

Medical Match is a Colorado medical specialty staffing service, providing direct hire and contracted personnel. As in the past five years, our educational outreach will continue to provide researched, condensed articles. Welcome to our *on-line* newsletter! [www.medicalmatch.net](http://www.medicalmatch.net)

### Diploma Mill Scams

When applying for a job, education degrees or certifications are often requirements. Any job candidate will *lose* when a background check reveals a phony school diploma.

You have seen diploma mill advertising. Invasive Internet pop-ups. Anonymous e-mails. Official looking ads in USA Today. "Get your customized Bachelor's, Masters degrees, or PhD based on work experience." Diploma or degree mills sell potential victims worthless or fraudulent degrees, often pricing their products from \$1200-\$5000 per degree. These useless documents are not supported by state or professional licensing boards and require only substandard studies or no effort on the part of the buyer. According to [Wired.com](http://Wired.com), some individual "schools" earned \$10-\$20 million annually.

Who is prosecuting these frauds? Some states have departments which close and penalize diploma mills. The Federal Bureau of Investigation and Federal Trade Commission conduct large-scale investigations and take offenders to court. Judgments are reaching in the \$\$ millions. If you know someone who has been victimized, he can file a Consumer Complaint at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov).

Since education is costly, investigate first. Not all *unaccredited* colleges are diploma mills, since some provide legitimate academic work. Not all *accredited* programs have quality teachers or deliver their advertised services. Check the Council for Higher Education web page which maintains a database of accredited institutions <http://www.chea.org>. The Colorado Attorney General, the Better Business Bureau, and AARP have a joint venture: Colorado Consumer Line 1-800-222-4444 to inquire or register complaints. (Allow yourself time to listen to the phone introduction and all the options. It's kind of long.)

### Accredited Colorado Medical Training

If meeting the standards of educational accreditation, generally courses or degrees will be accepted by other legitimate schools. As of July 2004, **the following Colorado schools with medical training were accredited on the CHEA website:** all Universities and Community Colleges; Cambridge; Colorado School of Healing Arts; Concorde; College America, Heritage; Parks; Remington College; Westwood College of Technology and Emily Griffith adult education program through the North Central Association of Colleges.

### Family Fun - Free Museum Days

August 7 – Firehouse Museum, Denver, Co. Firefighters Appreciation Day. Ride a firetruck. Kids activities.  
August 16 – Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Nature Preserves in Littleton.  
August 29 – Denver Museum of Nature and Science

### Need Staff?

We are always happy to help! For your convenience you can place a [JOB ORDER](#) on line, or call 303-980-1000 to speak directly to our counselors and receive fee and our free replacement guarantee information.