stock that is subject to such Deferral Election. The Non-Employee Director shall receive an Award of these Restricted Stock Units on the same date that the Award of Restricted Stock subject to the Deferral Election otherwise would have been granted to him under paragraph (a) or (b), as applicable, of Section 7. Except as otherwise provided by the Committee in any Award Document, the terms and conditions applicable to an Award of Restricted Stock Units are described in this Section 8.
- (c) <u>Vesting</u>. Unless otherwise set forth in an Award Document, an Award of Restricted Stock Units shall vest and become nonforfeitable on the first anniversary of the Date of Grant (each, a "Vesting Date") (subject to early vesting, if so provided by the Committee in its sole discretion in the applicable Award Document or at a subsequent time, including, without limitation, upon a Change in Control of the Company).
- (d) No Issuance of Shares; Deferral. Subject to Section 8(f), upon an Award of Restricted Stock Units, or a portion thereof, becoming vested, no shares of Common Stock shall be issued to the Non-Employee Director. Instead, the Restricted Stock Units shall be credited, without any further action on the part of the Non-Employee Director, to the Non-Employee Director's deferred compensation account under the Deferral Plan on the applicable Vesting Date. Any Restricted Stock Units credited to the Deferral Plan shall be held in the Deferral Plan as Restricted Stock Units until such time as they are settled through the delivery of shares of Common Stock in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Deferral Plan.

- (e) Restrictions on Transfer of Restricted Stock Units. Unless the Committee determines otherwise, Restricted Stock Units shall not be transferable other than by the laws of descent and distribution.
- (f) <u>Dividend Equivalent Payments</u>. Unless the Committee determines otherwise, if the Company pays any cash or other dividend or makes any other distribution in respect of the shares of Common Stock underlying an Award of Restricted Stock Units, or a portion thereof, before such Restricted Stock Units are credited to the Deferral Plan in accordance with the terms of Section 8(d), the Company shall maintain a bookkeeping record to which such amount of the dividend or distribution in respect of such shares of Common Stock shall be credited to an account for the Non-Employee Director and distributed in whole shares of Common Stock at the time the Award, or portion thereof is vested.
- (g) No Rights as a Stockholder. Except as otherwise provided by the Committee in the applicable Award Document, a Non-Employee Director shall have no rights as a stockholder with respect to any Awards of Restricted Stock Units or any value thereof deferred under the Deferral Plan.

9. No Restriction on Right of Company to Effect Corporate Changes

(a) Authority of the Company and Stockholders

. The existence of the Plan, the Award Documents and the Awards granted hereunder shall not affect or restrict in any way the right or power of the Company or the stockholders of the Company to make or authorize any adjustment, recapitalization, reorganization or other change in the Company's capital structure or business, any merger or consolidation of the Company, any issue of stock or of options, warrants or rights to purchase stock or of bonds, debentures, preferred or prior preference stocks whose rights are superior to or affect the shares of Common Stock or the rights thereof or which are convertible into or exchangeable for shares of Common Stock, or the dissolution or liquidation of the Company, or any sale or transfer of all or any part of its assets or business, or any other corporate act or proceeding, whether of a similar character or otherwise.

(b) <u>Change in Capitalization</u>. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan or any Award Document, the number and kind of shares authorized for issuance under Section 5 of the Plan shall be equitably adjusted in the manner deemed necessary by the Committee in the event of a stock split, reverse stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization, reorganization, partial or complete liquidation, reclassification, merger, consolidation, separation, extraordinary cash dividend, split-up, spin-off, combination, exchange of shares, warrants or rights offering to purchase shares at a price substantially below Fair Market Value, or any other corporate event or distribution of stock or property of the Company affecting the shares of Common Stock in order to preserve, but not increase, the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available under the Plan. In addition, upon the occurrence of any of the foregoing events, the number and kind of shares subject to any outstanding Award and the exercise price per share (or the grant price per share, as the case may be), if any, under any outstanding Award shall be equitably adjusted in the manner deemed necessary by the Committee (including by payment of cash to a participant) in order to preserve the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available to participants. Unless otherwise determined by the Committee, such adjusted Awards shall be subject to the same restrictions and vesting or settlement schedule to which the underlying Award is subject.

10. Miscellaneous

(a) Tax Withholding. The Company or a Subsidiary, as appropriate, may require any individual entitled to receive a payment in respect of an Award to remit to the Company, prior to such payment, an amount sufficient to satisfy any applicable tax withholding requirements. In the case of an Award payable in shares of Common Stock, the Company or a Subsidiary, as appropriate, may permit or require such individual to satisfy, in whole or in part, such obligation to remit taxes by directing the Company to withhold shares that would otherwise be received by such individual or to repurchase shares that were issued to such individual to satisfy the minimum statutory withholding rates for any applicable tax withholding purposes, in accordance with all applicable laws and pursuant to such rules as the Committee may establish from time to time. The Company or a Subsidiary, as appropriate, shall also have the right to deduct from all cash payments made to a participant (whether or not such payment is made in connection with an Award) any applicable taxes required to be withheld with respect to such payments.

- (b) No Right to Awards or Continued Directorship. Nothing in the Plan shall confer upon any Non-Employee Director the right to continue as a director of the Company or affect any right that the Company or any Non-Employee Director may have to terminate the service of such Non-Employee Director
 - (c) Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act. The Plan is intended to comply in all respects with Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act.
- (d) Securities Law Restrictions. An Award may not be exercised or settled, and no shares may be issued in connection with an Award, unless the issuance of such shares (i) has been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, (ii) has qualified under applicable state "blue sky" laws (or the Company has determined that an exemption from registration and from qualification under such state "blue sky" laws is available) and (iii) complies with all applicable foreign securities laws. The Committee may require each Non-Employee Director purchasing or acquiring shares of Common Stock pursuant to an Award under the Plan to represent to and agree with the Company in writing that such Non-Employee Director is acquiring the shares of Common Stock for investment purposes and not with a view to the distribution thereof. All certificates for shares of Common Stock delivered under the Plan shall be subject to such stock-transfer orders and other restrictions as the Committee may deem advisable under the rules, regulations, and other requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, any exchange upon which the shares of Common Stock are then listed, and any applicable securities law, and the Committee may cause a legend or legends to be put on any such certificates to make appropriate reference to such restrictions.
- (e) <u>Headings</u>. The headings of sections herein are included solely for convenience of reference and shall not affect the meaning of any of the provisions of the Plan.
- (f) <u>Satisfaction of Obligations</u>. Subject to applicable law, the Company may apply any cash, Shares, securities or other consideration received upon exercise or settlement of an Award to any obligations a participant owes to the Company and the Subsidiaries in connection with the Plan or otherwise, including, without limitation, any tax obligations or obligations under a currency facility established in connection with the Plan.
- (g) <u>No Limitation on Corporate Actions</u>. Nothing contained in the Plan shall be construed to prevent the Company or any Subsidiary from taking any corporate action, whether or not such action would have an adverse effect on any Awards made under the Plan. No participant, beneficiary or other person shall have any claim against the Company or any Subsidiary as a result of any such action.
- (h) <u>Successors.</u> All obligations of the Company under the Plan with respect to Awards granted hereunder shall be binding on any successor to the Company, whether the existence of such successor is the result of a direct or indirect purchase, merger, consolidation, or otherwise, of all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company.
 - (i) Expenses. The cost and expenses of administering the Plan shall be borne by the Company.
- (j) <u>Governing Law.</u> The Plan and all agreements entered into under the Plan shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of New York.
- (k) <u>Unfunded Plan.</u> The Plan is intended to constitute an unfunded plan for incentive compensation. Prior to the issuance of Shares in connection with an Award, nothing contained herein shall give any participant any rights that are greater than those of a general unsecured creditor of the Company. In its sole discretion, the Committee may authorize the creation of trusts or other arrangements to meet the obligations created under the Plan to deliver Shares with respect to awards hereunder.

of the Code, the Award Document evidencing such Award shall incorporate the terms and conditions required by Section 409A of the Code. To the extent applicable, the Plan and Award Documents shall be interpreted in accordance with Section 409A of the Code and interpretive guidance issues thereunder. Notwithstanding any contrary provision in the Plan or an Award Document, if any provision of the Plan or an Award Document contravenes any regulations or guidance promulgated under Section 409A of the Code or would cause an Award to be subject to additional taxes, accelerated taxation, interest and/or penalties under Section 409A of the Code, such provision of the Plan or Award Document may be modified by the Committee without consent of the Participant in any manner the Committee deems reasonable or necessary. In making such modifications the Committee shall attempt, but shall not be obligated, to maintain, to the maximum extent practicable, the original intent of the applicable provision without contravening the provisions of Section 409A of the Code. Moreover, any discretionary authority that the Committee may have pursuant to the Plan shall not be applicable to an Award that is subject to Section 409A of the Code to the extent such discretionary authority would contravene Section 409A of the Code or the guidance promulgated thereunder.

11. Term of the Plan

Unless earlier terminated pursuant to Section 12 hereof, the Plan shall terminate on the tenth anniversary of the Effective Date, except with respect to Awards then outstanding.

12. Amendment and Termination

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary and subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations, the Board may, at any time, terminate or, from time to time, amend, modify or suspend the Plan; provided, however, that no termination, amendment, modification or suspension of the Plan (i) shall be effective without the approval of the stockholders of the Company if such approval is required under applicable laws, rules and regulations, including the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market or (ii) shall materially and adversely alter or impair the rights of a participant in any Award previously made under the Plan without the consent of the holder thereof and no amendment which increases the Plan Limit shall be effective without stockholder approval (other than in connection with a transaction or event described in Section 9(b) of the Plan). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board shall have broad authority to amend the Plan or any Award under the Plan without the consent of a participant to the extent it deems necessary or desirable to (a) comply with, or take into account changes in or interpretation of applicable tax laws, securities laws, employment laws, accounting rules and other applicable laws, rules and regulations, (b) to take into account unusual or nonrecurring events or market conditions (including, without limitation, the events described in Section 9(b)), or (c) to take into account significant acquisitions or dispositions of assets or other property by the Company participant.



Lincoln Educational Services Corporation 200 Executive Drive, Suite 340 West Orange, NJ 07052

April 30, 2013

I am the General Counsel of Lincoln Educational Services Corporation, a New Jersey corporation (the "Company"), and have acted as counsel for the Company, in connection with the preparation and filing by the Company of a registration statement on Form S-8 ("Registration Statement") with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") relating to the registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), of 800,000 shares of the Company's common stock, no par value per share (the "Shares"), that may be issued from time to time pursuant to the Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "LTI Plan") and of 200,000 Shares that may be issued from time to time pursuant to the Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Non-Employee Directors Restricted Stock Plan (the "Director Plan" and, together with the LTI Plan, the "Plans").

In connection with the foregoing, I have reviewed originals or copies identified to my satisfaction of the following documents:

- (a) The Registration Statement;
- (b) The certificate of incorporation and by-laws of the Company, in each case as amended and restated to date; and
- (c) Originals or copies of such other corporate records of the Company, certificates of public officials and of officers of the Company, and agreements and other documents as I have deemed necessary as a basis for the opinions expressed below.

In my review, I have assumed:

- (a) The genuineness of all signatures;
- (b) The authenticity of the originals of all documents, certificates and instruments submitted to me;
- (c) The conformity with the originals of all documents submitted to me as copies; and
- (d) As to matters of fact, the truthfulness of the representations made in certificates of public officials and officers of the Company.

I have not independently established the validity of the foregoing assumptions.

My opinion set forth below is based on the text of the Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan and the Lincoln Educational Services Corporation Amended and Restated 2005 Non-Employee Directors Restricted Stock Plan as referenced in the Exhibit Index of the Registration Statement.

My opinion expressed below is limited to the General Corporation Law of the State of New Jersey, and I do not express any opinion herein concerning any other law.

Based upon the foregoing and subject to the qualifications set forth herein, I am of the opinion that the Shares have been duly authorized by the Company and, when (a) issued and delivered by the Company in accordance with the terms of the Plans, as applicable, and (b) paid for in full in accordance with the terms of the Plans, as applicable, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

This opinion letter speaks only as of the date hereof. I expressly disclaim any responsibility to advise you of any development or circumstance of any kind, including any change of law or fact that may occur after the date of this opinion letter that might affect the opinions expressed herein.

I understand that this opinion is to be used in connection with the Registration Statement. I hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving this consent, I do not thereby concede that I am in the category of persons whose consent is required under the Securities Act or the General Rules and Regulations of the Commission promulgated thereunder.

This opinion is rendered solely to you in connection with the above matter. This opinion may not be relied upon by you for any other purpose or relied upon by or furnished to any other person without our prior written consent.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kenneth M. Swisstack

Kenneth M. Swisstack General Counsel

Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of our reports dated March 11, 2013, relating to the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule of Lincoln Educational Services Corporation, and the effectiveness of Lincoln Educational Services Corporation's internal control over financial reporting, appearing in the Annual Report on Form-10K of Lincoln Educational Services Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2012.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Parsippany, New Jersey April 29, 2013