



Private college to offer Tulsa classes starting Oct. 6

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Brown Mackie's courses aim at entry-level jobs.

A private, for-profit college with 19 locations in nine other states plans to offer classes in Tulsa beginning Oct. 6.

Brown Mackie College will offer accounting, business, criminal justice, medical assistant and paralegal assistant diploma programs.

More programs will be added as the college is licensed by the state to offer them, according to Tulsa campus President Denise Choquette and a news release.

The campus is approved to offer diploma, associate degree and bachelor's degree programs by a national accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, according to information found online at tulsaworld.com/brownmackie.

Brown Mackie students take one class a month, from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday or 6 to 10 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, Choquette said. Diploma programs take 12 months and cost a little more than \$14,000, which includes fees, books and all educational costs.

Choquette said college employees will work with students to overcome obstacles such as the need for social services or transportation.

The college offers programs that prepare students for in-demand, entry-level jobs, she said. Brown Mackie plans to partner with local companies to create advisory groups to ensure that the programs teach students the skills they need.

Brown Mackie requires students to complete "externships" to get hands-on experience in their fields, which can translate into job offers, Choquette said. Students might be just out of high school, returning to education after years away or completing training to advance in their careers.

Brown Mackie College-Tulsa is at 4608 S. Garnett Road. It is owned by Education Management Corp., a 46-year-old company based in Pittsburgh, Pa. The corporation had about 96,000 students last fall in its nearly 90 colleges and art institutes in the U.S. and Canada, according to an online report found at tulsaworld.com/edumgt.

On Friday, Education Management became the first for-profit, post-secondary school company to settle with the U.S. Justice Department to make its Brown Mackie campuses — in leased facilities — more accessible to people with disabilities, according to a Justice Department news release.

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