

Vocational & Technical Programs Licensed Data Set—2007 Database Overview

INTRODUCTION:

Peterson's Vocational & Technical Programs Database is designed to serve as a key source of information about occupationally-specific educational programs at a wide variety of institutions. The programs in this database result in an award below the associate degree level. Typical users are those who need training, but not necessarily a degree, to get the jobs they seek. These users might be high school students, persons in the process of changing careers, or persons preparing to leave service in the military. They need to locate information about the myriad of programs that can lead them to their chosen careers. This database provides a gateway to the thousands of schools that offer this kind of education, from the New York Paralegal School to the City College of San Francisco. Many are small schools run for profit; some represent programs within institutions of higher education.

This documentation is designed to familiarize you with the Vocational & Technical Programs Database. This overview will give you a broad sense of where this database came from, how it fits into the Peterson's Product Line, what it is used for, and how you may be able to use it.

UNIVERSE:

The VoTech Database includes 4,377 accredited institutions in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and U.S. territories that offer postsecondary awards below the associate degree level. To be included in the database, an institution must either have full accreditation or candidate-for-accreditation (preaccreditation) status granted by an institutional or specialized accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Instructional programs to be listed include those that are occupationally specific, as well as offering an award, diploma, or certificate below the associate level. Program classification is based on CIP (Classification of Instructional Programs) taxonomy used by the NCES (National Center for Educational Statistics).

TIME-FRAME INCLUDED:

The database is updated biennially, in conjunction with the release of updated guides and electronic products. The database was begun in 1993—historical data is available back to 1995.

DATABASE VERSATILITY AND EXTENT OF USE:

The Vocational & Technical Programs Database is the source of information published in *Peterson's Vocational and Technical Schools, 8th Edition*.