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

#### FORM S-1

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

### **ASPEN GROUP, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

8200 (Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number)

27-1933597 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

720 South Colorado Boulevard, Suite 1150N

Denver, CO 80246 (303) 333-4224

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Michael Mathews 720 South Colorado Boulevard, Suite 1150N

Denver, CO 80246

(303) 333-4224

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to: Michael D. Harris, Esq. Brian S. Bernstein, Esq. Nason, Yeager, Gerson, White & Lioce, P.A. 1645 Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard, Suite 1200 West Palm Beach, FL 33401 (561) 686-3307

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box: ☑

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.  $\Box$ 

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 definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer		Accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
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### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

		Proposed	Proposed	
Title of Each		Maximum	Maximum	
Class of Securities	Amount to be	Offering Price	Aggregate	Amount of
to be Registered	Registered <sup>(1)</sup>	Per Share <sup>(2)</sup>	Offering Price <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>Registration Fee</b>
Common stock, \$0.001 par value per share	2,421,429	\$ 0.49	\$ 1,186,500	<u>\$ 161.84</u>

(1) Under Rule 416 of the Securities Act of 1933, the shares being registered include such indeterminate number of shares of common stock as may be issuable with respect to the shares being registered in this registration statement as a result of any stock splits, stock dividends.

<sup>(2)</sup> The proposed maximum offering price per share and the proposed maximum aggregate offering price have been estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the amount of the registration fee in accordance with Rules 457(c) under the Securities Act of 1933 on the basis of the high and low prices of our common stock on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board on April 5, 2013, a date within five days prior to the date of the filing of this registration statement.

The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or date(s) as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, or until the registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission acting pursuant to said Section 8(a) may determine.

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The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission of which this prospectus is a part becomes effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

#### Subject to Completion, Dated April 8, 2013

### ASPEN GROUP, INC.

### PROSPECTUS

#### 2,421,429 Shares of Common Stock

This prospectus relates to the sale of up to 2,421,429 shares of Aspen Group, Inc. common stock which may be offered by the selling shareholders identified in this prospectus.

We will not receive any proceeds from the sales of shares of our common stock by the selling shareholders named on page 60.

Our common stock trades on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board under the symbol "ASPU". As of the last trading day before the date of this prospectus, the closing price of our common stock was \$0.49 per share.

The common stock offered in this prospectus involves a high degree of risk. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 5 of this prospectus to read about factors you should consider before buying shares of our common stock.

The selling shareholders are offering these shares of common stock. The selling shareholders may sell all or a portion of these shares from time to time in market transactions through any market on which our common stock is then traded, in negotiated transactions or otherwise, and at prices and on terms that will be determined by the then prevailing market price or at negotiated prices directly or through a broker or brokers, who may act as agent or as principal or by a combination of such methods of sale. The selling shareholders will receive all proceeds from the sale of the common stock. For additional information on the methods of sale, you should refer to the section entitled "Plan of Distribution."

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined whether this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is \_\_\_\_\_, 2013

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You should rely only on information contained in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different from that contained in this prospectus. The selling shareholders are not offering to sell or seeking offers to buy shares of common stock in jurisdictions where offers and sales are not permitted. The information contained in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of our common stock.

### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. You should read the entire prospectus carefully including the section entitled "Risk Factors" before making an investment decision. In March 2012, Aspen Group, Inc., or Aspen Group, and Aspen University Inc., a privately held Delaware corporation, or Aspen, entered into a merger agreement whereby Aspen became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aspen Group. We refer to the merger as the "Reverse Merger." All references to "we," "our" and "us" refer to Aspen Group and its subsidiaries (including Aspen), unless the context otherwise indicates. In referring to academic matters, these words refer solely to Aspen University Inc.

### **Our Company**

Aspen is an online postsecondary education company. Founded in 1987, Aspen's mission is to become an institution of choice for adult learners by offering cost-effective, comprehensive, and relevant online education. We are dedicated to helping our students exceed their personal and professional objectives in a socially conscious and economically sensible way. Aspen's mission in fact is to help students achieve their long-term goals of upward mobility and long-term economic success through providing superior education, exerting financial prudence, and supporting our students' career advancement goals. Aspen is dedicated to providing the highest quality education experiences taught by top-tier professors - 67% of our adjunct professors hold doctorate degrees.

#### **Corporate Information**

Our corporate headquarters are located at 720 South Colorado Boulevard, Suite 1150N, Denver, Colorado 80246 and our phone number is (303) 333-4224. Our corporate website can be found at www.aspen.edu/investor-relations. The information on our website is not incorporated in this prospectus.

#### **Risks Affecting Us**

Our business is subject to numerous risks as discussed more fully in the section entitled "Risk Factors" immediately following this Prospectus Summary. In particular, our business would be adversely affected if:

- we are unable to comply with the extensive regulatory requirements to which our business is subject, including Title IV of the Higher Education Act, or Title IV, and the regulations under that act, state laws and regulations, accrediting agency requirements, and our inability to comply with these regulations could result in our ceasing operations altogether;
- we are unable to raise enough money or generate sufficient revenue to meet our future working capital needs;
- our marketing and advertising efforts are not effective;
- we are unable to develop new programs and expand our existing programs in a timely and cost-effective manner;
- we are unable to retain students as a result of our increased tuition plan;
- we are unable to attract and retain key personnel needed to sustain and grow our business; or
- our reputation is damaged by regulatory actions or negative publicity affecting us or other companies in the for-profit higher education sector.

For a discussion of these and other risks you should consider before making an investment in our common stock, see the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 5 of this prospectus.

### THE OFFERING

Common stock outstanding prior to the offering:	56,168,005 shares
Common stock offered by the selling shareholders:	1,614,286 shares of common stock, all of which are outstanding as of the date this prospectus
Common stock offered by the selling shareholders upon exercise of warrants:	807,143 shares
Common stock outstanding immediately following the offering:	56,975,148 shares
Use of proceeds:	Except for the proceeds we receive upon the exercise of warrants, we will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares by the selling shareholders. See "Use of Proceeds" on page 20.
Stock symbol:	OTCBB: ASPU
The number of shares of common stock to be outstanding prior to a	nd after this offering excludes:

a total of 7,438,667 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options;
a total of 561,333 shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under our 2012 Equity Incentive Plan;
a total of 8,112,696 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of warrants; and
a total of 1,357,143 shares of common stock issuable upon the conversion of notes.

### SUMMARY FINANCIAL DATA

The following summary of our financial data should be read in conjunction with, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements appearing elsewhere in this prospectus. The data for the years ended December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 has been taken from our audited financial statements.

### Statements of Operations Data

	Year Ended December 31, 2012	Year Ended December 31, 2011
Revenue	\$ 5,017,213	\$ 4,477,931
Operating Loss	\$ (5,656,316)	\$ (2,095,503)
Net loss	\$ (6,010,734)	\$ (2,135,573)
Net loss per common share – basic and diluted	\$ (0.17)	\$ (0.14)
Weighted average common shares outstanding (basic and diluted)	35,316,681	15,377,413

### **Balance Sheet Data**

	D	ecember 31, 2012	Т 	December 31, 2011
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	644,988	\$	766,602
Working capital	\$	106,222	\$	532,182
Total assets	\$	3,497,198	\$	4,013,606
Total current liabilities	\$	1,630,426	\$	2,107,925
Accumulated deficit	\$	(11,337,104)	\$	(5,326,370)
Total shareholders' equity (deficiency)	\$	801,755	\$	(2,027,561)

### RISK FACTORS

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the following Risk Factors before deciding whether to invest in Aspen Group. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us, or that we currently deem immaterial, may also impair our business operations or our financial condition. If any of the events discussed in the Risk Factors below occur, our business, consolidated financial condition, results of operations or prospects could be materially and adversely affected. In such case, the value and marketability of the common stock could decline.

### **Risks Relating to Our Business**

#### Our ability to continue as a going concern is in doubt absent obtaining adequate new debt or equity financing.

We incurred a net loss of approximately \$6 million in 2012 and \$2.1 million in 2011. We anticipate losses will continue until we are able to increase our enrollment under our new tuition plan and these new students paying higher rates have taken at least two courses. Additionally, our audited financial statements contain a going concern opinion. Beginning in September 2012, we closed equity financings totaling net proceeds of \$3,590,236, which has provided working capital necessary because of these losses. We cannot assure you that we will meet our future working capital needs. In such event, we may not be able to remain in business. Furthermore, this going concern opinion may affect our ability to obtain Department of Education, or DOE, permanent certification for Title IV purposes.

# Because our management team has been in place for less than two years, it may be difficult to evaluate our future prospects and the risk of success or failure of our business.

Our management team began the process of taking control of Aspen from its then Chairman in May 2011 and embarked upon changes in Aspen's business model including adopting a new tuition plan effective upon receiving regulatory approval, revamping Aspen's marketing approach, substantially increasing marketing expenditures, and upgrading Aspen's technology infrastructure. While the results to date are very encouraging, the limited time period makes it difficult to project whether we will be successful.

### Our business may be adversely affected by a further economic slowdown in the U.S. or abroad or by an economic recovery in the U.S.

The U.S. and much of the world economy are experiencing difficult economic circumstances. We believe the recent economic downturn in the U.S., particularly the continuing high unemployment rate, has contributed to a portion of our recent enrollment growth as an increased number of working students seek to advance their education to improve job security or reemployment prospects. This effect cannot be quantified. However, to the extent that the economic downturn and the associated unemployment have increased demand for our programs, an improving economy and increased employment may eliminate this effect and reduce such demand as fewer potential students seek to advance their education. We do not know whether the gradually reduced unemployment rate will reduce future demand for our services, which would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. Conversely, a worsening of economic and employment conditions could adversely affect the ability or willingness of prospective students to pay our tuition and our former students to repay student loans, which could increase our bad debt expense, impair our ability to offer students loans under Title IV, and require increased time, attention and resources to manage defaults.

## If we cannot manage our growth, our results of operations may suffer and could adversely affect our ability to comply with federal regulations.

The growth that we have experienced after our new management began in May 2011, as well as any future growth that we experience, may place a significant strain on our resources and increase demands on our management information and reporting systems and financial management controls. If growth negatively impacts our ability to manage our business, the learning experience for our students could be adversely affected, resulting in a higher rate of student attrition and fewer student referrals. Future growth will also require continued improvement of our internal controls and systems, particularly those related to complying with federal regulations under the Higher Education Act, as administered by the DOE, including as a result of our participation in federal student financial aid programs under Title IV. If we are unable to manage our growth, we may also experience operating inefficiencies that could increase our costs and adversely affect our profitability and results of operations.

## Because there is strong competition in the postsecondary education market, especially in the online education market, our cost of acquiring students may increase and our results of operations may be harmed.

Postsecondary education is highly fragmented and competitive. We compete with traditional public and private two-year and four-year brick and mortar colleges as well as other for-profit schools, particularly those that offer online learning programs. Public and private colleges and universities, as well as other for-profit schools, offer programs similar to those we offer. Public institutions receive substantial government subsidies, and public and private institutions have access to government and foundation grants, tax-deductible contributions that create large endowments and other financial resources generally not available to for-profit schools. Accordingly, public and private institutions may have instructional and support resources that are superior to those in the for-profit sector. In addition, some of our competitors, including both traditional colleges and universities and online for-profit schools, have substantially greater name recognition and financial and other resources than we have, which may enable them to compete more effectively for potential students. We also expect to face increased competition as a result of new entrants to the online education market, including established colleges and universities that have not previously offered online education programs.

We may not be able to compete successfully against current or future competitors and may face competitive pressures including price pressures that could adversely affect our business or results of operations and reduce our operating margins. We may also face increased competition if our competitors pursue relationships with the military and government educational programs with which we already have relationships. These competitive factors could cause our enrollments, revenues and profitability to decrease significantly.

#### In the event that we are unable to update and expand the content of existing programs and develop new programs and specializations on a timely basis and in a cost-effective manner, our results of operations may be harmed.

The updates and expansions of our existing programs and the development of new programs and specializations may not be accepted by existing or prospective students or employers. If we cannot respond to changes in market requirements, our business may be adversely affected. Even if we are able to develop acceptable new programs, we may not be able to introduce these new programs as quickly as students require or as quickly as our competitors introduce competing programs. To offer a new academic program, we may be required to obtain appropriate federal, state and accrediting agency approvals, which may be conditioned or delayed in a manner that could significantly affect our growth plans. In addition, a new academic program that must prepare students for gainful employment must be approved by the DOE for Title IV purposes if the institution is provisionally certified, which we are through September 30, 2013. If we are unable to respond adequately to changes in market requirements due to financial constraints, regulatory limitations or other factors, our ability to attract and retain students could be impaired and our financial results could suffer.

Establishing new academic programs or modifying existing programs may require us to make investments in management and faculty, incur marketing expenses and reallocate other resources. If we are unable to increase the number of students, or offer new programs in a cost-effective manner, or are otherwise unable to manage effectively the operations of newly established academic programs, our results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected.

## Because our future growth and profitability will depend in large part upon the effectiveness of our marketing and advertising efforts, if those efforts are unsuccessful we may not be profitable in the future.

Our future growth and profitability will depend in large part upon our media performance, including our ability to:

- Create greater awareness of our school and our programs;
- Identify the most effective and efficient level of spending in each market and specific media vehicle;
- Determine the appropriate creative message and media mix for advertising, marketing and promotional expenditures; and
- Effectively manage marketing costs (including creative and media).

Our marketing expenditures may not result in increased revenue or generate sufficient levels of brand name and program awareness. If our media performance is not effective, our future results of operations and financial condition will be adversely affected.

### Although our management is spearheading a new marketing and advertising program, it may not be successful.

Mr. Michael Mathews, our Chief Executive Officer, has developed a new marketing campaign designed to substantially increase our student enrollment. While initial results have been as anticipated, there are no assurances that this marketing campaign will continue to be successful. Among the risks are the following:

- Our ability to compete with existing online colleges which have substantially greater financial resources, deeper management and academic resources, and enhanced public reputations;
- the emergence of more successful competitors;
- factors related to our marketing, including the costs of Internet advertising and broad-based branding campaigns;
- limits on our ability to attract and retain effective employees because of the new incentive payment rule;
- performance problems with our online systems;
- failure to maintain accreditation;
- student dissatisfaction with our services and programs;
- adverse publicity regarding us, our competitors or online or for-profit education generally;
- a decline in the acceptance of online education;
- a decrease in the perceived or actual economic benefits that students derive from our programs;
- potential students may not be able to afford the monthly payments; and
- potential students may not react favorably to our marketing and advertising campaigns.

If our new marketing campaign is not favorably received, our revenues may not increase.

### If student enrollment decreases as a result of our increased tuition plan, our results of operations may be adversely affected.

In July 2011, we launched a new tuition plan which provided for a material increase in our tuition prices. The prior business model and pricing structure implemented by our prior management was flawed and could not be sustained. Although changes in our marketing strategy and upgraded technology infrastructure have increased our enrollment, we cannot assure that our student enrollment will not suffer in the future as a result of the increased tuition. If we are unable to enroll students in a cost-effective manner, our results of operations will suffer and you may lose your investment.

If we incur system disruptions to our online computer networks, it could impact our ability to generate revenue and damage our reputation, limiting our ability to attract and retain students.

In 2011 and 2012, we spent approximately \$1.4 million to update our computer network primarily to permit accelerated student enrollment and enhance our students' learning experience. We expect to spend \$250,000 in capital expenditures over the next 12 months. The performance and reliability of our technology infrastructure is critical to our reputation and ability to attract and retain students. Any system error or failure, or a sudden and significant increase in bandwidth usage, could result in the unavailability of our online classroom, damaging our reputation and could cause a loss in enrollment. Our technology infrastructure could be vulnerable to interruption or malfunction due to events beyond our control, including natural disasters, terrorist activities and telecommunications failures.

# Although one of our directors has pledged shares of common stock to secure payment of a receivable, it is possible that the future market price of our common stock will decline in which case we will incur an adverse impact to its future operating results and financial condition.

In March 2012, one of our directors pledged a total of 117,943 shares of personally owned Aspen common stock (now shares of Aspen Group). The shares were pledged (in addition to shares pledged by Aspen's former Chairman and his company) to secure payment of a \$772,793 accounts receivable. The Stock Pledge Agreement provides that the shares will be cancelled at the rate of \$1.00 per share in the event that we are unable to collect this receivable which is due in 2014. Because of sales of common stock below \$1.00 per share the receivable in total was reduced to \$270,478 as of December 31, 2012. If we are unable to collect on this receivable, we will sustain a non cash loss.

# If we experience any interruption to our technology infrastructure, it could prevent students from accessing their courses, could have a material adverse effect on our ability to attract and retain students and could require us to incur additional expenses to correct or mitigate the interruption.

Our computer networks may also be vulnerable to unauthorized access, computer hackers, computer viruses and other security problems. A user who circumvents security measures could misappropriate proprietary information, personal information about our students or cause interruptions or malfunctions in operations. As a result, we may be required to expend significant resources to protect against the threat of these security breaches or to alleviate problems caused by these breaches.

### Because we rely on third parties to provide services in running our operations, if any of these parties fail to provide the agreed services at an acceptable level, it could limit our ability to provide services and/or cause student dissatisfaction, either of which could adversely affect our business.

We rely on third parties to provide us with services in order for us to efficiently and securely operate our business including our computer network and the courses we offer to students. Any interruption in our ability to obtain the services of these or other third parties or deterioration in their performance could impair the quality of our educational product and overall business. Generally, there are multiple sources for the services we purchase. Our business could be disrupted if we were required to replace any of these third parties, especially if the replacement became necessary on short notice, which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

## If we or our service providers are unable to update the technology that we rely upon to offer online education, our future growth may be impaired.

We believe that continued growth will require our service providers to increase the capacity and capabilities of their technology infrastructure. Increasing the capacity and capabilities of the technology infrastructure will require these third parties to invest capital, time and resources, and there is no assurance that even with sufficient investment their systems will be scalable to accommodate future growth. Our service providers may also need to invest capital, time and resources to update their technology in response to competitive pressures in the marketplace. If they are unwilling or unable to increase the capacity of their resources or update their resources appropriately and we cannot change over to other service providers efficiently, our ability to handle growth, our ability to attract or retain students, and our financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected.

### Because we rely on third party administration and hosting of open source software for our online classroom, if that third party were to cease to do business or alter its business practices and services, it could have an adverse impact on our ability to operate.

Our online classroom employs the Moodle learning management system which is an open source learning platform and is supported by the open source community. The system is a web-based portal that stores and delivers course content, provides interactive communication between students and faculty, and supplies online evaluation tools. While Moodle is an open source learning platform, we rely on third parties to host and help with the administration of it. We further rely on third parties, the Moodlerooms, Inc. agreement and the open source community as well as our internal staff for ongoing support and customization and integration of the system with the rest of our technology infrastructure. If Moodlerooms or the open source community that supports it were unable or unwilling to continue to provide us with service, we may have difficulty maintaining the software required for our online classroom or updating it for future technological changes. Any failure to maintain our online classroom would have an adverse impact on our operations, damage our reputation and limit our ability to attract and retain students.

## Because the personal information that we or our vendors collect may be vulnerable to breach, theft or loss, any of these factors could adversely affect our reputation and operations.

Possession and use of personal information in our operations subjects us to risks and costs that could harm our business. Aspen uses a third party to collect and retain large amounts of personal information regarding our students and their families, including social security numbers, tax return information, personal and family financial data and credit card numbers. We also collect and maintain personal information of our employees in the ordinary course of our business. Some of this personal information is held and managed by certain of our vendors. Errors in the storage, use or transmission of personal information could result in a breach of student or employee privacy. Possession and use of personal information is near or operations also subjects us to legislative and regulatory burdens that could require notification of data breaches, restrict our use of personal information that we store or our third parties store. A breach, theft or loss of personal information regarding our students and their families or our employees that is held by us or our vendors could have a material adverse effect on our reputation and results of operations and result in liability under state and federal privacy statutes and legal or administrative actions by state attorneys general, private litigants, and federal regulators any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

## Because the CAN-SPAM Act imposes certain obligations on the senders of commercial emails, it could adversely impact our ability to market Aspen's educational services, and otherwise increase the costs of our business.

The Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003, or CAN-SPAM Act, establishes requirements for commercial email and specifies penalties for commercial email that violates the CAN-SPAM Act. In addition, the CAN-SPAM Act gives consumers the right to require third parties to stop sending them commercial email.

The CAN-SPAM Act covers email sent for the primary purpose of advertising or promoting a commercial product, service, or Internet website. The Federal Trade Commission, a federal consumer protection agency, is primarily responsible for enforcing the CAN-SPAM Act, and the Department of Justice, other federal agencies, State Attorneys General, and Internet service providers also have authority to enforce certain of its provisions.

The CAN-SPAM Act's main provisions include:

- Prohibiting false or misleading email header information;
- Prohibiting the use of deceptive subject lines;
- Ensuring that recipients may, for at least 30 days after an email is sent, opt out of receiving future commercial email messages from the sender;
- Requiring that commercial email be identified as a solicitation or advertisement unless the recipient affirmatively permitted the message; and
- Requiring that the sender include a valid postal address in the email message.

The CAN-SPAM Act also prohibits unlawful acquisition of email addresses, such as through directory harvesting and transmission of commercial emails by unauthorized means, such as through relaying messages with the intent to deceive recipients as to the origin of such messages.

Violations of the CAN-SPAM Act's provisions can result in criminal and civil penalties, including statutory penalties that can be based in part upon the number of emails sent, with enhanced penalties for commercial email companies who harvest email addresses, use dictionary attack patterns to generate email addresses, and/or relay emails through a network without permission.

The CAN-SPAM Act acknowledges that the Internet offers unique opportunities for the development and growth of frictionless commerce, and the CAN-SPAM Act was passed, in part, to enhance the likelihood that wanted commercial email messages would be received.

The CAN-SPAM Act preempts, or blocks, most state restrictions specific to email, except for rules against falsity or deception in commercial email, fraud and computer crime. The scope of these exceptions, however, is not settled, and some states have adopted email regulations that, if upheld, could impose liabilities and compliance burdens in addition to those imposed by the CAN-SPAM Act.

Moreover, some foreign countries, including the countries of the European Union, have regulated the distribution of commercial email and the online collection and disclosure of personal information. Foreign governments may attempt to apply their laws extraterritorially or through treaties or other arrangements with U.S. governmental entities.

Because we use email marketing, our requirement to comply with the CAN-SPAM Act could adversely affect Aspen's marketing activities and increase its costs.

#### If we lose the services of key personnel, it could adversely affect our business.

Our future success depends, in part, on our ability to attract and retain key personnel. Our future also depends on the continued services of Mr. Michael Mathews, our Chief Executive Officer, and Dr. Gerald Williams, our President, who are critical to the management of our business and operations and the development of our strategic direction and would also be difficult to replace. The loss of the services of Mr. Mathews and/or Dr. Williams and other key individuals and the process to replace these individuals would involve significant time and expense and may significantly delay or prevent the achievement of our business objectives.

#### If we are unable to attract and retain our faculty, administrators, management and skilled personnel, we may not be able to support our growth strategy.

To execute our growth strategy, we must attract and retain highly qualified faculty, administrators, management and skilled personnel. Competition for hiring these individuals is intense, especially with regard to faculty in specialized areas. If we fail to attract new skilled personnel or faculty or fail to retain and motivate our existing faculty, administrators, management and skilled personnel, our business and growth prospects could be severely harmed. The DOE's revised incentive payment rule, which took effect July 1, 2011, may affect the manner in which we attract, retain, and motivate new and existing employees.

### If we are unable to protect our intellectual property, our business could be harmed.

In the ordinary course of our business, we develop intellectual property of many kinds that is or will be the subject of copyright, trademark, service mark, trade secret or other protections. This intellectual property includes but is not limited to courseware materials, business know-how and internal processes and procedures developed to respond to the requirements of operating and various education regulatory agencies. We rely on a combination of copyright, trademarks, service marks, trade secrets, domain names, agreements and registrations to protect our intellectual property. We rely on service mark and trademark protection in the U.S. to protect our rights to the mark "ASPEN UNIVERSITY" as well as distinctive logos and other marks associated with our services. We rely on agreements under which we obtain rights to use course content developed by faculty members and other third party content experts. We cannot assure you that the measures that we take will be adequate or that we have secured, or will be able to secure, appropriate protections for all of our proprietary rights in the U.S. or select foreign jurisdictions, or that third parties will not infringe upon or violate our proprietary rights. Despite our efforts to protect these rights, unauthorized third parties may attempt to duplicate or copy the proprietary aspects of our curricula, online resource material and other content, and offer competing programs to ours.

In particular, third parties may attempt to develop competing programs or duplicate or copy aspects of our curriculum, online resource material, quality management and other proprietary content. Any such attempt, if successful, could adversely affect our business. Protecting these types of intellectual property rights can be difficult, particularly as it relates to the development by our competitors of competing courses and programs.

We may encounter disputes from time to time over rights and obligations concerning intellectual property, and we may not prevail in these disputes. Third parties may raise a claim against us alleging an infringement or violation of the intellectual property of that third party.

## If we are subject to intellectual property infringement claims, it could cause us to incur significant expenses and pay substantial damages.

Third parties may claim that we are infringing or violating their intellectual property rights. Any such claims could cause us to incur significant expenses and, if successfully asserted against us, could require that we pay substantial damages and prevent us from using our intellectual property that may be fundamental to our business. Even if we were to prevail, any litigation regarding the intellectual property could be costly and time-consuming and divert the attention of our management and key personnel from our business operations.

### If we incur liability for the unauthorized duplication or distribution of class materials posted online during our class discussions, it may affect our future operating results and financial condition.

In some instances, our faculty members or our students may post various articles or other third party content on class discussion boards. We may incur liability for the unauthorized duplication or distribution of this material posted online for class discussions. Third parties may raise claims against us for the unauthorized duplication of this material. Any such claims could subject us to costly litigation and impose a significant strain on our financial resources and management personnel regardless of whether the claims have merit. As a result we may be required to alter the content of our courses or pay monetary damages.

# Because we are an exclusively online provider of education, we are entirely dependent on continued growth and acceptance of exclusively online education and, if the recognition by students and employers of the value of online education does not continue to grow, our ability to grow our business could be adversely impacted.

We believe that continued growth in online education will be largely dependent on additional students and employers recognizing the value of degrees and courses from online institutions. If students and employers are not convinced that online schools are an acceptable alternative to traditional schools or that an online education provides value, or if growth in the market penetration of exclusively online education slows, growth in the industry and our business could be adversely affected. Because our business model is based on online education, if the acceptance of online education does not grow, our ability to continue to grow our business and our financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

### As Internet commerce develops, federal and state governments may draft and propose new laws to regulate Internet commerce, which may negatively affect our business.

The increasing popularity and use of the Internet and other online services have led and may lead to the adoption of new laws and regulatory practices in the U.S. and to new interpretations of existing laws and regulations. These new laws and interpretations may relate to issues such as online privacy, copyrights, trademarks and service marks, sales taxes, fair business practices and the requirement that online education institutions qualify to do business as foreign corporations or be licensed in one or more jurisdictions where they have no physical location or other presence. New laws, regulations or interpretations related to doing business over the Internet could increase our costs and materially and adversely affect our enrollments, revenues and results of operations.

### If there is new tax treatment of companies engaged in Internet commerce, this may adversely affect the commercial use of our marketing services and our financial results.

Due to the growing budgetary problems facing state and local governments, it is possible that governments might attempt to tax our activities. New or revised tax regulations may subject us to additional sales, income and other taxes. We cannot predict the effect of current attempts to impose taxes on commerce over the Internet. New or revised taxes and, in particular, sales or use taxes, would likely increase the cost of doing business online which could have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

### **Risks Related to the Regulation of Our Industry**

### If we fail to comply with the extensive regulatory requirements for our business, we could face penalties and significant restrictions on our operations, including loss of access to Title IV loans.

We are subject to extensive regulation by (1) the federal government through the DOE and under the Higher Education Act, (2) state regulatory bodies and (3) accrediting agencies recognized by the DOE, including the Distance Education and Training Council, or DETC, a "national accrediting agency" recognized by the DOE. The U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs regulate our participation in the military's tuition assistance program and the VA's veterans' education benefits program, respectively. The regulations, standards and policies of these agencies cover the vast majority of our operations, including our educational programs, facilities, instructional and administrative staff, administrative procedures, marketing, recruiting, financial operations and financial condition. These regulatory requirements can also affect our ability to add new or expand existing educational programs and to change our corporate structure and ownership.

Institutions of higher education that grant degrees, diplomas, or certificates must be authorized by an appropriate state education agency or agencies. In addition, in certain states as a condition of continued authorization to grant degrees and in order to participate in various federal programs, including tuition assistance programs of the United States Armed Forces, a school must be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. Accreditation is a non-governmental process through which an institution submits to qualitative review by an organization of peer institutions, based on the standards of the accrediting agency and the stated aims and purposes of the institution. The Higher Education Act requires accrediting agencies recognized by the DOE to review and monitor many aspects of an institution's operations and to take appropriate action when the institution fails to comply with the accrediting agency's standards.

Our operations are also subject to regulation due to our participation in Title IV programs. Title IV programs, which are administered by the DOE, include loans made directly to students by the DOE. Title IV programs also include several grant programs for students with economic need as determined in accordance with the Higher Education Act and DOE regulations. To participate in Title IV programs, a school must receive and maintain authorization by the appropriate state education agencies, be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, and be certified as an eligible institution by the DOE. Our growth strategy is partly dependent on enrolling more students who are attracted to us because of our continued participation in the Title IV programs.

The regulations, standards, and policies of the DOE, state education agencies, and our accrediting agencies change frequently. Recent and impending changes in, or new interpretations of, applicable laws, regulations, standards, or policies, or our noncompliance with any applicable laws, regulations, standards, or policies, could have a material adverse effect on our accreditation, authorization to operate in various states, activities, receipt of funds under tuition assistance programs of the United States Armed Forces, our ability to participate in Title IV programs, receipt of veterans education benefits funds, or costs of doing business. Findings of noncompliance with these regulations, standards and policies also could result in our being required to pay monetary damages, or being subjected to fines, penalties, injunctions, limitations on our operations, termination of our ability to grant degrees, revocation of our accreditation, restrictions on our access to Title IV program funds or other censure that could have a material adverse effect on our business.

#### If we do not maintain authorization in Colorado, our operations would be curtailed, and we may not grant degrees.

Aspen is headquartered in Colorado and is authorized by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to grant degrees, diplomas or certificates. If we were to lose our authorization from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, we would be unable to provide educational services in Colorado and we would lose our eligibility to participate in the Title IV programs.

### Our failure to comply with regulations of various states could have a material adverse effect on our enrollments, revenues, and results of operations.

Various states impose regulatory requirements on education institutions operating within their boundaries. Several states assert jurisdiction over online education institutions that have no physical location or other presence in the state but offer education services to students who reside in the state or advertise to or recruit prospective students in the state. State regulatory requirements for online education are inconsistent among states and not well developed in many jurisdictions. As such, these requirements change frequently and, in some instances, are not clear or are left to the discretion of state regulators.

State laws typically establish standards for instruction, qualifications of faculty, administrative procedures, marketing, recruiting, financial operations, and other operational matters. To the extent that we have obtained, or obtain in the future, additional authorizations or licensure, changes in state laws and regulations and the interpretation of those laws and regulations by the applicable regulators may limit our ability to offer education programs and award degrees. Some states may also prescribe financial regulations that are different from those of the DOE. If we fail to comply with state licensing or authorization requirements, we may be subject to the loss of state licensure or authorization. If we fail to comply with state requirements to obtain licensure or authorization, we may be the subject of injunctive actions or penalties. Loss of licensure or authorization or the failure to obtain required licensures or authorizations could prohibit us from recruiting or enrolling students in particular states, reduce significantly our enrollments and revenues and have a material adverse effect on our results of operations. We enroll students in all 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. We have sought and received confirmation that our operations do not require state licensure or authorization, or we have been notified that we are exempt from licensure or authorization requirements, in three states. We, through our legal counsel, are researching the licensure requirements and exemption possibilities in the remaining 47 states. It is anticipated that Aspen will be in compliance with all state licensure requirements by June 2014. Because we enroll students in all 50 states, as well as the District of Requirements we seek licensure or authorization in additional states in the future.

Under DOE regulations, if an institution offers postsecondary education through distance education to students in a state in which the institution is not physically located or in which it is otherwise subject to state jurisdiction as determined by that state, the institution must have met any state requirements for it to be legally offering postsecondary distance education in that state. A federal court has vacated such requirement, and an appellate court affirmed that ruling on June 5, 2012, though further guidance is expected. See page 39 of this prospectus. Should the requirement be upheld or otherwise enforced, however, and if we fail to obtain required state authorization to provide postsecondary distance education in a specific state, we could lose our ability to award Title IV aid to students within that state.

The DOE's new requirement could lead some states to adopt new laws and regulatory practices affecting the delivery of distance education to students located in those states. In the event we are found not to be in compliance with a state's new or existing requirements for offering distance education within that state, the state could seek to restrict one or more of our business activities within its boundaries, we may not be able to recruit students from that state, and we may have to cease providing service to students in that state. In addition, under the DOE's regulation regarding state authorization and distance education, if and when the regulation is enforced or re-promulgated, we could lose eligibility to offer Title IV aid to students located in that state.

### If we fail to maintain our institutional accreditation, we would lose our ability to participate in the tuition assistance programs of the U.S. Armed Forces and also to participate in Title IV programs.

Aspen is accredited by the DETC, which is a national accrediting agency recognized by the Secretary of Education for Title IV purposes. Accreditation by an accrediting agency that is recognized by the Secretary of Education is required for an institution to become and remain eligible to participate in Title IV programs as well as in the tuition assistance programs of the United States Armed Forces. DETC may impose restrictions on our accreditation or may terminate our accreditation. To remain accredited we must continuously meet certain criteria and standards relating to, among other things, performance, governance, institutional integrity, educational quality, faculty, administrative capability, resources and financial stability. Failure to meet any of these criteria or standards could result in the loss of accreditation at the discretion of the accrediting agency. The loss of accreditation would, among other things, render our students and us ineligible to participate in the tuition assistance programs of the U.S. Armed Forces or Title IV programs and have a material adverse effect on our enrollments, revenues and results of operations.

### Because we have only recently begun to participate in Title IV programs, our failure to comply with the complex regulations associated with Title IV programs would have a significant adverse effect on our operations and prospects for growth.

We have only recently begun to participate in Title IV programs. In 2012 and 2011, approximately 18% and approximately 7%, respectively, of our total cash-basis revenues are from students utilizing Title IV programs. However, compliance with the requirements of the Higher Education Act and Title IV programs is highly complex and imposes significant additional regulatory requirements on our operations, which require additional staff, contractual arrangements, systems and regulatory costs. We have a limited demonstrated history of compliance with these additional regulatory requirements, the DOE could, among other things, impose monetary penalties, place limitations on our operations, and/or condition or terminate our eligibility to receive Title IV program funds, which would limit our potential for growth and adversely affect our enrollment, revenues and results of operations.

### Because we are only provisionally certified by the DOE, we must reestablish our eligibility and certification to participate in the Title IV programs, and there are no assurances that DOE will recertify us to participate in the Title IV programs.

An institution generally must seek recertification from the DOE at least every six years and possibly more frequently depending on various factors. In certain circumstances, the DOE provisionally certifies an institution to participate in Title IV programs, such as when it is an initial participant in Title IV programs or has undergone a change in ownership and control. On September 28, 2012, the DOE notified us that following our application for change of control, it extended our provisional certification until September 30, 2013. Pending this approval, we delivered a \$264,665 letter of credit to the DOE. Furthermore, DOE may impose additional or different terms and conditions in any final program participation agreement that it may issue, including growth restrictions or limitation on the number of students who may receive Title IV aid. The DOE could also decline to finally certify Aspen, otherwise limit its participation in the Title IV programs, or continue provisional certification.

If the DOE does not ultimately approve our permanent certification to participate in Title IV programs, our students would no longer be able to receive Title IV program funds, which would have a material adverse effect on our enrollments, revenues and results of operations. In addition, regulatory restraints related to the addition of new programs could impair our ability to attract and retain students and could negatively affect our financial results.

## Because the DOE may conduct compliance reviews of us, we may be subject to adverse review and future litigation which could affect our ability to offer Title IV student loans.

Because we operate in a highly regulated industry, we are subject to compliance reviews and claims of non-compliance and lawsuits by government agencies, regulatory agencies, and third parties, including claims brought by third parties on behalf of the federal government. If the results of compliance reviews or other proceedings are unfavorable to us, or if we are unable to defend successfully against lawsuits or claims, we may be required to pay monetary damages or be subject to fines, limitations, loss of Title IV funding, injunctions or other penalties, including the requirement to make refunds. Even if we adequately address issues raised by an agency review or successfully defend a lawsuit or claim, we may have to divert significant financial and management resources from our ongoing business operations to address issues raised by those reviews or to defend against those lawsuits or claims. Claims and lawsuits brought against us may damage our reputation, even if such claims and lawsuits are without merit.

## If our competitors are subject to further regulatory claims and adverse publicity, it may affect our industry and reduce our future enrollment.

We are one of a number of for-profit institutions serving the postsecondary education market. In recent years, regulatory investigations and civil litigation have been commenced against several companies that own for-profit educational institutions. These investigations and lawsuits have alleged, among other things, deceptive trade practices and non-compliance with DOE regulations. These allegations have attracted adverse media coverage and have been the subject of federal and state legislative hearings. Although the media, regulatory and legislative focus has been primarily on the allegations made against specific companies, broader allegations against the overall for-profit school sector may negatively affect public perceptions of other for-profit educational institutions, including Aspen. In addition, in recent years, reports on student lending practices of various lending institutions and schools, including for-profit schools, and investigations by a number of state attorneys general, Congress and governmental agencies have led to adverse media coverage of postsecondary education. Adverse media coverage regarding other companies in the for-profit school sector or regarding us directly could damage our reputation, could result in lower enrollments, revenues and operating profit, and could have a negative impact on our stock price. Such allegations could also result in lower earollments, including y the DOE, Congress, accrediting bodies, state legislatures or other governmental authorities with respect to all for-profit institutions including us.

#### Due to new regulations or congressional action or reduction in funding for Title IV programs, our future enrollment may be reduced and costs of compliance increased.

The Higher Education Act comes up for reauthorization by Congress approximately every five to six years. When Congress does not act on complete reauthorization, there are typically amendments and extensions of authorization. Additionally, Congress reviews and determines appropriations for Title IV programs on an annual basis through the budget and appropriations process. There is no assurance that Congress will not in the future enact changes that decrease Title IV program funds available to students, including students who attend our institution. Any action by Congress that significantly reduces funding for Title IV programs or the ability of our school or students to participate in these programs would require us to arrange for other sources of financial aid and would materially decrease our enrollment. Such a decrease in enrollment would have a material adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations. Congressional action may also require us to modify our practices in ways that could result in increased administrative and regulatory costs and decreased profit margin.

We are not in position to predict with certainty whether any legislation will be passed by Congress or signed into law in the future. The reallocation of funding among Title IV programs, material changes in the requirements for participation in such programs, or the substitution of materially different Title IV programs could reduce the ability of students to finance their education at our institution and adversely affect our revenues and results of operations.

If our efforts to comply with DOE regulations are inconsistent with how the DOE interprets those provisions, either due to insufficient time to implement the necessary changes, uncertainty about the meaning of the rules, or otherwise, we may be found to be in noncompliance with such provisions and the DOE could impose monetary penalties, place limitations on our operations, and/or condition or terminate our eligibility to receive Title IV program funds. We cannot predict with certainty the effect the new and impending regulatory provisions will have on our business.

### Investigations by state attorneys general, Congress and governmental agencies regarding relationships between loan providers and educational institutions and their financial aid officers may result in increased regulatory burdens and costs.

In the past few years, the student lending practices of postsecondary educational institutions, financial aid officers and student loan providers were subject to several investigations being conducted by state attorneys general, Congress and governmental agencies. These investigations concern, among other things, possible deceptive practices in the marketing of private student loans and loans provided by lenders pursuant to Title IV programs. Higher Education Opportunity Act, or HEOA, contains new requirements pertinent to relationships between lenders and institutions. In particular, HEOA requires institutions to have a code of conduct, with certain specified provisions, pertinent to interactions with lenders of student loans, prohibits certain activities by lenders and guaranty agencies with respect to institutions, and establishes substantive and disclosure requirements for lists of recommended or suggested lenders of private student loans. In addition, HEOA imposes substantive and disclosure obligations on institutions that make available a list of recommended lenders for potential borrowers. State legislators have also passed or may be considering legislation related to relationships between lenders and institutions. Because of the evolving nature of these legislative efforts and various inquiries and developments, we can neither know nor predict with certainty their outcome, or the potential remedial actions that might result from these or other potential inquiries. Governmental action may impose increased administrative and regulatory costs and decreased profit margins.



## Because we are subject to sanctions if we fail to calculate correctly and return timely Title IV program funds for students who stop participating before completing their educational program, our future operating results may be adversely affected.

A school participating in Title IV programs must correctly calculate the amount of unearned Title IV program funds that have been disbursed to students who withdraw from their educational programs before completion and must return those unearned funds in a timely manner, generally within 45 days after the date the school determines that the student has withdrawn. Under recently effective DOE regulations, institutions that use the last day of attendance at an academically-related activity must determine the relevant date based on accurate institutional records (not a student's certificate of attendance). For online classes, "academic attendance" means engaging in an academically-related activity, such as participating in class through an online discussion or initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question; simply logging into an online class does not constitute "academic attendance" for purposes of the return of funds requirements. Because we only recently began to participate in Title IV programs, we have limited experience complying with these Title IV regulations. Under DOE regulations, late return of Title IV program funds for 5% or more of students sampled in connection with the institution's annual compliance audit constitutes material non-compliance. If unearned funds are not properly calculated and timely returned, we may have to repay Title IV funds, post a letter of credit in favor of the DOE or otherwise be sanctioned by the DOE, which could increase our cost of regulatory compliance and adversely affect our results of operations. This may have an impact on our systems, our future operations and cash flows.

### Because our consolidated financial statements are not unqualified, Aspen may lose its eligibility to participate in Title IV programs or be required to post a letter of credit in order to maintain eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.

To participate in Title IV programs, an eligible institution must satisfy specific measures of financial responsibility prescribed by the DOE, or post a letter of credit in favor of the DOE and possibly accept other conditions, such as additional reporting requirements or regulatory oversight, on its participation in Title IV programs. Our financial statements are qualified on our ability to continue as a going concern, which means the DOE may determine that we are not financially responsible under DOE regulations. The DOE may also apply its measures of financial responsibility to the operating company and ownership entities of an eligible institution and, if such measures are not satisfied by the operating company or ownership entities, require the institution to meet the alternative standards described under "Regulation" on page 40 of this prospectus. Any of these alternative standards would increase our costs of regulatory compliance. If we were unable to meet these alternative standards, we would lose our eligibility to participate in Title IV programs. If we fail to demonstrate financial responsibility and thus lose our eligibility to participate would lose access to Title IV program funds for use in our institution, which would limit our potential for growth and adversely affect our enrollment, revenues and results of operations.

### If we fail to demonstrate "administrative capability," we may lose eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.

DOE regulations specify extensive criteria an institution must satisfy to establish that it has the requisite "administrative capability" to participate in Title IV programs. If an institution fails to satisfy any of these criteria or comply with any other DOE regulations, the DOE may require the repayment of Title IV funds, transfer the institution from the "advance" system of payment of Title IV funds to cash monitoring status or to the "reimbursement" system of payment, place the institution on provisional certification status, or commence a proceeding to impose a fine or to limit, suspend or terminate the participation of the institution in Title IV programs. If we are found not to have satisfied the DOE's "administrative capability" requirements we could be limited in our access to, or lose, Title IV program funding, which would limit our potential for growth and adversely affect our enrollment, revenues and results of operations.

# Because we rely on a third party to administer our participation in Title IV programs, its failure to comply with applicable regulations could cause us to lose our eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.

We have been eligible to participate in Title IV programs for a relatively short time, and we have not developed the internal capacity to handle without third-party assistance the complex administration of participation in Title IV programs. A third party assists us with administration of our participation in Title IV programs, and if it does not comply with applicable regulations, we may be liable for its actions and we could lose our eligibility to participate in Title IV programs. In addition, if it is no longer able to provide the services to us, we may not be able to replace it in a timely or cost-efficient manner, or at all, and we could lose our ability to comply with the requirements of Title IV programs, which would limit our potential for growth and adversely affect our enrollment, revenues and results of operation.

## If we pay impermissible commissions, bonuses or other incentive payments to individuals involved in recruiting, admissions or financial aid activities, we will be subject to sanctions.

A school participating in Title IV programs may not provide any commission, bonus or other incentive payment based, directly or indirectly, on success in enrolling students or securing financial aid to any person involved in student recruiting or admission activities or in making decisions regarding the awarding of Title IV program funds. If we pay a bonus, commission, or other incentive payment in violation of applicable DOE rules, we could be subject to sanctions, which could have a material adverse effect on our business. Effective July 1, 2011, the DOE abolished 12 safe harbors that described permissible arrangements under the incentive payment regulation. Abolition of the safe harbors and other aspects of the new regulation may create uncertainty about what constitutes impermissible incentive payments. The modified incentive payment rule and related uncertainty as to how it will be interpreted also may influence our approach, or limit our alternatives, with respect to employment policies and practices and consequently may affect negatively our ability to recruit and retain employees, and as a result our business could be materially and adversely affected.

In addition, the General Accounting Office, or the GAO, has issued a report critical of the DOE's enforcement of the incentive payment rule, and the DOE has undertaken to increase its enforcement efforts. If the DOE determines that an institution violated the incentive payment rule, it may require the institution to modify its payment arrangements to the DOE's satisfaction. The DOE may also fine the institution or initiate action to limit, suspend, or terminate the institution's participation in the Title IV programs. The DOE may also seek to recover Title IV funds disbursed in connection with the prohibited incentive payments. In addition, third parties may file "qui tam" or "whistleblower" suits on behalf of the DOE alleging violation of the incentive payment rule, the existence of, the costs of responding to, and the outcome of, qui tam or whistleblower suits or DOE investigations could have a material adverse effect on our reputation causing our enrollments to decline and could cause us to incur costs that are material to our business, among other things. As a result, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

#### If our student loan default rates are too high, we may lose eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.

DOE regulations provide that an institution's participation in Title IV programs ends when historical default rates reach a certain level in a single year or for a number of years. Because of our limited experience enrolling students who are participating in these programs, we have no historical default rates. Relatively few students are expected to enter the repayment phase in the near term, which could result in defaults by a few students having a relatively large impact on our default rate. If Aspen loses its eligibility to participate in Title IV programs because of high student loan default rates, our students would no longer be eligible to use Title IV program funds in our institution, which would significantly reduce our enrollments and revenues and have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

### Increased scrutiny of accrediting agencies by the Secretary of Education and the U.S. Congress may result in increased scrutiny of institutions, we may lose our ability to participate in Title IV programs.

Increased regulatory scrutiny of accrediting agencies and their accreditation of universities is likely to continue. While Aspen is accredited by the DETC, a DOE-recognized accrediting body, if the DOE were to limit, suspend, or terminate the DETC's recognition, we could lose our ability to participate in the Title IV programs. While the DOE has provisionally certified Aspen through September 30, 2013, there are no assurances that we will remain certified following that date. If we were unable to rely on DETC accreditation in such circumstances, among other things, our students and our institution would be ineligible to participate in the Title IV programs, and such consequence would have a material adverse effect on enrollments, revenues and results of operations. In addition, increased scrutiny of accrediting agencies by the Secretary of Education in connection with the DOE's recognition process may result in increased scrutiny of institutions by accrediting agencies.

Furthermore, because the for-profit education sector is growing at such a rapid pace, it is possible that accrediting bodies will respond to that growth by adopting additional criteria, standards and policies that are intended to monitor, regulate or limit the growth of for-profit institutions like us. Actions by, or relating to, an accredited institution, including any change in the legal status, form of control, or ownership/management of the institution, any significant changes in the institution's financial position, or any significant growth or decline in enrollment and/or programs, could open up an accredited institution to additional reviews by the DETC.

### If Aspen fails to meet standards regarding "gainful employment," it may result in the loss of eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.

The DOE's regulations on gainful employment programs became effective July 1, 2012. Should a program fail the gainful employment metrics three times within a four year period, the DOE would terminate the program's eligibility for federal student aid (i.e., students in the program would immediately lose eligibility to participate in Title IV programs), and the institution would not be able to reestablish the program's eligibility for a least three years, though the program could continue to operate without Title IV funding. The earliest a program could lose eligibility under the gainful employment rule will be 2015, based on its 2012, 2013, and 2014 performance under the metrics. Because the DOE's gainful employment rules will be implemented over several years and are based at least in part on data that is unavailable to us, it is not possible at this time to determine with any degree of certainty whether these new regulations will cause any of our programs to become ineligible to participate in the Title IV programs. However, under this new regulation, the continuing eligibility of our educational programs for Title IV funding is at risk due to factors beyond our control, such as changes in the actual or deemed income level of our graduates, changes in student borrowing levels, increases in interest rates, changes in the federal poverty income level relevant for calculating discretionary income, changes in the percentage of our former students who are current in repayment of their student loans, and other factors. In addition, even though deficiencies in the metrics may be correctible on a timely basis, the disclosure requirements to students following a failure to meet the standards may adversely impact the reputation of our educational institutions.

### Our failure to obtain DOE approval, where required, for new programs that prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation could materially and adversely affect our business.

Under the DOE regulations, an institution must notify the DOE at least 90 days before the first day of class when it intends to add a program that prepares students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation. The institution may proceed to offer the program, unless the DOE advises the institution that the DOE must approve the program for Title IV purposes. In addition, if the institution does not provide timely notice to the DOE regarding the additional program, the institution must obtain approval of the program for Title IV purposes. If the DOE denies approval, the institution may not award Title IV funds in connection with the program. Were the DOE to deny approval to one or more of our new programs, our business could be materially and adversely affected. Furthermore, compliance with these new procedures could cause delay in our ability to offer new programs of interest to our students and potential students and adversely affect our ability to increase our revenues. As a result, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

### Our failure to comply with the DOE's substantial misrepresentation rules could result in sanctions.

The DOE may take action against an institution in the event of substantial misrepresentation by the institution concerning the nature of its educational programs, its financial charges or the employability of its graduates. Under new regulations, the DOE has expanded the activities that constitute a substantial misrepresentation. Under the DOE regulations, an institution engages in substantial misrepresentation when the institution itself, one of its representatives, or an organization or person with which the institution has an agreement to provide educational programs, marketing, advertising, or admissions services, makes a substantial misrepresentation directly or indirectly to a student, prospective student or any member of the public, or to an accrediting agency, a state agency, or to the Secretary of Education. The final regulations define misrepresentation as any false, erroneous or misleading statement, and they define a misleading statement as any statement that has the likelihood or tendency to deceive or confuse. The final regulations define substantial misrepresentation as any misrepresentation on which the person to whom it was made could reasonably be expected to rely, or has reasonably relied, to the person's detriment. If the DOE determines that an institution has engaged in substantial misrepresentation in the Title IV programs, deny participation applications made on behalf of the institution, or initiate a proceeding against the institution to fine the institution or to limit, suspend or termination the institution's participation in the Title IV programs. We expect that there could be an increase in our industry of administrative actions and litigation claiming substantial misrepresentation, which at a minimum would increase legal costs associated with defending such actions, and as a result our business could be materially and adversely affected.

### Failure to comply with the DOE's credit hour requirements could result in sanctions.

The DOE has defined "credit" hour for Title IV purposes. The credit hour is used for Title IV purposes to define an eligible program and an academic year and to determine enrollment status and the amount of Title IV aid that an institution may disburse in a payment period. The final regulations define credit hour as an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates certain specified time in class and out of class and an equivalent amount of work for other academic activities. The final regulations also require institution's policies, procedures, and administration of policies and procedures for assignment of credit hours. An accreditor must take appropriate actions to address an institution's credit hour deficiencies and to notify the DOE if it finds systemic noncompliance or significant noncompliance in one or more programs. The DOE has indicated that if it finds an institution to be out of compliance with the credit hour definition for Title IV purposes, it may require the institution to repay the amount of Title IV awarded under the incorrect assignment of credit hours, as a result of which our business could be materially and adversely affected.

# The U.S. Congress recently conducted an examination of the for-profit postsecondary education sector that could result in legislation or additional DOE rulemaking that may limit or condition Title IV program participation of proprietary schools in a manner that may materially and adversely affect our business.

In recent years, the U.S. Congress has increased its focus on for-profit education institutions, including with respect to their participation in the Title IV programs, and has held hearings regarding such matters. In addition, the GAO released a series of reports following undercover investigations critical of for-profit institutions. We cannot predict the extent to which, or whether, these hearings and reports will result in legislation, further rulemaking affecting our participation in Title IV programs, or more vigorous enforcement of Title IV requirements. To the extent that any laws or regulations are adopted that limit or condition Title IV program participation of proprietary schools or the amount of federal student financial aid for which proprietary school students are eligible, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

#### Other Risks

### Because our common stock is temporarily subject to the "penny stock" rules, brokers cannot generally solicit the purchase of our common stock which adversely affects its liquidity and market price.

The SEC has adopted regulations which generally define "penny stock" to be an equity security that has a market price of less than \$5.00 per share, subject to specific exemptions. We expect that the market price of our common stock on the Over-The-Counter Bulletin Board, or the Bulletin Board, will be substantially less than \$5.00 per share and therefore we will be considered a "penny stock" according to SEC rules. This designation requires any broker-dealer selling these securities to disclose certain information concerning the transaction, obtain a written agreement from the purchaser and determine that the purchaser is reasonably suitable to purchase the securities. These rules limit the ability of broker-dealers to solicit purchases of our common stock and therefore reduce the liquidity of the public market for our shares.

Moreover, as a result of apparent regulatory pressure from the SEC and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, a growing number of broker-dealers decline to permit investors to purchase and sell or otherwise make it difficult to sell shares of penny stocks like Aspen. This may have a depressive effect upon our common stock price.

### Our management will be able to exert control over us to the detriment of minority shareholders.

Our executive officers and directors own approximately 16% of our outstanding common stock. These shareholders, if they act together, may be able to control our management and affairs and all matters requiring shareholder approval, including significant corporate transactions. This concentration of ownership may have the effect of delaying or preventing our change in control and might affect the market price of our common stock. For more information, see the section titled "Principal Shareholders" below.

### If our common stock becomes subject to a "chill" imposed by the Depository Trust Company, or DTC, your ability to sell your shares may be limited.

The DTC acts as a depository or nominee for street name shares that investors deposit with their brokers. Until the fourth quarter of 2012, our stock was not eligible to be electronically transferred among DTC participants (broker-dealers) and required delivery of paper certificates as a result of a "chill" imposed by DTC. As a result of becoming "DTC-Eligible", our common stock is no longer subject to a chill. However, DTC in the last several years has increasingly imposed a chill or freeze on the deposit, withdrawal and transfer of common stock of issuers whose common stock trades on the Bulletin Board. Depending on the type of restriction, a chill or freeze can prevent shareholders from buying or selling shares and prevent companies from raising money. A chill or freeze may remain imposed on a security for a few days or an extended period of time (in at least one instance a number of years). While we have no reason to believe a chill or freeze will be imposed against our common stock again in the future, if it were your ability to sell your shares would be limited. In such event, your investment will be adversely affected.

### Due to factors beyond our control, our stock price may be volatile.

Any of the following factors could affect the market price of our common stock:

- Our failure to generate increasing material revenues;
- Our failure to become profitable;
- Our failure to raise working capital;
- Our public disclosure of the terms of any financing which we consummate in the future;
- Actual or anticipated variations in our quarterly results of operations;
- Announcements by us or our competitors of significant contracts, new services, acquisitions, commercial relationships, joint ventures
  or capital commitments;
- The loss of Title IV funding or other regulatory actions;
- Our failure to meet financial analysts' performance expectations;
- Changes in earnings estimates and recommendations by financial analysts;
- Short selling activities; or
- Changes in market valuations of similar companies.

In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company's securities, securities class action litigation has often been instituted. A securities class action suit against us could result in substantial costs and divert our management's time and attention, which would otherwise be used to benefit our business.

# We may issue preferred stock without the approval of our shareholders and have other anti-takeover defenses, which could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us and could depress our stock price.

Our Board may issue, without a vote of our shareholders, one or more additional series of preferred stock that have more than one vote per share. This could permit our Board to issue preferred stock to investors who support us and our management and give effective control of our business to our management. Additionally, issuance of preferred stock could block an acquisition resulting in both a drop in our stock price and a decline in interest of our common stock. This could make it more difficult for shareholders to sell their common stock. This could also cause the market price of our common stock shares to drop significantly, even if our business is performing well.

#### An investment in Aspen Group may be diluted in the future as a result of the issuance of additional securities.

If we need to raise additional capital to meet our working capital needs, we expect to issue additional shares of common stock or securities convertible, exchangeable or exercisable into common stock from time to time, which could result in substantial dilution to investors. Investors should anticipate being substantially diluted based upon the current condition of the capital and credit markets and their impact on small companies.

### Because we may not be able to attract the attention of major brokerage firms, it could have a material impact upon the price of our common stock.

It is not likely that securities analysts of major brokerage firms will provide research coverage for our common stock since the firm itself cannot recommend the purchase of our common stock under the penny stock rules referenced in an earlier risk factor. The absence of such coverage limits the likelihood that an active market will develop for our common stock. It may also make it more difficult for us to attract new investors at times when we acquire additional capital.

### Since we intend to retain any earnings for development of our business for the foreseeable future, you will likely not receive any dividends for the foreseeable future.

We have not and do not intend to pay any dividends in the foreseeable future, as we intend to retain any earnings for development and expansion of our business operations. As a result, you will not receive any dividends on your investment for an indefinite period of time.

### If we do not successfully defend the pending litigation brought by our former chairman and large shareholder, we may incur material damages.

In February 2013, our former Chairman and a company he controls sued us, certain senior management members and our directors in state court in New York seeking damages arising from losses and other matters incurred in the operation of Aspen's business since May 2011, our filings with the SEC and the DOE where we stated that he and his company borrowed \$2.2 million without board authority and our failure to use our best efforts to purchase certain shares of common stock from him following the April Agreement. See "Related Person Transactions." While we have been advised by our counsel that the lawsuit is baseless, we cannot assure you that we will be successful. Defending the litigation will be expensive and divert our management from Aspen's business. If we are unsuccessful, the damages we pay may be material.

### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus includes forward-looking statements including statements regarding liquidity, anticipated marketing spending, capital expenditures and planned financings. All statements other than statements of historical facts contained in this prospectus, including statements regarding our future financial position, liquidity, business strategy and plans and objectives of management for future operations, are forward-looking statements. The words "believe," "may," "estimate," "continue," "anticipate," "intend," "should," "plan," "could," "target," "potential," "is likely," will," "expect" and similar expressions, as they relate to us, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. We have based these forward-looking statements largely on our current expectations and projections about future events and financial trends that we believe may affect our financial condition, results of operations, business strategy and financial needs. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions described in "Risk Factors" elsewhere in this prospectus. Other sections of this prospectus may include additional factors which could adversely affect our business and financial performance. New risk factors emerge from time to time and it is not possible for us to predict all such risk factors, nor can we assess the impact of all such risk factors on our business or the extent to which any risk factor, or combination of risk factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements execpt as otherwise required by applicable laws, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements or the risk factors described in this prospectus, whether as a result of new information, future events, changed circumstances or any other reason after the date of this prospectus.

#### DILUTION

Except for the shares underlying the warrants, the shares of common stock to be sold by the selling shareholders are issued and outstanding. Accordingly, there will be no dilution to our existing shareholders except to the extent warrants are exercised.

#### PRIVATE PLACEMENTS

From March to July 2012, we sold approximately \$1.7 million of secured convertible notes, or Notes, and approximately 1.3 million warrants to purchase our common stock from which we received approximately \$1.4 million in net proceeds. The Notes converted into Aspen Group's common stock at \$0.3325 per share, which we refer to as the "Conversion Price". The warrants are exercisable over a five-year period and are exercisable at the Conversion Price. Additionally, 202,334 shares and 50,591 warrants were issued in connection with accumulated interest accruing as of the conversion date.

In late September 2012, we sold \$2,757,000 of units. The units contained 7,877,144 shares of common stock and 3,938,570 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share.

From September 2012 through March 2013, we sold units at \$0.35 per unit, each unit consisting of one share of common stock and one-half of a warrant exercisable at \$0.50 per share.

In December 2012, we sold \$715,000 of units. The units contained 2,042,857 shares of common stock and 1,021,432 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share.

In February 2013, we sold \$315,000 of units. The units contained 900,000 shares of common stock and 450,000 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share.

In March 2013, we sold \$250,000 of units. The units contained 714,286 shares of common stock and 357,143 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share.

This prospectus covers the offer and sale of the common stock (including the shares underlying the warrants) issued in the 2013 offerings. It does not cover the shares of common stock contained in the units sold in 2012.

We used the proceeds from the private placements to support our growth and for general corporate purposes, including working capital.

### USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds upon the sale of shares by the selling shareholders. We will however receive proceeds from the exercise of the warrants. We plan on using these proceeds received from shareholders who exercise their warrants to support our growth and for general corporate purposes, including working capital.

### CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of December 31, 2012. The table should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus:

	As of December 31, 2012
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 644,988
Debt:	
Convertible notes	800,000
Shareholders' equity:	
Common stock	55,244
Treasury stock	(70,000
Additional paid-in capital	12,153,615
Accumulated deficit	(11,337,104
Total shareholders' equity	\$ 801,755

### MARKET FOR COMMON STOCK

Our stock trades on the Bulletin Board, under the symbol "ASPU." Since March 31, 2011, Aspen Group's common stock has been quoted on the Bulletin Board. The last reported sale price of our common stock as reported by the Bulletin Board on April 5, 2013 was \$0.50. As of April 5, 2013, we had 237 record holders. The following table provides the high and low bid price information for our common stock for the periods our stock was quoted on the Bulletin Board. For the period our stock was quoted on the Bulletin Board, the prices reflect inter-dealer prices, without retail mark-up, mark-down or commission and does not necessarily represent actual transactions. Our common stock does not trade on a regular basis.

			Prices (1)(2)			
Year	Quarter Ended		High		Low	
2012	December 31	\$	2.85	\$	0.70	
	September 30	\$	3.75	\$	2.91	
	June 30	\$	3.75	\$	3.75	
	March 31	\$	6.50	\$	3.28	
2011	December 31	\$	6.50	\$	6.50	
	September 30	\$	6.50	\$	6.50	
	June 30	\$	6.50	\$	6.25	
	March 31	\$	0.0208	\$	0.0208	

(1) All prices give effect to a 12-for-1 forward stock split effected in June 2011.

(2) All prices give effect to a 1-for-2.5 reverse stock split effected in February 2012.

### **Dividend Policy**

We have not paid cash dividends on our common stock and do not plan to pay such dividends in the foreseeable future. Our Board will determine our future dividend policy on the basis of many factors, including results of operations, capital requirements, and general business conditions.

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

This discussion should be read in conjunction with the other sections contained herein, including the risk factors and the consolidated financial statements and the related exhibits contained herein. The various sections of this discussion contain a number of forward-looking statements, all of which are based on our current expectations and could be affected by the uncertainties and risk factors described throughout this prospectus as well as other matters over which we have no control. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including but not limited to those set forth in this prospectus. See "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

### **Company Overview**

Founded in 1987, Aspen's mission is to become an institution of choice for adult learners by offering cost-effective, comprehensive, and relevant online education. One of the key differences between Aspen and other publicly-traded, exclusively online, for-profit universities is that 87% of our full-time degree-seeking students (as of December 31, 2012) are enrolled in a graduate degree program (master or doctorate degree program). According to publicly available information, Aspen enrolls a larger percentage of its full-time degree-seeking students in graduate degree programs than its publicly-traded competitors. As of December 31, 2012, 1,681 students were enrolled as full-time degree seeking students or 87% in a master or doctoral graduate degree program. In addition, a further 872 students are engaged in part time programs, such as continuing education courses and certificate level programs. Therefore, Aspen's student body totaled 2,553 as of December 31, 2012.

Among online, for-profit universities, Aspen ranks among the leaders relative to the closely analyzed industry metrics such as high student graduation rates, high student course completion rates and low revenue exposure to DOE federal student financial aid Title IV programs. During 2012, Aspen had a student graduation rate of 58%, and a student course completion rate of 90% (calculated in accordance with DETC guidelines which is the average completion rate of students in our top 10 most popular courses), a federal student financial aid Title IV program participation rate of only 18% of revenues (this rate was calculated in accordance with the DOE regulations with revenues calculated on a cash basis). While most publicly-traded for-profit universities are near the 90/10 Title IV ratio limit, Aspen's ratio is only 18%.

#### Enrollments

Degree-seeking student enrollments increased by 37% during 2012, from 1,477 to 2,024 students. Among Aspen's degree seeking programs, the Master of Nursing program grew 273% in 2012, from 71 students to 265 students. Part-time students enrolled as of March 31, 2012 were 529 students, an increase of 7% from 496 part-time students at year-end 2011.



### **Results of Operations**

### Year Ended December 31, 2012 Compared with Year Ended December 31, 2011

#### Revenue

Revenue for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased to \$5,017,213 from \$4,477,931 for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of 12%. The increase is primarily attributable to the growth in Aspen student enrollments as revenues from full-time degree-seeking students increased to \$2,684,930 from \$2,395,440, an increase of 12%. Of particular note, revenues from Aspen's Nursing degree program, which is included in the revenue amount discussed in the preceding sentence, increased to \$409,938 from \$124,113, an increase of 230%. Meanwhile, the revenue Aspen derives from its third-party sourced corporate-sponsored employee certificate programs and part-time degree programs rose to \$2,332,283 from \$2,082,491, an increase of 12%.

Our 2012 and 2011 revenues were impacted by the 2010 (and previous years) pre-payment tuition plan, or the Legacy Tuition Plan, which was discontinued on July 15, 2011. The Legacy Tuition Plan had students paying full-rate tuition for a degree program's first four courses (\$675/course) and a steeply discounted tuition rate for the program's eight course balance (\$112.50/course). Specifically, the Plan produced immediate cash flow, but unsustainably low gross profit margins over the length of the degree program. As of December 31, 2012, 44% of our full-time degree-seeking students are still enrolled under the Legacy Tuition Plan. However, as the table below demonstrates, the contribution from Legacy Tuition Plan students to overall Aspen revenue and profits diminished steadily over the course of 2012 as the population of full-time degree-seeking students paying regular tuition rates increased by 188% and the population of Legacy Tuition Plan students fell by 36%. Accordingly, much as 2012 was affected negatively by the lingering impact of the Legacy Tuition Plan, 2013 revenue should demonstrate a dramatically diminished effect from the Legacy Tuition Plan and a much greater contribution from the growing number of regular rate students. In fact, Aspen Group expects Legacy Tuition Plan students' contribution to financial results to be immaterial no later than the second quarter of 2013.

The following table represents certain metrics regarding Aspen's full-time degree seeking students. The revenue numbers are for tuition only and do not include fees.

Full-Time Degree Seeking Student Metrics (unaudited)

	1Q12	2Q12	3Q12	4Q12
Regular Rate Students	437	551	724	949
-				
Legacy Tuition Plan Students:				
- Legacy Tuition Plan Students	1,051	951	861	732
- % Legacy Tuition Plan Class Starts	67%	56%	45%	36%
- % Legacy Tuition Plan Tuition Revenue	41%	28%	17%	10%
- % Legacy Tuition Plan Tuition Gross Profit	35%	23%	12%	6%
Average Tuition Per Course	\$ 463	\$ 512	\$ 537 \$	653
Total Full-Time Degree Students	1,488	1,502	1,585	1,681

Separately, Aspen's largest corporate customer was Verizon, predominantly in the tri-state region (NY, NJ, CT), representing 29% of our revenues in 2012 and 45% in 2011. Because of the payments we make to our third-party business development partner in connection with the referrals of corporate customers, our gross margins from corporate customer revenues are substantially less. Deducting these payments, Verizon accounted for only 6% and 11% of our net revenues for 2012 and 2011, respectively.

In 2012, Aspen's Verizon revenues were significantly affected in the second half of the year by the impact of Hurricane Sandy as Verizon employees were wholly focused on reconstruction efforts to return damaged infrastructure to operation. Verizon's net revenue contribution in the second half of 2012 fell to 3% as revenues contracted at a 70% year/year rate versus a year/year growth rate of 9% during the first half of 2012 when the net revenue contribution was 11%. Management expects Verizon's net revenue contribution to be immaterial in 2013. This is a planned, long-term strategic shift in which Aspen has decided to phase-out third-party-sourced corporate employee certificate programs in favor of launching its own internal marketing efforts for such programs in 2013. The first certificate program planned to be launched in early-April through Aspen's internal marketing department is the Certificate in Project Management.

### Costs and Expenses

#### Instructional Costs and Services

Instructional costs and services for the year ended December 31, 2012 rose to \$2,926,837 from \$2,200,034 for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of 33%. The increase is primarily attributable to higher charges associated with non-capitalizable courseware costs and payments to faculty due to the increase in class completions. As student enrollment levels increase, instructional costs and services should rise commensurately. However, as Aspen increases its full-time degree-seeking student enrollments, the higher gross margins associated with such students should lead to the growth rate in instructional costs and services to lag that of overall revenues.

Revenues less instructional costs and services, a measure of the gross profit of Aspen operations, for the year ended December 31, 2012 declined to \$2,090,376 from \$2,277,897 for the year ended December 31, 2011, a decrease of 8%. Gross profit from Aspen's full-time degree-seeking students declined to \$1,785,030 for the year ended December 31, 2011 from \$1,946,899 for the year ended December 31, 2011, a decrease of 8%. The timing impact of the Legacy Tuition Plan was experienced in the second half of 2012 as Aspen's gross profit from full-time degree-seeking students fell at a year/year rate of 14% versus a 1% decline during the first half of 2012. This is because the second half of 2011 was affected by a large number of Legacy Tuition Plan students completing their initial four courses which contributed gross profit from the Legacy Tuition Plan is immaterial. Gross profit growth is expected in 2013 as new full-time degree-seeking student enrollments increase and Legacy Tuition Plan students represent a shrinking portion of the total full-time degree-seeking student population. Gross profit from Aspen's third-party corporate employee certificate programs and part-time degree of 8%. The timing impact of Hurricane Sandy was experienced in the second half of 2012 as Aspen's gross profit from third-party corporate employee certificate programs and part-time degree programs fell at a year/year rate of 44% versus a year/year growth rate of 35% during the first half of 2012. Gross profit growth in 2013 should benefit from the growing number of regular rate students, the de-emphasis of low-margin third-party sourced corporate employee certificate programs.

### Marketing and Promotional

Marketing and promotional costs for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased to \$1,442,128 from \$515,362 for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of 180%. The increase is primarily attributable to expenses related to the launch and operation of Aspen's new marketing and student enrollment program. With Aspen's strategy of proprietary lead generation driving higher marketing and promotional spending levels, it is highly likely that these expenditures will increase in 2013 over 2012 levels. Factors serving to mitigate the expected increase include possible economies realized in cost per lead as well as the yield realized in terms of higher enrollments per unit of marketing and promotional spending. While such economies were realized in 2012, we cannot assure you that we will realize further economies of scale in 2013.

### General and Administrative

General and administrative costs for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased to \$5,404,325 from \$3,593,956 for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of 50%. The most significant factor is the higher employment level as Aspen increased staffing to support its growth objectives. To that end, payroll costs for the period rose to \$2,716,302 from the prior year period's \$1,596,711, an increase of 70%. Separately, professional fees for the period rose to \$920,086 from \$583,416, an increase of 58%. Within professional fees, accounting fees for the period rose to \$509,711 from \$58,707, a 768% increase, while legal fees for the period declined to \$395,375 from \$523,233, a 24% decrease. Activities supported by the increased level of professional fees were reverse merger regulatory filings with the DOE and the DETC, postreverse merger regulatory filings with the DOE, the filing of the Super 8-K and Form 10-Qs with the SEC, along with our capital raising and other transactional activities. Relative to the professional fees incurred a total of \$702,093 is non-recurring (accounting, \$340,778; legal, \$361,315). We expect professional fees to decline in 2013, particularly as Aspen Group's auditors have agreed to a flat-fee arrangement. Apart from payroll costs and professional fees, bad debt expense for the period rose to \$302,952 from \$21,200, an increase of 1,329%, as the payment performance of Aspen's third-party corporate employee certificate programs and part-time degree programs has suffered and management took steps to ensure the conservative presentation of our consolidated financial statements. Separately, general and administrative costs in 2012 reflected non-cash stock-based compensation expense of \$347,657 as Aspen Group's board of directors approved an option program on March 13, 2012. Based on grants made to date, non-cash stock-based compensation expense should be \$374,091 in 2013. We expect to recognize an additional \$606,807 of non-cash stock-based compensation through December 31, 2016. Excluding payroll, professional fees, bad debt expense and non-cash stock-based compensation expense, general and administrative costs for the year ended December 31, 2012 declined to \$1,117,328 from \$1,392,631, a decrease of 20%.

Overall general and administrative costs are expected to experience moderate growth in 2013 from 2012 as the cost associated with state regulatory compliance and DOE reporting requirements on topics such as gainful employment standards will increase in 2013. It is not feasible to quantify these future costs.

### **Receivable Collateral Valuation Reserve**

Due to a change in the estimated value of the collateral supporting the Account Receivable, secured – related party from \$1.00/share to \$0.35/share based on the financing by Aspen Group that closed September 28, 2012, a non-cash valuation reserve expense of \$502,315 was recorded for the year ended December 31, 2012.

#### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Depreciation and amortization costs for the year ended December 31, 2012 rose to \$397,923 from \$264,082 for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of 51%. The increase is primarily attributable to higher levels of capitalized technology costs as Aspen continues the infrastructure build-out initiated in 2011.

#### Other Income (Expense)

Other income (expense) for the year ended December 31, 2012 declined to an expense of (\$354,418) from an expense of (\$40,070), a decrease of \$314,348. The decrease is primarily attributable to interest expense related to the issuance of \$2,006,000 in convertible notes payable during the period along with the amortization of debt issue costs. On the closing of the financing on September 28, 2012, the convertible notes were converted into common shares at a per share price of \$0.3325.

#### Income Taxes

Income taxes expense (benefit) for the year ended December 31, 2012 and the year ended December 31, 2011 were \$0 as Aspen Group experienced operating losses in both periods. As management made a full valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets stemming from these losses, there was no tax benefit recorded in the statement of operations in both periods.

### Net Loss

Net loss allocable to common stockholders for the year ended December 31, 2012 widened to (\$6,048,113) from (\$2,222,899) for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of 172%. The increase is primarily attributable to depressed returns as Aspen transitions through the impact of the Legacy Tuition Plan, incurs the budgeted employee, infrastructure and marketing costs associated with Aspen's new programs to sustain future growth and experienced the non-recurring impact of Aspen Group's costs related to becoming a public-traded entity.

### Non-GAAP - Financial Measure

The following discussion and analysis includes both financial measures in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, or GAAP, as well as a non-GAAP financial measure. Generally, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company's performance, financial position or cash flows that either excludes or includes amounts that are not normally included or excluded in the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. Non-GAAP financial measures should be viewed as supplemental to, and should not be considered as alternatives to net income, operating income, and cash flow from operating activities, liquidity or any other financial measures. They may not be indicative of the historical operating results of Aspen Group nor are they intended to be predictive of potential future results. Investors should not consider non-GAAP financial measures in isolation or as substitutes for performance measures calculated in accordance with GAAP.

Our management uses and relies on Adjusted EBITDA, a non-GAAP financial measure. We believe that both management and shareholders benefit from referring to the following non-GAAP financial measure in planning, forecasting and analyzing future periods. Our management uses this non-GAAP financial measure in evaluating its financial and operational decision making and as a means to evaluate period-to-period comparison.

Aspen Group defines Adjusted EBITDA as earnings (or loss) from continuing operations before preferred dividends, interest expense, income taxes, collateral valuation adjustment, bad debt expense, depreciation and amortization, and amortization of stock-based compensation. Aspen Group excludes the changes from collateral valuation adjustment, bad debt expense and stock based compensation because they are non cash in nature. The preferred dividends were derived from Aspen; upon the closing of the Reverse Merger in 2012, Aspen preferred stock was exchanged for Aspen Group common stock. Adjusted EBITDA is an important measure of our operating performance because it allows management, investors and analysts to evaluate and assess our core operating results from period-to-period after removing the impact of items of a non-operational nature that affect comparability. Our management recognizes that Adjusted EBITDA has inherent limitations because of the excluded items.

We have included a reconciliation of our non-GAAP financial measure to the most comparable financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP. We believe that providing the non-GAAP financial measure, together with the reconciliation to GAAP, helps investors make comparisons between Aspen Group and other companies. In making any comparisons to other companies, investors need to be aware that companies use different non-GAAP measure to evaluate their financial performance. Investors should pay close attention to the specific definition being used and to the reconciliation between such measure and the corresponding GAAP measure provided by each company under applicable SEC rules.

The following table presents a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to Net Income (loss) allocable to common stockholders, a GAAP financial measure:

	1Q12	2Q12	3Q12	4Q12	2012
Net income/(loss) allocable to common stockholders	\$ (1,827,046)	\$ (1,664,733)	<b>\$</b> (1,721,976)	\$ (834,358)	\$ (6,048,113)
Accretion of preferred dividends	37,379	0	0	0	37,379
Interest Expense, net	2,289	127,702	229,084	1,222	360,297
Collateral Valuation Adjustment	0	309,116	193,198	0	502,315
Bad Debt Expense	32,955	51,521	113,476	105,000	302,952
Depreciation & Amortization	89,749	96,188	103,738	108,248	397,923
Stock-based compensation expense	66,104	47,020	63,547	170,986	347,657
Adjusted EBITDA (Loss)	\$ (1,598,570)	\$ (1,033,186)	\$ (1,018,933)	\$ (448,902)	\$ (4,099,590)

Over the course of 2012, Aspen Group narrowed the Adjusted EBITDA loss as a result of the 188% increase in the number of full-rate tuition students and the 36% decrease in the number of Legacy Tuition Plan students, a shift that lifted average realized per-course tuition from \$463 in the first quarter of 2012 to \$653 in the fourth quarter of 2012 - a 41% increase.

The impact of the collateral valuation adjustment will be confined to 2012 if the market price of Aspen Group shares remains at or above the current \$0.35/share valuation level. In 2013, the amount of interest expense is not expected to increase over 2012 levels. As Aspen Group phases out third-party sourced certificate programs, the level of bad debt expense is likely to be reduced.

### Capital Resources and Liquidity

Net cash used in operating activities during the year ended December 31, 2012 totaled (\$4,403,361) and resulted primarily from a net loss of (\$6,010,734) offset by non-cash items of \$1,965,955 and a net change in operating assets and liabilities of (\$358,582). Net cash from operating activities include non-recurring expenses of \$702,093 which comprised of professional fees.

Net cash used in investing activities during the year ended December 31, 2012 totaled (\$619,801) and resulted primarily from capitalized technology expenditures of (\$505,146) and a net increase of restricted cash of (\$264,992), offset by officer loan repayments received of \$150,000.

Net cash provided by financing activities during the year ended December 31, 2012 totaled \$4,901,548 which resulted primarily from proceeds from the net issuance of debt and equity securities and warrants of \$5,370,021 offset by issuance costs of (\$266,473) and the repurchase of treasury shares of (\$202,000).

In May 2011, Aspen had approximately \$200,000 in cash when its new management team joined it in connection with the merger of Aspen with Education Growth Corporation, or the EGC merger. From June 2010 through the time of the EGC merger, Aspen had received \$1,390,500 from the Legacy Tuition Plan which was designed to increase immediate cash flow at the expense of future cash flow. To sustain its operations, Aspen raised \$328,000 from the sale of convertible notes and \$3,469,985 from the sale of convertible preferred stock at prices ranging from approximately \$0.95 to \$1.00 per share. Funds were used to repurchase \$740,000 of common stock pursuant to a prior obligation, to repay \$165,000 to investors who purchased Aspen common stock in prior years resulting from violation of state securities laws registration provisions, to repurchase \$21,200 of common stock to investors requesting a return of their investments, and \$2,871,785 for general corporate purposes including working capital.

We do not anticipate generating positive cash flow from operations until approximately the third quarter of 2013. As of April 4, 2013, we had \$850,670 in available cash, which does not include \$175,970 held in escrow from investors in our private placement offering which Aspen Group anticipates closing in the near future. As discussed above, we anticipate our marketing and regulatory costs will increase.

To ensure we have enough cash to support our working capital needs, we plan to raise additional working capital. As of the date of this prospectus, we have raised \$565,000 in 2013. In March 2013, we entered into an engagement agreement with Laidlaw & Company (UK) Ltd., which agreed to use its best efforts to raise up to \$770,000 of Units, consisting of shares of common stock and warrants. The Units are identical to those sold by the selling shareholders. As discussed above, we have \$175,970 sitting in escrow from investors in this offering. As of April 5, 2013, Aspen Group had borrowed \$250,000 under its line of credit. See Note 10 to our consolidated financial statements contained herein.

We expect to spend \$250,000 in capital expenditures over the next 12 months. These capital expenditures will be allocated across growth initiatives including expansion of Aspen's call center activities, academic courseware development and further improvements in Aspen's technology infrastructure. Depending on management's efforts to realize efficiencies in technology development and the amount of capital raised, our capital expenditures may be less than anticipated.

### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

In response to financial reporting release FR-60, Cautionary Advice Regarding Disclosure About Critical Accounting Policies, from the SEC, we have selected our more subjective accounting estimation processes for purposes of explaining the methodology used in calculating the estimate, in addition to the inherent uncertainties pertaining to the estimate and the possible effects on the our financial condition. The accounting estimates are discussed below and involve certain assumptions that, if incorrect, could have a material adverse impact on our results of operations and financial condition.

### **Revenue Recognition and Deferred Revenue**

Revenues consist primarily of tuition and fees derived from courses taught by Aspen online as well as from related educational resources that Aspen provides to its students, such as access to our online materials and learning management system. Tuition revenue is recognized pro-rata over the applicable period of instruction. Aspen maintains an institutional tuition refund policy, which provides for all or a portion of tuition to be refunded if a student withdraws during stated refund periods. Certain states in which students reside impose separate, mandatory refund policies, which override Aspen's policy to the extent in conflict. If a student withdraws at a time when a portion or none of the tuition is refundable, then in accordance with its revenue recognition policy, Aspen recognizes as revenue the tuition that was not refunded. Since Aspen recognizes revenue pro-rata over the term of the course and because, under its institutional refund policy, the amount subject to refund is never greater than the amount of the revenue that has been deferred, under Aspen's accounting policies revenue is not recognized with respect to amounts that could potentially be refunded. Aspen's educational programs have starting and ending dates that differ from its fiscal quarters. Therefore, at the end of each fiscal quarter, a portion of revenue from these programs is not yet earned and is therefore deferred. Aspen also charges students annual fees for library, technology and other services, which are recognized over the related service period. Deferred revenue represents the amount of tuition, fees, and other student payments received in excess of the portion recognized as revenue and it is included in current liabilities in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. Other revenues may be recognized as sales occur or services are performed.

Aspen enters into certain revenue sharing arrangements with consultants whereby the consultants will develop course content primarily for technology related courses, recommend, but not select, faculty, lease equipment on behalf of Aspen for instructional purposes for the on-site laboratory portion of distance learning courses and make introductions to corporate and government sponsoring organizations who provide students for the courses. Aspen has evaluated ASC 605-45 "Principal Agent Considerations" and determined that there are more indicators than not that Aspen is the primary obligor in the arrangements since Aspen establishes the tuition, interfaces with the student or sponsoring organization, selects the faculty, is responsible for delivering the course, is responsible for issuing any degrees or certificates, and is responsible for collecting the tuition and fees. The gross tuition and fees are included in revenues while the revenue sharing payments are included in instructional costs and services, an operating expense.

### Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts Receivable

All students are required to select both a primary and secondary payment option with respect to amounts due to Aspen for tuition, fees and other expenses. The most common payment option for Aspen's students is personal funds or payment made on their behalf by an employer. In instances where a student selects financial aid as the primary payment option, he or she often selects personal cash as the secondary option. If a student who has selected financial aid as his or her primary payment option withdraws prior to the end of a course but after the date that Aspen's institutional refund period has expired, the student will have incurred the obligation to pay the full cost of the course. If the withdrawal occurs before the date at which the student has earned 100% of his or her financial aid, Aspen will have to return all or a portion of the Title IV funds to the DOE and the student will owe Aspen all amounts incurred that are in excess of the amount of financial aid that the student earned and that Aspen is entitled to retain. In this case, Aspen must collect the receivable using the student's second payment option.

For accounts receivable from students, Aspen records an allowance for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability, failure or refusal of its students to make required payments, which includes the recovery of financial aid funds advanced to a student for amounts in excess of the student's cost of tuition and related fees. Aspen determines the adequacy of its allowance for doubtful accounts using a general reserve method based on an analysis of its historical bad debt experience, current economic trends, and the aging of the accounts receivable and student status. Aspen applies reserves to its receivables based upon an estimate of the risk presented by the age of the receivables and student status. Aspen writes off accounts receivable balances at the time the balances are deemed uncollectible. Aspen continues to reflect accounts receivable with an offsetting allowance as long as management believes there is a reasonable possibility of collection.

For accounts receivable from primary payors other than students, Aspen estimates its allowance for doubtful accounts by evaluating specific accounts where information indicates the customers may have an inability to meet financial obligations, such as bankruptcy proceedings and receivable amounts outstanding for an extended period beyond contractual terms. In these cases, Aspen uses assumptions and judgment, based on the best available facts and circumstances, to record a specific allowance for those customers against amounts due to reduce the receivable to the amount expected to be collected. These specific allowances are re-evaluated and adjusted as additional information is received. The amounts calculated are analyzed to determine the total amount of the allowance. Aspen may also record a general allowance as necessary.

Direct write-offs are taken in the period when Aspen has exhausted its efforts to collect overdue and unpaid receivables or otherwise evaluate other circumstances that indicate that Aspen should abandon such efforts.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

At December 31, 2012, we included as a long term asset an account receivable of \$270,478 net of an allowance of \$502,315 from our former Chairman. Although it is secured by stock pledges, there is a risk that we may not collect all or any of this sum.

In March 2012, we issued a \$300,000 convertible note to Mr. Michael Mathews, our Chief Executive Officer, in consideration for a \$300,000 loan. The note was originally due March 31, 2013, but was amended to extend the due date to August 31, 2013. The note bears interest at 0.19% per annum and is convertible at \$1.00 per share. In August 2012, we issued a \$300,000 convertible note to Mr. Mathews in consideration for an additional \$300,000 loan. The note was originally a demand note, but was amended to extend the due date to August 31, 2013. The due date to August 31, 2013. The note bears interest at 0.19% per share.

See Note 15 to our consolidated financial statements included herein for additional description of related party transactions that had a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

### New Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 2 to our consolidated financial statements included herein for discussion of recent accounting pronouncements.



### BUSINESS

On March 13, 2012, Aspen Group and Aspen closed a Merger Agreement whereby Aspen became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aspen Group. We refer to the merger as the "Reverse Merger." All references to "we," "our" and "us" refer to Aspen Group, unless the context otherwise indicates. In referring to academic matters, these words refer solely to Aspen University Inc.

### **Description of Business**

Aspen's mission is to become an institution of choice for adult learners by offering cost-effective, comprehensive, and relevant online education. We are dedicated to helping our students exceed their personal and professional objectives in a socially conscious and economically sensible way. Aspen's mission in fact is to help students achieve their long-term goals of upward mobility and long-term economic success through providing superior education, exerting financial prudence, and supporting our students' career advancement goals. Aspen is dedicated to providing the highest quality education experiences taught by top-tier professors - 67% of our adjunct professors hold doctorate degrees.

Because we believe higher education should be a catalyst to our students' long-term economic success, we exert financial prudence by offering affordable tuition that is one of the greatest values in online education. We have expanded our degree offerings broadly but the vision remains the same: to provide students with the best value in high quality education and to help them achieve their academic and career goals.

One of the key differences between Aspen and other publicly-traded, exclusively online, for-profit universities is an emphasis on post-graduate degree programs (master or doctorate). As of December 31, 2012, 1,681 students were enrolled as full-time degree seeking students with 1,467 of those students or 87% in a master or doctoral graduate degree program. In addition, 872 students are engaged in part time programs, such as continuing education courses and certificate level programs (includes 343 part-time undergraduate military students). Aspen is committed to maintaining its focus on being a predominantly graduate school for the foreseeable future.

Today, Aspen offers certificate programs and associate, bachelor, master and doctoral degree programs in a broad range of areas, including business and organization management, education, nursing, information technology, and general studies. In terms of enrollments, our most popular schools are our school of business and our school of nursing. Specifically, our Master of Business Administration, or MBA, and Master of Science in Nursing represent the two largest degree programs among our full-time, degree-seeking student body as of December 31, 2012. Aspen's School of Nursing is our fastest growing program, having grown from 5% of our full-time, degree seeking student body at year-end 2011, to 16% of our full-time, degree seeking student body at year-end 2012.

We are accredited by the DETC. Aspen first received DETC accreditation in 1993 and most recently received re-accreditation in January 2009. Aspen is scheduled for re-accreditation review in November 2013.

Aspen is provisionally certified by the DOE through September 30, 2013. Under such certification, Aspen is restricted to a limit of 1,200 student recipients for Title IV funding for the period ending June 30, 2013. As of December 31, 2012, Aspen had 442 students that were currently participating in the Title IV programs. Since inception of Aspen's provisional certification status, it has had 543 total Title IV student participants. In the future when it considers whether to extend the provisional certification or make the certification permanent, the DOE may impose additional or different terms and conditions, including growth restrictions or limitation on the number of students who may receive Title IV aid. In terms of future deadlines with the DOE, Aspen is required to re-apply by June 30, 2013 to continue its participation in the Title IV Higher Education Act, or HEA, programs. At that time, a determination will be made whether we meet the requirements for full certification.

In 2008, Aspen received accreditation of its Master of Science in Nursing Program with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, or the Nursing Commission. Officially recognized by the DOE, the Nursing Commission is a nongovernmental accrediting agency, which ensures the quality and integrity of education programs in preparing effective nurses. Aspen's Master of Science in Nursing program most recently underwent accreditation review by the Nursing Commission in March 2011. At that time, the program's accreditation was reaffirmed, with the accreditation term to expire December 30, 2021. We currently offer a variety of nursing degrees including: Masters of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing Education, Masters of Science in Nursing Administration and Management and Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Aspen is a Global Charter Education Provider for the Project Management Institute, or PMI, and a Registered Education Provider (R.E.P.) of the PMI. The PMI recognizes select Aspen Project Management Courses as Professional Development Units. These courses help prepare individuals to sit for the Project Management Professional, or PMP, certification examination. PMP certification is the project management profession's most recognized and respected certification credential. Project management professionals may take the PMI approved Aspen courses to fulfill continuing education requirements for maintaining their PMP certification.

In connection with our Bachelor and Master degrees in Psychology of Addiction and Counseling, the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors, or NAADAC, has approved Aspen as an "academic education provider." NAADAC-approved education providers offer training and education for those who are seeking to become certified, and those who want to maintain their certification, as alcohol and drug counselors. In connection with the approval process, NAADAC reviews all educational training programs for content applicability to state and national certification standards.

#### <u>Competitive Strengths</u> - We believe that we have the following competitive strengths:

Exclusively Online Education - We have designed our courses and programs specifically for online delivery, and we recruit and train faculty exclusively for online instruction. We provide students the flexibility to study and interact at times that suit their schedules. We design our online sessions and materials to be interactive, dynamic and user friendly.

<u>Debt Minimization</u> - We are committed to offering among the lowest tuition rates in the sector, which to date has alleviated the need for a significant majority of our students to borrow money to fund Aspen's tuition requirements. In July 2011, we raised our course-by-course tuition rates to \$300/credit hour for all degree-seeking programs. However, we believe based on our competitors' public information that our tuition rates remain significantly lower than our competitors. For example, University of Phoenix, Capella University and Grand Canyon University charge \$740, \$699, and \$483, respectively, per credit hour for their MBA program versus Aspen's \$350 per credit hour.

<u>Commitment to Academic Excellence</u> - We are committed to continuously improving our academic programs and services, as evidenced by the level of attention and resources we apply to instruction and educational support. We are committed to achieving high course completion and graduation rates compared to competitive distance learning, for-profit schools. 67% of our adjunct faculty members hold a doctorate degree. One-on-one contact with our highly experienced faculty brings knowledge and great perspective to the learning experience. Faculty members are available by telephone and email to answer questions, discuss assignments and provide help and encouragement to our students.

<u>Highly Scalable and Profitable Business Model</u> - We believe our exclusively online education model, our relatively low student acquisition costs, and our variable faculty cost model will enable us to expand our operating margins. If we increase student enrollments we will be able to scale on a variable basis the number of adjunct faculty members after we reach certain enrollment metrics (not before). A single adjunct faculty member can work with as little as two students or as many as 25 over the course of an enrollment period.

<u>"One Student at a Time" personal care</u> - We are committed to providing our students with fast and personal individualized support. Every student is assigned an academic advisor who becomes an advocate for the student's success. Our one-on-one approach assures contact with faculty members when a student needs it and monitoring to keep them on course. Our administrative staff is readily available to answer any questions and works with a student from initial interest through the application process and enrollment, and most importantly while the student is pursuing a degree or studies. Based on Aspen's 2011 DETC Annual Report of student satisfaction survey results, calculated in accordance with applicable DETC policy, 95% of students on average expressed satisfaction with their recently completed course.

### Admissions

In considering candidates for acceptance into any of our certificate or degree programs, we look for those who are serious about pursuing – or advancing in – a professional career, and who want to be both prepared and academically challenged in the process. We strive to maintain the highest standards of academic excellence, while maintaining a friendly learning environment designed for educational, personal and professional success. A desire to meet those standards is a prerequisite. Because our programs are designed for self-directed learners who know how to manage their time, successful students have a basic understanding of management principles and practices, as well as good writing and research skills. Admission to Aspen is based on thorough assessment of each applicant's potential to complete successfully the program. Additionally, we require students to complete an essay as part of their admission process – as we are looking for students not only with the potential to succeed.

### **Industry Overview**

The U.S. market for postsecondary education is a large, growing market. According to a 2012 publication by the National Center for Education Statistics, or NCES, the number of postsecondary learners enrolled as of Fall 2010 in U.S. institutions that participate in Title IV programs was approximately 21 million (including both undergraduate and graduate students), up from 18.2 million in the Fall of 2007. We believe the growth in postsecondary enrollment is a result of a number of factors, including the significant and measurable personal income premium that is attributable to postsecondary education, and an increase in demand by employers for professional and skilled workers, partially offset in the near term by current economic conditions. According to the NCES, in 2010, the median earnings of young adults with a bachelor's degree was \$45,000 compared to \$37,000 for those with an associate's degree and \$21,000 for those with a high school diploma.

Eduventures, Inc., an education consulting and research firm, estimates that 20% of all postsecondary students will be in fully-online programs by 2014, with perhaps another 20% taking courses online. The estimated increase in students online increased 18% in 2010. We believe that the higher growth in demand for fully-online education is largely attributable to the flexibility and convenience of this instructional format, as well as the growing recognition of its educational efficacy.

### **Competition**

There are more than 4,200 U.S. colleges and universities serving traditional college age students and adult students. Any reference to universities herein also includes colleges. Competition is highly fragmented and varies by geography, program offerings, delivery method, ownership, quality level, and selectivity of admissions. No one institution has a significant share of the total postsecondary market. While we compete in a sense with traditional "brick and mortar" universities, our primary competitors are with online universities. Our online university competitors that are publicly traded include: Apollo Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: APOL), American Public Education, Inc. (Nasdaq: APEI), DeVry Inc. (NYSE: DV), Grand Canyon Education, Inc. (Nasdaq: LOPE), ITT Educational Services, Inc. (NYSE: ESI), Capella Education Company (Nasdaq: CPLA), Career Education Corporation (Nasdaq: CECO) and Bridgepoint Education, Inc. (NYSE: BPI). American Public Education, Inc. and Capella Education Company are wholly online while the others are not. Based upon public information, Apollo Group, which includes University of Phoenix, is the market leader with University of Phoenix having degree enrollments exceeding 356,900 students (based upon APOL's Form 10-K filed on October 22, 2012). As of December 31, 2012, Aspen had 2,553 students enrolled. These competitors have substantially more financial and other resources.

The primary mission of most accredited four-year universities is to serve generally full-time students and conduct research. Aspen acknowledges the differences in the educational needs between working and full-time students at "brick and mortar" schools and provides programs and services that allow our students to earn their degrees without major disruption to their personal and professional lives.

We also compete with public and private degree-granting regionally and nationally accredited universities. An increasing number of universities enroll working students in addition to the traditional 18 to 24 year-old students, and we expect that these universities will continue to modify their existing programs to serve working learners more effectively, including by offering more distance learning programs. We believe that the primary factors on which we compete are the following:

- active and relevant curriculum development that considers the needs of employers;
- the ability to provide flexible and convenient access to programs and classes;
- high-quality courses and services;
- comprehensive student support services;
- breadth of programs offered;
- the time necessary to earn a degree;
- qualified and experienced faculty;
- reputation of the institution and its programs;
- the variety of geographic locations of campuses;
- regulatory approvals;
- cost of the program;
- name recognition; and
- convenience.

### <u>Curricula</u>

Certificates
Certificate in Information Technology with specializations in:
Information Systems Management
Java Development
Object Oriented Application Development
Smart Home Integration
Web Development
Certificate in Project Management
Certificate in Internet Marketing
Executive Certificate in Business Administration
Associates Degrees
Associate of General Studies
Associate of Applied Science Early Childhood Education
Associate of Fine Arts
Bachelors Degrees
Bachelor of General Studies
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Addiction Counseling
Bachelor of Science in Alternative Energy
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, (Completion Program)
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, (Completion Program)
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with specializations in
Criminal Justice Administration
Major Crime Investigation Procedure
Major Crime Investigation Procedure, (Completion Program)
Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education
Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education, (Completion Program)
Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education with a specialization in
Infants and Toddlers
Infants and Toddlers, (Completion Program)
Preschool
Preschool, (Completion Program)
Bachelor of Science in Foodservice Operations and Restaurant Management
Bachelor of Science in Medical Managements
Bachelor of Science in Fine Arts with a specialization in
Drawing and Painting
Entertainment 2D
Entertainment 3D
Illustration
Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Completion Program

Masters
Master of Arts Psychology and Addiction Counseling
Master of Science in Criminal Justice
Master of Science in Criminal Justice with a specialization in
Forensic Sciences
Law Enforcement Management
Terrorism and Homeland Security
Master of Science in Information Management with a specialization in
Management
Project Management
Technologies
Master of Science in Information Systems with a specialization in
Enterprise Application Development
Web Development
Master of Science in Information Technology
Master of Science in Nursing with a specialization in
Administration and Management
Administration and Management, (RN to MSN Bridge Program)
Nursing Education
Nursing Education, (RN to MSN Bridge Program)
Master of Science in Physical Education and Sports Management Master of Science in Technology and Innovation with a specialization in
Business Intelligence and Data Management
Electronic Security
Project Management
System Design
Technical Languages
Vendor and Change Control Management
Aster in Business Administration
Master in Business Administration with specializations in
Entrepreneurship
Finance
Information Management
Pharmaceutical Marketing and Management
Project Management
Master in Education
Curriculum Development and Outcomes Assessment
Education Technology
Transformational Leadership
Doctorates
Doctorate of Science in Computer Science
Doctorate in Education Leadership and Learning
Doctorate in Education Leadership and Learning with specializations
Education Administration Faculty Leadership
racuty Leadership Instructional Design

Instructional Design Leadership and Learning

Independent online classes start on the 1st and the 16th of every month and students may enroll in up to a maximum of three courses at a time. Online interactive courses are offered five times a year.

## Sales and Marketing

Prior to Mr. Michael Mathews becoming Aspen's Chief Executive Officer in May 2011, Aspen had conducted minimal efforts and spent immaterial sums on sales and marketing. During the second half of 2011, Mr. Mathews and his team made significant changes to our sales and marketing program and spent a significant amount of time, money and resources on our marketing program.

What is unique about Aspen's marketing program is that we have no plans in the near future to utilize third-party online lead generation companies to attract prospective students. To our knowledge, most if not all for-profit online universities utilize multiple third-party online lead generation companies to obtain a meaningful percentage of their prospective student leads. Aspen's executive officers have many years of expertise in the online lead generation and Internet advertising industry, which for the foreseeable future will allow Aspen to cost-effectively drive all prospective student leads internally. This is a competitive advantage for Aspen because third-party leads are typically unbranded and non-exclusive (lead generation firms typically sell prospective student leads to multiple universities), therefore the conversion rate for those leads tends to be appreciably lower than internally generated, Aspen branded, proprietary leads.

In May 2011, Aspen expanded on its current search engine marketing initiatives related to Google. Aspen expanded the use of Aspen keyword search terms and keywords related to its MBA program and nursing program. Aspen also refined its testing of keywords, marketing messages and the establishment of program specific informational pages that have been matched to those keywords. Landing pages and keywords have been further optimized in order to facilitate streamlined communication of Aspen's programs, degrees and courses offered in order to ensure that prospective students are provided with information necessary to make an informed decision regarding Aspen and to begin a dialogue with an Aspen advisor. The search engine marketing program was expanded in July 2011, to include the Microsoft and Yahoo search engines for general university terms, MBA and nursing programs, utilizing the same paradigm of directing prospective students to an informational page about their desired interest within those programs.

In October 2011, Aspen began to advertise directly on publisher websites, reaching prospective students who would benefit from the programs we offer within nursing and business programs. When working directly with publisher websites, Aspen employs a number of sophisticated targeting techniques to most efficiently generate branded, proprietary student leads. In fact, the majority of our advertising spend and leads we generate today is through this direct publisher channel, rather than search.

Aspen's marketing plan for 2013 is consistent with the changes made in 2012 and 2011. In January 2012, Aspen hired an Executive Vice President of Marketing, who supervises a new call center in the Phoenix-metro area which opened in August 2012. This executive has prior experience in marketing with multiple online university competitors and, more recently, an online lead generation company. Since opening, the call center has expanded to meet the increasing number of inquiries.

This change in marketing coincided with our new tuition plan which we launched effective July 15, 2011. Our new plan features increased tuition rates on a per course basis; i.e. \$350/credit hour for master or doctorate program.

From 2005 through July 2011 Aspen initiated a number of pre-payment/low per course tuition plans. The last plan that ran from June 2010 through July 2011 charged students tuition of only \$3,600 for the entire 12-course Master or Doctorate program (the pre-payment option offered the student the ability to pre-pay \$2,700 for the first four courses or 12 credit hours, followed by \$112.50 per course or \$37.50/credit hour for the remaining eight courses). This program was terminated as of July 15, 2011. At December 31, 2012, 43% of our degree-seeking students were on the old pre-paid tuition program. However, those students only represented approximately 11% of Aspen's full-time degree-seeking revenues for the quarter ended December 31, 2012, and 6% of Aspen's gross profit from full-time degree seeking students of the quarter ended December 31, 2012, represented the first quarter in which the old-prepay students were not a majority of our degree seeking students. We expect that by the end of 2013, the number of old-prepay students will cease to be material.

Anticipating significant growth from our new marketing efforts, we spent approximately \$1,000,000 upgrading our information technology in 2011 and approximately \$400,000 in 2012.



## **Employees**

As of April 5, 2013, we had 38 full-time employees, and 91 adjunct professors. None of our employees are parties to any collective bargaining arrangement. We believe our relationships with our employees are good.

# Corporate History

Aspen Group was incorporated on February 23, 2010 in Florida as a home improvement company intending to develop products and sell them on a wholesale basis to home improvement retailers. Aspen Group was unable to execute its business plan. In June 2011, Aspen Group changed its name to Elite Nutritional Brands, Inc. and terminated all operations. In February 2012, Aspen Group reincorporated in Delaware under the name Aspen Group, Inc.

Aspen was incorporated on September 30, 2004 in Delaware. Its predecessor was a Delaware limited liability company organized in Delaware in 1999. In May 2011, Aspen merged with EGC. Aspen survived the EGC Merger. EGC was a start-up company controlled by Mr. Michael Mathews. Mr. Mathews became Aspen's Chief Executive Officer upon closing the EGC Merger. On March 13, 2012, Aspen Group acquired Aspen in the Reverse Merger.

#### **Regulation**

Students attending Aspen finance their education through a combination of individual resources, corporate reimbursement programs and federal financial aid programs. The discussion which follows outlines the extensive regulations that affect our business. Complying with these regulations entails significant effort from our executives and other employees. Our President has two unique roles: overseeing our accreditation and regulatory compliance and seeking to improve our academic performance. Accreditation and regulatory compliance is also expensive. Beyond the internal costs, we began using education regulatory counsel in the summer of 2011, as our current Chief Executive Officer focused his attention on compliance. Aspen participates in the federal student financial aid programs authorized under Title IV. For the year ended December 31, 2012, approximately 18% of our cash-basis revenues for eligible tuition and fees were derived from Title IV programs. In connection with a student's receipt of Title IV aid, we are subject to extensive regulation by the DOE, state education agencies and the DETC. In particular, the Title IV programs, and the regulations issued thereunder by the DOE, subject us to significant regulatory scrutiny in the form of numerous standards that we must satisfy. To participate in Title IV programs, a school must, among other things, be:

- authorized to offer its programs of instruction by the applicable state education agencies in the states in which it is physically located (in our case, Colorado);
- accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the Secretary of the DOE; and
- certified as an eligible institution by the DOE.

The DOE enacted regulations relating to the Title IV programs which became effective July 1, 2011. Under these new regulations, an institution, like ours, that offers postsecondary education through distance education to students in a state in which the institution is not physically located or in which it is otherwise subject to state jurisdiction as determined by that state, must meet any state requirements to offer legally postsecondary education to students in that state. The institution must be able to document state approval for distance education if requested by the DOE.

This new regulation has been recognized as a significant departure from the state authorization procedures followed by most, if not all, institutions before its enactment. Although these new rules became effective July 1, 2011, the DOE indicated in an April 20, 2011 guidance letter that it would not initiate any action to establish repayment liabilities or limit student eligibility for distance education activities undertaken before July 1, 2014, provided the institution was making a good faith effort to identify and obtain necessary state authorization before that date. However, on July 12, 2011, a federal judge for the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia vacated the portion of the DOE's state authorization regulation that requires online education providers to obtain any required authorization from all states in which their students reside, finding that the DOE had failed to provide sufficient notice and opportunity to comment on the requirement. An appellate court affirmed that ruling on June 5, 2012 and therefore this new regulation is currently invalid. However, further guidance is expected.

Should the requirements be enforced at a later date, and if we fail to obtain required state authorization to provide postsecondary distance education in a specific state, we could lose our ability to award Title IV aid to students within that state. In addition, a state may impose penalties on an institution for failure to comply with state requirements related to an institution's activities in a state, including the delivery of distance education to persons in that state.

Therefore, we are taking steps to ensure compliance in time for the earlier-effective July 1, 2014 enforcement date as recommended for all schools facing this new (but currently invalid) regulation. We enroll students in all 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. We have sought and received confirmation that our operations do not require state licensure or authorization, or we have been notified that we are exempt from licensure or authorization requirements, in three states. We, through our legal counsel, are researching the licensure requirements and exemption possibilities in the remaining 47 states. It is anticipated that Aspen will be in compliance with all state licensure requirements by June of 2014, in time for the earlier-effective compliance date set by the DOE. Because we enroll students in all 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, we may have to seek licensure or authorization in additional states in the future.

We are subject to extensive regulations by the states in which we become authorized or licensed to operate. State laws typically establish standards for instruction, qualifications of faculty, administrative procedures, marketing, recruiting, financial operations and other operational matters. State laws and regulations may limit our ability to offer educational programs and to award degrees. Some states may also prescribe financial regulations that are different from those of the DOE. If we fail to comply with state licensing requirements, we may lose our state licensure or authorizations. Failure to comply with state requirements could result in Aspen losing its authorization from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, a department of the Colorado Department of Higher Education, or CDHE, its eligibility to participate in Title IV programs, or its ability to offer certain programs, any of which may force us to cease operations.

Additionally, Aspen is a Delaware corporation. Delaware law requires an institution to obtain approval from the Delaware Department of Education, or Delaware DOE, before it may incorporate with the power to confer degrees. In July 2012, Aspen received notice from the Delaware DOE that it is granted provisional approval status effective until June 30, 2015.

#### Accreditation

Aspen is accredited by the DETC, an accrediting agency recognized by the DOE. Accreditation is a non-governmental system for recognizing educational institutions and their programs for student performance, governance, integrity, educational quality, faculty, physical resources, administrative capability and resources, and financial stability. In the U.S., this recognition comes primarily through private voluntary associations that accredit institutions and programs. To be recognized by the DOE, accrediting agencies must adopt specific standards for their review of educational institutions. Accrediting agencies establish criteria for accreditation, conduct peer-review evaluations of institutions and programs for accreditation, and publicly designate those institutions or programs that meet their criteria. Accredited institutions are subject to periodic review by accrediting agencies to determine whether such institutions maintain the performance, integrity and quality required for accreditation.

Accreditation by the DETC is important. Accreditation is a reliable indicator of an institution's quality and is an expression of peer institution confidence. Universities depend, in part, on accreditation in evaluating transfers of credit and applications to graduate schools. Accreditation also provides external recognition and status. Employers rely on the accredited status of institutions when evaluating an employment candidate's credentials. Corporate and government sponsors under tuition reimbursement programs look to accreditation for assurance that an institution maintains quality educational standards. Moreover, institutional accreditation awarded from an accrediting agency recognized by the DOE is necessary for eligibility to participate in Title IV programs. From time to time, DETC adopts or makes changes to its policies, procedures and standards. If we fail to comply with any of DETC's requirements, our accreditation status and, therefore, our eligibility to participate in Title IV programs could be at risk. The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (the panel charged with advising DOE on whether to recognize accrediting agencies for federal purposes, including Title IV program purposes) was scheduled to review DETC for recognition purposes in the Spring of 2012, at which point the committee voted to recommend that DETC recognition be continued pending its efforts to reach compliance with certain requirements. Aspen is next scheduled for accreditation review by DETC in November 2013.

## Nature of Federal, State and Private Financial Support for Postsecondary Education

An institution that applies to participate in Title IV programs for the first time, if approved, will be provisionally certified for no more than one complete award year. Furthermore, an institution that undergoes a change in ownership resulting in a change of control must apply to the DOE in order to reestablish its eligibility to participate in Title IV programs. If the DOE determines to approve the application, it issues a provisional certification, which extends for a period expiring not later than the end of the third complete award year following the date of the provisional certification. Aspen is provisionally certified through September 30, 2013. A provisionally certified institution must apply for and receive DOE approval of substantial changes and must comply with any additional conditions included in its program participation agreement. If the DOE determines that a provisionally certified institution is unable to meet its responsibilities under its program participation agreement, the DOE may seek to revoke the institution's certification to participate in Title IV programs with fewer due process protections for the institution than if it were fully certified.

The federal government provides a substantial part of its support for postsecondary education through the Title IV programs, in the form of grants and loans to students. Students can use those funds at any institution that has been certified by the DOE to participate in the Title IV programs. Aid under Title IV programs is primarily awarded on the basis of financial need, generally defined as the difference between the cost of attending the institution and the amount a student can reasonably contribute to that cost. All recipients of Title IV program funds must maintain satisfactory academic progress and must progress in a timely manner toward completion of their program of study. In addition, each school must ensure that Title IV program funds are properly accounted for and disbursed in the correct amounts to eligible students.

Our students receive loans and grants to fund their education under the following Title IV programs: (1) the Federal Direct Loan program, or Direct Loan and (2) the Federal Pell Grant program, or Pell.

Currently, the majority of Aspen students self-finance all or a portion of their education. Additionally, students may receive full or partial tuition reimbursement from their employers. Eligible students can also access private loans through a number of different lenders for funding at current market interest rates.

Under the Direct Loan program, the DOE makes loans directly to students. The Direct Loan Program includes the Direct Subsidized Loan, the Direct Unsubsidized Loan, the Direct PLUS Loan (including loans to graduate and professional students), and the Direct Consolidation Loan. The Budget Control Act of 2011 signed into law in August 2011, eliminated Direct Subsidized Loans for graduate and professional students, as of July 1, 2012. The terms and conditions of subsidized loans originated prior to July 1, 2012 are unaffected by the law. In 2012, Direct Subsidized Loans were 6% of Aspen's cash revenues as calculated in accordance with the DOE's 90/10 rule. Cash revenues are not revenues reported on our consolidated financial statements contained herein.

For Pell grants, the DOE makes grants to undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need. To date, few Aspen students have received Pell Grants. Accordingly, the Pell Grant program currently is not material to Aspen given the fact that Pell Grant's represented less than 1% of Aspen's cash revenues as calculated in accordance with the DOE's 90/10 rule.

# Regulation of Federal Student Financial Aid Programs

The substantial amount of federal funds disbursed through Title IV programs, the large number of students and institutions participating in these programs, and allegations of fraud and abuse by certain for-profit institutions have prompted the DOE to exercise considerable regulatory oversight over for-profit institutions of higher learning. Accrediting agencies and state education agencies also have responsibilities for overseeing compliance of institutions in connection with Title IV program requirements. As a result, our institution is subject to extensive oversight and review. Because the DOE periodically revises its regulations and changes its interpretations of existing laws and regulations, we cannot predict with certainty how the Title IV program requirements will be applied in all circumstances. See the "Risk Factors" contained herein which disclose comprehensive regulatory risks.

In addition to the state authorization requirements and other regulatory requirements described herein, other significant factors relating to Title IV programs that could adversely affect us include the following legislative action and regulatory changes:

Congress reauthorizes the Higher Education Act approximately every five to eight years. Congress most recently reauthorized the Higher Education Act in August 2008. We cannot predict with certainty whether or when Congress might act to amend further the Higher Education Act. The elimination of additional Title IV programs, material changes in the requirements for participation in such programs, or the substitution of materially different programs could increase our costs of compliance and could reduce the ability of certain students to finance their education at our institution.

On December 23, 2011, President Obama signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2012, or the Act. The law includes a number of provisions that significantly affect the Title IV programs. For example, it reduces the income threshold at which students are assigned "an automatic zero expected family contribution" for purposes of awarding financial aid for the 2012-2013 award year. Under the Act, students who do not have a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent (e.g., GED) or do not meet an applicable home school requirement and who first enroll in a program of study on or after July 1, 2012 will not be eligible to receive Title IV aid. The Act also makes certain changes to the Pell Grant Program and temporarily eliminates the interest subsidy that is provided for Direct Subsidized Loans during the six-month grace period immediately following termination of enrollment.

Over the last several years, Congressional committees have held hearings related to for-profit postsecondary education institutions. Additionally, the chairmen of the House and Senate education committees, along with other members of Congress, asked the GAO, to review various aspects of the for-profit education sector, including recruitment practices, educational quality, student outcomes, the sufficiency of integrity safeguards against waste, fraud and abuse in Title IV programs, and the degree to which for-profit schools' revenue is comprised of Title IV and other federal funding sources. In 2010, the GAO released a report based on a three-month undercover investigation of recruiting practices at for-profit schools. The report concluded that employees at a non-random sample of 15 for-profit schools (which did not include Aspen) made deceptive statements to students about accreditation, graduation rates, job placement, program costs, or financial aid. On October 31, 2011, the GAO released a second report following an additional undercover investigation related to enrollment, cost, financial aid, course structure, substandard student performance, withdrawal, and exit counseling. The report concluded that while some of the 15 unidentified forprofit schools investigated appeared to follow existing policies, others did not. Although the report identified a number of deficiencies in specific instances, it made no recommendations. On December 7, 2011, the GAO released a report that attempted to compare the quality of education provided by for-profit, nonprofit, and public institutions based upon multiple outcome measures including graduation rates, pass rates on licensing exams, employment outcomes, and student loan default rates. The report found that students at for-profit institutions had higher graduation rates for certificate programs, similar graduation rates for associate's degree programs, and lower graduation rates for bachelor's degree programs than students at nonprofit and public institutions. It also found that a higher proportion of bachelor's degree recipients from for-profit institutions took out loans than did degree recipients from other institutions and that some evidence exists that students at for-profits institutions default on their student loans at higher rates. On nine of the ten licensing exams reviewed, graduates of for-profit institutions had lower pass rates than students from nonprofit and public institutions.

As described above, certain DOE regulations have been challenged and the lawsuit is currently before a federal appeals court. The same plaintiff in that lawsuit also filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia challenging the DOE's final regulations on gainful employment, which are discussed below. The lawsuit is currently pending.

The DOE currently is in the process of developing proposed regulations to amend regulations pertinent to the Title IV loan programs and teacher education. We are unable to predict the timing or the proposed or final form of any regulations that the DOE ultimately may adopt and the impact of such regulations on our business.

Administrative Capability. DOE regulations specify extensive criteria by which an institution must establish that it has the requisite "administrative capability" to participate in Title IV programs. Failure to satisfy any of the standards may lead the DOE to find the institution ineligible to participate in Title IV programs or to place the institution on provisional certification as a condition of its participation. To meet the administrative capability standards, an institution must, among other things:

- comply with all applicable Title IV program regulations;
- have capable and sufficient personnel to administer the federal student financial aid programs;
- have acceptable methods of defining and measuring the satisfactory academic progress of its students;
- have cohort default rates above specified levels;
- have various procedures in place for safeguarding federal funds;

- not be, and not have any principal or affiliate who is, debarred or suspended from federal contracting or engaging in activity that
  is cause for debarment or suspension;
- provide financial aid counseling to its students;
- refer to the DOE's Office of Inspector General any credible information indicating that any applicant, student, employee, or agent
  of the institution, has been engaged in any fraud or other illegal conduct involving Title IV programs;
- report annually to the Secretary of Education on any reasonable reimbursements paid or provided by a private education lender or group of lenders to any employee who is employed in the institution's financial aid office or who otherwise has responsibilities with respect to education loans;
- develop and apply an adequate system to identify and resolve conflicting information with respect to a student's application for Title IV aid;
- submit in a timely manner all reports and financial statements required by the regulations; and
- not otherwise appear to lack administrative capability.

Among other things, DOE regulations require that an institution must evaluate satisfactory academic progress (1) at the end of each payment period if the length of the educational program is one academic year or less or (2) for all other educational programs, at the end of each payment period or at least annually to correspond to the end of a payment period. Second, the DOE regulations add an administrative capability standard related to the existing requirement that students must have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent in order to be eligible for Title IV aid. Under the administrative capability standard, institutions must develop and follow procedures for evaluating the validity of a student's high school diploma if the institution or the Secretary of Education has reason to believe that the student's diploma is not valid.

If an institution fails to satisfy any of these criteria or any other DOE regulation, the DOE may:

- require the repayment of Title IV funds;
- transfer the institution from the "advance" system of payment of Title IV funds to cash monitoring status or to the "reimbursement" system of payment;
- place the institution on provisional certification status; or
- commence a proceeding to impose a fine or to limit, suspend or terminate the participation of the institution in Title IV programs.

If we are found not to have satisfied the DOE's "administrative capability" requirements, we could lose, or be limited in our access to, Title IV program funding.

Distance Education. We offer all of our existing degree and certificate programs via Internet-based telecommunications from our headquarters in Colorado. Under the Higher Education Opportunity Act, or HEOA, an accreditor that evaluates institutions offering distance education must require such institutions to have processes through which the institution establishes that a student who registers for a distance education program is the same student who participates in and receives credit for the program. Under DOE regulations, if an institution offers postsecondary education through distance education to students in a state in which the institution is not physically located or in which it is otherwise subject to state jurisdiction as determined by the state, the institution must meet any state requirements for it to offer legally postsecondary distance education in that state. The institution must be able to document state approval for distance education if requested by the DOE. In addition, states must have a process to review and take appropriate action on complaints concerning postsecondary institutions. As previously discussed in this prospectus, these regulations have been vacated by a federal court.

<u>Financial Responsibility</u>. The Higher Education Act and DOE regulations establish extensive standards of financial responsibility that institutions such as Aspen must satisfy to participate in Title IV programs. These standards generally require that an institution provide the resources necessary to comply with Title IV program requirements and meet all of its financial obligations, including required refunds and any repayments to the DOE for liabilities incurred in programs administered by the DOE.

The DOE evaluates institutions on an annual basis for compliance with specified financial responsibility standards that include a complex formula that uses line items from the institution's audited financial statements. In addition, the financial responsibility standards require an institution to receive an unqualified opinion from its accountants on its audited financial statements, maintain sufficient cash reserves to satisfy refund requirements, meet all of its financial obligations, and remain current on its debt payments. The formula focuses on three financial ratios: (1) equity ratio (which measures the institution's capital resources, financial viability, and ability to borrow); (2) primary reserve ratio (which measures the institution's viability and liquidity); and (3) net income ratio (which measures the institution's viability and liquidity); and (3) net income ratio (which measures the institution's viability and liquidity); and (3) net income ratio (which measures the institution to be deemed financial ratios must yield a composite score of at least 1.5 for the institution to be deemed financially responsible without the need for further federal oversight. The DOE may also apply such measures of financial responsibility to the operating company and ownership entities of an eligible institution. We have applied the composite score analysis to Aspen's financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, and calculated a composite score of 1.75 out of a maximum score of 3.0. We therefore believe that we meet the DOE's composite score standards. However, our audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2012 contain a going concern opinion.

Under DOE regulations, even if an institution meets all of the other financial responsibility requirements, it is not considered to be financially responsible if the relevant financial statement audits contain a going concern opinion. If the DOE were to determine that we do not meet its financial responsibility standards, we may be able to establish financial responsibility on an alternative basis. Alternative bases include, for example:

- posting a letter of credit in an amount equal to at least 50% of the total Title IV program funds received by us during our most recently completed fiscal year;
- posting a letter of credit in an amount equal to at least 10% of such prior year's Title IV program funds received by us, accepting provisional certification, complying with additional DOE monitoring requirements and agreeing to receive Title IV program funds under an arrangement other than the DOE's standard advance payment arrangement such as the "reimbursement" system of payment or cash monitoring; or
- complying with additional DOE monitoring requirements and agreeing to receive Title IV program funds under an arrangement other than the DOE's standard advance payment arrangement such as the "reimbursement" system of payment or cash monitoring.

Failure to meet the DOE's "financial responsibility" requirements, either because we do not meet the DOE's financial responsibility standards or are unable to establish financial responsibility on an alternative basis, would cause us to lose access to Title IV program funding.

Consistent with the Higher Education Act, Aspen's certification to participate in Title IV programs terminated after closing of the Reverse Merger. The DOE received Aspen's application and extended the provisional certification through September 30, 2013. In the future, the DOE may impose additional or different terms and conditions in any final or provisional program participation agreement that it may issue. In terms of future deadlines with the DOE, Aspen is required to re-apply by June 30, 2013 to continue its participation in the Title IV HEA programs. At that time, a determination will be made whether we meet the requirements for full certification.

<u>Third-Party Servicers</u>. DOE regulations permit an institution to enter into a written contract with a third-party servicer for the administration of any aspect of the institution's participation in Title IV programs. The third-party servicer must, among other obligations, comply with Title IV requirements and be jointly and severally liable with the institution to the Secretary of Education for any violation by the servicer of any Title IV provision. An institution must report to the DOE new contracts with or any significant modifications to contracts with third-party servicers as well as other matters related to third-party servicers. We contract with a third-party servicer which performs certain activities related to our participation in Title IV programs. If our third-party service does not comply with applicable statutes and regulations including the Higher Education Act, we may be liable for its actions, and we could lose our eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.

<u>Title IV Return of Funds</u>. Under the DOE's return of funds regulations, when a student withdraws, an institution must return unearned funds to the DOE in a timely manner. An institution must first determine the amount of Title IV program funds that a student "earned." If the student withdraws during the first 60% of any period of enrollment or payment period, the amount of Title IV program funds that the student earned is equal to a pro rata portion of the funds for which the student would otherwise be eligible. If the student withdraws after the 60% threshold, then the student has earned 100% of the Title IV program funds. The institution must return to the appropriate Title IV programs, in a specified order, the lesser of (i) the unearned Title IV program funds. An institution must return the funds no later than 45 days after the date of the institution's determination that a student withdrew. If such payments are not timely made, an institution may be subject to adverse action, including being required to submit a letter of credit equal to 25% of the refunds the institution should have made in its most recently completed year. Under DOE regulations, late returns of Title IV program funds for 5% or more of students sampled in the institution's annual compliance audit constitutes material non-compliance. Aspen's academic calendar structure is a non-standard term with rolling start dates with defined length of term (16 week term).

The "90/10 Rule." A requirement of the Higher Education Act commonly referred to as the "90/10 Rule," applies only to "proprietary institutions of higher education," which includes Aspen. An institution is subject to loss of eligibility to participate in the Title IV programs if it derives more than 90% of its revenues (calculated on a cash basis and in accordance with a DOE formula) from Title IV programs for two consecutive fiscal years. An institution whose rate exceeds 90% for any single fiscal year will be placed on provisional certification for at least two fiscal years and may be subject to other conditions specified by the Secretary of the DOE. For the year ended December 31, 2012, we derived approximately 18% of our revenues (calculated on a cash basis and in accordance with a DOE formula) from Title IV program funds.

Student Loan Defaults. Under the Higher Education Act, an education institution may lose its eligibility to participate in some or all of the Title IV programs if defaults on the repayment of Direct Loan Program loans by its students exceed certain levels. For each federal fiscal year, a rate of student defaults (known as a "cohort default rate") is calculated for each institution with 30 or more borrowers entering repayment in a given federal fiscal year by determining the rate at which borrowers who become subject to their repayment obligation in that federal fiscal year default by the end of the following federal fiscal year. For such institutions, the DOE calculates a single cohort default rate for each federal fiscal year that includes in the cohort all current or former student borrowers at the institution who entered repayment on any Direct Loan Program loans during that year.

If the DOE notifies an institution that its cohort default rates for each of the three most recent federal fiscal years are 25% or greater, the institution's participation in the Direct Loan Program and the Federal Pell Grant Program ends 30 days after the notification, unless the institution appeals in a timely manner that determination on specified grounds and according to specified procedures. In addition, an institution's participation in Title IV ends 30 days after notification that its most recent fiscal year cohort default rate is greater than 40%, unless the institution timely appeals that determination on specified grounds and according to specified procedures. An institution whose participation ends under these provisions may not participate in the relevant programs for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the institution receives the notification, as well as for the next two fiscal years.

If an institution's cohort default rate equals or exceeds 25% in any single year, the institution may be placed on provisional certification status. Provisional certification does not limit an institution's access to Title IV program funds; however, an institution with provisional status is subject to closer review by the DOE and may be subject to summary adverse action if it violates Title IV program requirements. If an institution's default rate exceeds 40%, the institution may lose eligibility to participate in some or all Title IV programs. Since Aspen has only recently begun to participate in Title IV programs and our certification limits the number of Aspen students who may receive Title IV aid, we do not yet have reporting data on our cohort default rates for the three most recent federal fiscal years for which cohort default rates have been officially calculated, namely 2007, 2008 and 2009. The primary reason is that we have not yet had students who have begun to repay their Title IV loans.

HEOA extended by one year the period for measuring the cohort default rate, effective with cohort default rates for federal fiscal year 2009. Currently, institutions that have two-year cohort default rates of 25% or more for each of their three most recent years, or of 40% in any one year, will lose eligibility for Title IV student aid programs; beginning in 2014, institutions that have three-year cohort default rates of 30% or higher for three consecutive years, or of more than 40% in any given year, will lose eligibility for those programs.

Incentive Compensation Rules. As a part of an institution's program participation agreement with the DOE and in accordance with the Higher Education Act, an institution may not provide any commission, bonus or other incentive payment to any person or entity engaged in any student recruitment, admissions or financial aid awarding activity based directly or indirectly on success in securing enrollments or financial aid. Failure to comply with the incentive payment rule could result in termination of participation in Title IV programs, limitation on participation in Title IV programs, or financial penalties. Aspen believes it is in compliance with the incentive payment rule.

In recent years, other postsecondary educational institutions have been named as defendants to whistleblower lawsuits, known as "qui tam" cases, brought by current or former employees pursuant to the Federal False Claims Act, alleging that their institution's compensation practices did not comply with the incentive compensation rule. A qui tam case is a civil lawsuit brought by one or more individuals, referred to as a relator, on behalf of the federal government for an alleged submission to the government of a false claim for payment. The relator, often a current or former employee, is entitled to a share of the government's recovery in the case, including the possibility of treble damages. A qui tam action is always filed under seal and remains under seal until the government decides whether to intervene in the case. If the government intervenes, it takes over primary control of the litigation. If the government decides to intervene in the case, the relator may nonetheless elect to continue to pursue the litigation at his or her own expense on behalf of the government. Any such litigation could be costly and could divert management's time and attention away from the business, regardless of whether a claim has merit.

The GAO released a report finding that the DOE has inadequately enforced the current ban on incentive payments. In response, the DOE has undertaken to increase its enforcement efforts by, among other approaches, strengthening procedures provided to auditors reviewing institutions for compliance with the incentive payments ban and updating its internal compliance guidance in light of the GAO findings and the recently amended DOE incentive payment rule.

Code of Conduct Related to Student Loans. As part of an institution's program participation agreement with the DOE, HEOA requires that institutions that participate in Title IV programs adopt a code of conduct pertinent to student loans. For financial aid office or other employees who have responsibility related to education loans, the code must forbid, with limited exceptions, gifts, consulting arrangements with lenders, and advisory board compensation other than reasonable expense reimbursement. The code also must ban revenue-sharing arrangements, "opportunity pools" that lenders offer in exchange for certain promises, and staffing assistance from lenders. The institution must post the code prominently on its website and ensure that its officers, employees, and agents who have financial aid responsibilities are informed annually of the code's provisions. Aspen has adopted a code of conduct under the HEOA which is posted on its website. In addition to the code of conduct requirements that apply to institutions. Failure to comply with the code of conduct provision could result in termination of our participation in Title IV programs, or financial penalties.

Misrepresentation. The Higher Education Act and current regulations authorize the DOE to take action against an institution that participates in Title IV programs for any "substantial misrepresentation" made by that institution regarding the nature of its educational program, its financial charges, or the employability of its graduates. Effective July 1, 2011, DOE regulations expanded the definition of "substantial misrepresentation" to cover additional representatives of the institution and additional substantive areas and expands the parties to whom a substantial misrepresentation cannot be made. The regulations also augment the actions the DOE may take if it determines that an institution has engaged in substantial misrepresentation. Under the final regulations, the DOE may revoke an institution's program participation agreement, impose limitations on an institution's participation in Title IV programs, or initiate proceedings to impose a fine or to limit, suspend, or terminate the institution's participation in Title IV programs.

<u>Credit Hours</u>. The Higher Education Act and current regulations use the term "credit hour" to define an eligible program and an academic year and to determine enrollment status and the amount of Title IV aid an institution may disburse during a payment period. Recently, both Congress and the DOE have increased their focus on institutions' policies for awarding credit hours. Recent DOE regulations define the previously undefined term "credit hour" in terms of a certain amount of time in class and outside class, or an equivalent amount of work. The regulations also require accrediting agencies to review the reliability and accuracy of an institution's credit hour assignments. If an accreditor identifies systematic or significant noncompliance in one or more of an institution's programs, the accreditor must notify the Secretary of Education. If the DOE determines that an institution is out of compliance with the credit hour definition, the DOE could require the institution to repay the incorrectly awarded amounts of Title IV aid. In addition, if the DOE determines that an institution has significantly overstated the amount of credit hours assigned to a program, the DOE may fine the institution, or limit, suspend, or terminate its participation in the Title IV programs.

<u>Compliance Reviews.</u>We are subject to announced and unannounced compliance reviews and audits by various external agencies, including the DOE, its Office of Inspector General, state licensing agencies, and accrediting agencies. As part of the DOE's ongoing monitoring of institutions' administration of Title IV programs, the Higher Education Act and DOE regulations require institutions to submit annually a compliance audit conducted by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and applicable audit standards of the DOE. These auditing standards differ from those followed in the audit of our financial statements contained in this prospectus. In addition, to enable the DOE to make a determination of financial responsibility, institutions must annually submit audited financial statements prepared in accordance with DOE regulations. Furthermore, the DOE regularly conducts program reviews of education institutions that are participating in the Title IV programs, and the Office of Inspector General of the DOE regularly conducts audits and investigations of such institutions. In August 2010, the Secretary of Education announced in a letter to several members of Congress that, in part in response to recent allegations against proprietary institutions of deceptive trade practices and noncompliance with DOE regulations, the DOE planned to strengthen its oversight of Title IV programs through, among other approaches, increasing the number of program reviews by 50%, from 200 conducted in 2010 to up to 300 reviews in 2011. The DOE has apparently not yet reported on the number of reviews conducted in 2012. Pending legislation including the "Students First Act" introduced in the United States Senate on February 28, 2013, would – if passed – increased the number of program reviews for various institutions deemed at-risk of violating DOE requirements.

<u>Potential Effect of Regulatory Violations</u>. If we fail to comply with the regulatory standards governing Title IV programs, the DOE could impose one or more sanctions, including transferring Aspen to the reimbursement or cash monitoring system of payment, seeking to require repayment of certain Title IV program funds, requiring Aspen to post a letter of credit in favor of the DOE as a condition for continued Title IV certification, taking emergency action against us, referring the matter for criminal prosecution or initiating proceedings to impose a fine or to limit, condition, suspend or terminate our participation in Title IV programs.

We also may be subject, from time to time, to complaints and lawsuits relating to regulatory compliance brought not only by our regulatory agencies, but also by other government agencies and third parties, such as present or former students or employees and other members of the public.

<u>Restrictions on Adding Educational Programs</u>. State requirements and accrediting agency standards may, in certain instances, limit our ability to establish additional programs. Many states require approval before institutions can add new programs under specified conditions. The Colorado Commission on Higher Education, and other state educational regulatory agencies that license or authorize us and our programs, may require institutions to notify them in advance of implementing new programs, and upon notification may undertake a review of the institution's licensure or authorization.

In addition, we were advised by the DOE that because we were provisionally certified due to being a new Title IV program participant, we could not add new degree or non-degree programs for Title IV program purposes, except under limited circumstances and only if the DOE approved such new program, until the DOE reviewed a compliance audit that covered one complete fiscal year of Title IV program participation. That fiscal year ended on December 31, 2010, and we timely submitted our compliance audit and financial statements to the DOE. In addition, in June 2011, Aspen timely applied for recertification to participate in Title IV programs. The DOE extended Aspen's provisional certification until September 30, 2013. Aspen is required to re-apply by June 30, 2013 to continue its participation in the Title IV HEA programs. At that time, a determination will be made whether we meet the requirements for full certification.

Recent DOE regulations establish a new process under which an institution must apply for approval to offer a program that, under the Higher Education Act, must prepare students for "gainful employment in a recognized occupation" in order to be eligible for Title IV funds. An institution must notify the DOE at least 90 days before the first day of classes when it intends to add a program that prepares students for gainful employment. The DOE may, as a condition of certification to participate in Title IV programs, require prior approval of programs or otherwise restrict the number of programs an institution may add.

DETC requires pre-approval of new courses, programs, and degrees that are characterized as a "substantive change." An institution must obtain written notice approving such change before it may be included in the institution's grant of accreditation. An institution is further prohibited from advertising or posting on its website information about the course or program before it has received approval. The process for obtaining approval generally requires submission of a report and course materials and may require a follow-up on-site visit by an examining committee.

Gainful Employment. Under the Higher Education Act, proprietary schools are eligible to participate in Title IV programs only in respect of education programs that lead to gainful employment in a recognized occupation. Under the DOE rules, with respect to each gainful employment program, a proprietary institution of higher education must disclose to prospective students with the identities of the occupations that the program prepares students to enter, total program cost, on-time completion rate, job placement rate (if applicable), and median loan debt of students who complete the program. Under the new program requirements, institutions are required to notify the DOE at least 90 days before the commencement of new gainful employment programs which must include information on the demand for the program, a wage analysis, an institutional program review and approval process, and a demonstration of accreditation. While the DOE had issued various additional reporting regulations, requiring institutions to annually submit information to the DOE regarding each enrolled student, including the amount of debt incurred, those reporting regulations were vacated in the June 2011 court decision discussed earlier herein, which was affirmed on appeal; new reporting regulations are expected to issue at some point. Institutions need not disclose or report gainful employment information on programs that are not eligible to participate in Title IV programs.

Expected gainful employment reporting requirements will likely substantially increase our administrative burdens, particularly during the implementation phase. These reporting and the other procedural changes in the new rules could affect student enrollment, persistence and retention in ways that we cannot now predict. For example, if our reported program information compares unfavorably with other reporting education institutions, it could adversely affect demand for our programs.

Although the rules regarding gainful employment metrics provide opportunities to address program deficiencies before the loss of Title IV eligibility, the continuing eligibility of our educational programs for Title IV funding is at risk under pending gainful employment rules due to factors beyond our control, such as changes in the actual or deemed income level of our graduates, changes in student borrowing levels, increases in interest rates, changes in the federal poverty income level relevant for calculating discretionary income, changes in the percentage of our former students who are current in repayment of their student loans, and other factors. In addition, even though deficiencies in the metrics may be correctible on a timely basis, the disclosure requirements to students following a failure to meet the standards may adversely impact enrollment in that program and may adversely impact the reputation of our education institution. The exposure to these external factors may reduce our ability to offer or continue confidently certain types of programs for which there is market demand, thus affecting our ability to maintain or grow our business.

Eligibility and Certification Procedures. Each institution must periodically apply to the DOE for continued certification to participate in Title IV programs. Such recertification is required every six years, but may be required earlier, including when an institution undergoes a change of control. An institution may come under the DOE's review when it expands its activities in certain ways, such as opening an additional location, adding a new program, or, in certain cases, when it modifies academic credentials that it offers.

The DOE may place an institution on provisional certification status if it finds that the institution does not fully satisfy all of the eligibility and certification standards and in certain other circumstances, such as when it undergoes a change in ownership and control. The DOE may more closely review an institution that is provisionally certified if it applies for approval to open a new location, add an educational program, acquire another school or make any other significant change.

In addition, during the period of provisional certification, the institution must comply with any additional conditions included in its program participation agreement. If the DOE determines that a provisionally certified institution is unable to meet its responsibilities under its program participation agreement, it may seek to revoke the institution's certification to participate in Title IV programs with fewer due process protections for the institution than if it were fully certified. Students attending provisionally certified institutions, like Aspen, remain eligible to receive Title IV program funds.

Change in Ownership Resulting in a Change of Control. In addition to school acquisitions, other types of transactions can also cause a change of control. The DOE, most state education agencies, and DETC all have standards pertaining to the change of control of schools, but those standards are not uniform. DOE regulations describe some transactions that constitute a change of control, including the transfer of a controlling interest in the voting stock of an institution or the institution's parent corporation. DOE regulations provide that a change of control of a publicly-traded corporation occurs in one of two ways: (i) if there is an event that would obligate the corporation that a change of control or Form 8-K with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, disclosing a change of control or (ii) if the corporation has a shareholder that owns at least 25% of such stock or ceases to be the largest shareholder. A significant purchase or disposition of our voting stock could be determined by the DOE to be a change of control under this standard. Many states include the sale of a controlling interest of common stock in the definition of a change of control requiring approval. A change of control under the definition, state authorization or licensure. The requirements to obtain such approval from the states and DETC vary widely. In some cases, approval of the change of ownership and control to maintain our accreditation, state authorization or licensure. The requirements to obtain dunti after the transaction has occurred. In December 2011, we provided details regarding the Reverse Merger to the CDHE. The CDHE indicated that under current regulations, as long as we maintain accreditation by DETC following the Reverse Merger, Aspen will remain in good standing with the CDHE. As described below, DETC approved the change of ownership, with several customary conditions.

DETC recently revised its policy pertinent to changes in legal status, control, ownership, or management. The policy revisions add definitions of the situations under which DETC considers a change in legal status, control, ownership, or management to occur, describe the procedures that an institution must follow to obtain approval, and clarify the options available to DETC. Among other revisions, DETC defines a change of ownership and control as a change in the ability to direct or cause the direction of the actions of an institution, including, for example, the sale of a controlling interest in an institution's corporate parent. Failure to obtain prior approval of a change of ownership and control will result in withdrawal of accreditation under the new ownership. The policy also requires institutions to undergo a post-change examination within six months of a change of ownership. The revisions clarify that after such examination, DETC will make a final decision whether to continue the institution's accreditation. In addition, if an institution is acquired by an entity that owns or operates other distance education institutions, the amendments clarify that any such institutions must obtain DETC approval within two years of the change of ownership or accreditation may be withdrawn. The policy revisions define a change of management as the replacement of the senior level executive of the institution, for example the President or Chief Executive Officer. In addition, the revisions clarify that before undertaking such a change, an institution must seek DETC's prior approval by explaining when the change will occur, the rationale for the change, the executive's job description, the new executive's qualifications, and how the change will affect the institution's ability to comply with all DETC accreditation standards. DETC may take any action it deems appropriate in response to a change of management request. The Reverse Merger was considered a change of control event under DETC's policy. In February 2012, DETC informed Aspen that it had approved the change of ownership, with several conditions that are consistent with DETC's change of ownership procedures and requirements. These conditions included: (1) that Aspen agree to undergo an examination visit by a committee; (2) that an updated Self-Evaluation Report be submitted four to six weeks prior to the on-site visit; (3) that Aspen submit a new Teach-Out Resolution form as soon as the Reverse Merger had closed; and (4) that Aspen provide written confirmation to DETC by February 20, 2012 that it agreed to and would comply with the stated conditions. We provided the requested information to DETC. The examination visit occurred in August 2012. Aspen is scheduled for re-accreditation review in November 2013. On September 28, 2012, the DOE approved Aspen's change of control and extended its provisional certification until September 30, 2013.

When a change of ownership resulting in a change of control occurs at a for-profit institution, the DOE applies a different set of financial tests to determine the financial responsibility of the institution in conjunction with its review and approval of the change of ownership. The institution generally is required to submit a same-day audited balance sheet reflecting the financial condition of the institution immediately following the change in ownership. The institution's same-day balance sheet must demonstrate an acid test ratio of at least 1:1, which is calculated by adding cash and cash equivalents to current accounts receivable and dividing the sum by total current liabilities (and excluding all unsecured or uncollateralized related party receivables). The same-day balance sheet must demonstrate positive tangible net worth. If the institution does not satisfy these requirements, the DOE may condition its approval of the change of ownership on the institution's agreeing to post a letter of credit, provisional certification, and/or additional monitoring requirements, as described in the above section on Financial Responsibility. The time required for the DOE to act on a post-change in ownership and control application may vary substantially. As a result of the change of ownership, Aspen delivered a \$264.665 letter of credit to the DOE in accordance with the standards identified above.

A change of control also could occur as a result of future transactions in which Aspen is involved. Some corporate reorganizations and some changes in the Board are examples of such transactions. Moreover, the potential adverse effects of a change of control could influence future decisions by us and our shareholders regarding the sale, purchase, transfer, issuance or redemption of our stock. In addition, the regulatory burdens and risks associated with a change of control also could discourage bids for your shares of common stock and could have an adverse effect on the market price of your shares.

<u>Possible Acquisitions</u>. In addition to the planned expansion through Aspen's new marketing program, we may expand through acquisition of related or synergistic businesses. Our internal growth is subject to monitoring and ultimately approval by the DETC. If the DETC finds that the growth may adversely affect our academic quality, the DETC can request us to slow the growth and potentially withdraw accreditation and require us to re-apply for accreditation. The DOE may also impose growth restrictions on an institution, including in connection with a change in ownership and control. While acquisitions of online universities would be subject to approval by the DETC, approval of businesses which supply services to online universities or which provide educational services and/or products may not be subject to regulatory approval or extensive regulation.

#### **Property**

Our corporate headquarters are located in a facility in Denver, Colorado, consisting of approximately 3,900 square feet of office space under a lease that expires in September 2015. This facility accommodates our academic operations. Our executive offices are in New York City where we lease 2,000 square feet under a month-to-month sublease. We operate a call center in Scottsdale, Arizona where we lease 2,629 square feet under a three-year term. We believe that our existing facilities are suitable and adequate and that we have sufficient capacity to meet our current anticipated needs.

#### Legal Proceedings

On February 11, 2013, the former chairman of Aspen, Mr. Patrick Spada and a corporation he controls, filed suit against Aspen Group, Aspen, our Board of Directors, our Chief Executive and Financial Officers and an unrelated party in the New York Supreme Court located in Manhattan.

The gravamen of Mr. Spada's claims are that the officers and directors breached their fiduciary duty and defamed Mr. Spada by (a) including false and defamatory statements to the effect that Mr. Spada owes approximately \$2 million to Aspen Group in various of Aspen Group's SEC and DOE filings, (b) imprudently managed Aspen Group's assets by spending too much money on certain marketing and promotional efforts and by using Aspen Group's funds for expenses which were not intended to benefit Aspen Group. Mr. Spada also claims that Aspen Group breached two separate agreements with Mr. Spada and his company, one of which involved Aspen Group agreeing to purchase certain shares of Aspen Group stock under certain conditions, and one consulting agreement. As discussed below, Aspen Group believes that none of these claims have any merit in either fact or law.

Aspen Group and the other defendants firmly believe that the suit is baseless and was filed primarily because Aspen Group refused to purchase additional shares of the Plaintiffs' common stock of Aspen Group on unacceptable terms.

The Plaintiffs' allegations that false or defamatory statements were including in Aspen Group's filings are based on the following disclosures in multiple SEC and DOE filings: "...Aspen discovered in November 2011 that HEMG had borrowed \$2,195,084 from it from 2005 to 2012 without Board of Directors authority. Aspen has been unable to reach any agreement with Mr. Spada concerning repayment and is considering its options." In the same filings, Aspen Group disclosed that "There is no agreement with the former chairman that this sum is due and in fact he has denied liability and even claimed that Aspen owes him money." Aside from these disclosures being factually accurate, Aspen Group believes they cannot, as a matter of law, form the basis of a breach of fiduciary duty or defamation claim.

The Plaintiffs' allegations concerning imprudent management of its funds are categorically false. Aspen Group has also been advised that claims of this type can only be brought in what is called a shareholders' derivative action where, assuming liability, the ultimate beneficiary is Aspen Group and not the Plaintiffs. Counsel has further advised the management of Aspen Group's affairs and how its funds are expended are protected from a disgruntled stockholder's opinion of how funds should have been spent by the business judgment rule and the provision in Aspen Group's charter eliminating liability for such claims. The remaining breach of fiduciary duty claim falsely alleges that travel expenses and work was performed by Aspen Group on behalf of another corporation for which Aspen Group's Chief Executive Officer then served as Chairman of the Board. Such claims are categorically false, but even if true, like the remaining breach of fiduciary claims, the ultimate beneficiary is Aspen Group and not the Plaintiffs.

The breach of contract claims consist of two distinct claims: first, Aspen entered into a two-year Consulting Agreement in September 2011 with Mr. Spada. Aspen Group terminated the Consulting Agreement after it learned of the former Chairman's \$2.2 million unauthorized borrowing without board approval alleging that the Consulting Agreement was induced by fraud.

The second claim arises from the April Agreement (described on page 64 below). Under the April Agreement, an individual defendant who has never been an officer or director of Aspen Group agreed to purchase from Spada's corporation 400,000 shares of Aspen Group's common stock at \$0.50 per share. The complaint acknowledges that this purchase occurred. Under the April Agreement, Aspen Group also agreed (i) that it would purchase an additional 600,000 shares from Mr. Spada's company at \$0.50 per share within 90 days from the date of the April Agreement, and (ii) that Aspen Group would use its best efforts to locate a purchaser to buy another 1,400,000 shares at \$0.50 per share from Mr. Spada's company, and once that purchase was located, to buy the shares and resell them to the new investor. Aspen Group in fact did purchase the additional 600,000 shares, however given the fact that Aspen Group during that same timeframe was selling its own common stock at \$0.35 per share, it was not able to find any buyers who would pay \$0.50 per share. Also, Aspen Group's obligation to locate a new purchaser expired under the terms of the April Agreement after 180 days, which have long passed. Under the terms of the April Agreement, the Plaintiffs agreed not to file suit against Aspen Group, Aspen and their officers and directors, unless sued by Aspen Group or Aspen. Aspen Group and Aspen have never sued the Plaintiffs. Accordingly, Aspen Group believes that both breach of contract claims are entirely baseless.

## MANAGEMENT

The following executive officers and directors were appointed to their current positions with Aspen Group listed in the table in connection with the Reverse Merger. Except for Sanford Rich, who was appointed a director effective with the closing of the Reverse Merger, each person listed in the table had identical positions with Aspen.

Name	Age	Position
Michael Mathews	51	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
Gerald Williams	59	President
David Garrity	52	Chief Financial Officer
Angela Siegel	33	Executive Vice President of Marketing
Michael D'Anton	55	Director
C. James Jensen	72	Director
David Pasi	52	Director
Sanford Rich	55	Director
John Scheibelhoffer	51	Director
Paul Schneier	62	Director

Michael Mathews has served as Aspen's Chief Executive Officer and a director since May 2011. He served as Chief Executive Officer of interclick, inc. (Nasdaq: ICLK) from August 28, 2007 until January 31, 2011. From June 2007 until it was acquired by Yahoo, Inc. (NASDAQ: YHOO) in December 2011, Mr. Mathews also served as a director of interclick. From May 15, 2008 until June 30, 2008, Mr. Mathews served as the interim Chief Financial Officer of interclick. From 2004 to 2007, Mr. Mathews served as the senior vice-president of marketing and publisher services for World Avenue U.S.A., LLC, an Internet promotional marketing company. From March 2011 until October 2012, Mr. Mathews as selected to serve as a director due to his track record of success in managing early stage and growing businesses, his extensive knowledge of the Internet marketing industry and his knowledge of running and serving on the boards of public companies.

Gerald Williams has served as Aspen's President since March 2011. Dr. Williams functions as Aspen's chief academic officer and has responsibility for all educational matters. Since January 15, 2012, Dr. Williams has also served as the Dean of our School of Technology. Prior to January 1, 2012, Dr. Williams was a consultant beginning in March 2011 under a Consulting Agreement. From 2005 until 2010, Mr. Williams was an adjunct professor at the University of Missouri – Kansas City.

**David Garrity** has served as Aspen's Chief Financial Officer since June 2011. He served as Chief Financial Officer of interclick from June 30, 2008 until August 14, 2009 and as a member of interclick's board of directors from June 9, 2008 until June 5, 2009. Through GVA Research LLC, a company he controls, Mr. Garrity provides consulting services to organizations such as the World Bank Group and offers expert commentary on technology sector developments to CNBC, Bloomberg TV and other media networks. Mr. Garrity holds Series 7, 24, 63, 79, 86 & 87 securities licenses and is affiliated with Whitemarsh Capital Advisors, LLC, a Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., or FINRA, member firm. From 2006 to 2008, Mr. Garrity served as Managing Director and Director of Research for Dinosaur Securities, LLC. In 2006, Mr. Garrity was fined \$10,000 and suspended for 45 days from associating with a FINRA member firm for certain inadvertent violations of FINRA's rules unrelated to fraud or any customer complaints. Mr. Garrity consented to the sanctions without admitting or denying FINRA's findings. Since 1993 Mr. Garrity has been a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter holder.

Angela Siegel has served as Aspen's Executive Vice President of Marketing since January 1, 2012. Ms. Siegel has responsibility for the online lead generation and the Office of Enrollment. From July 2010 until December 2011, Ms. Siegel was the Director of Compliance and Enrollment Analytics at Ward Media, Inc., or Ward, a lead generation marketing agency. From January 2010 until July 2010, Ms. Siegel was the Chief Marketing Officer at the Jack Welch Management Institute at Chancellor University. From October 2008 until January 2010, Ms. Siegel was the Director of Enrollment Marketing at Ward. From July 2004 until October 2008, Ms. Siegel was the Online Marketing Manager at Grand Canyon Education, Inc. (NASDAQ: LOPE), a regionally accredited provider of post-secondary education including online as well as traditional ground programs.

Michael D'Anton has served as a director of Aspen for approximately six years. Since 1988, Dr. D'Anton has been an ENT physician and surgeon at ENT Allergy Associates. Dr. D'Anton was selected as a director for his experience in growing and running a successful surgery center and his knowledge of Aspen from serving as a director prior to the Reverse Merger.

**C. James Jensen** has served as a director of Aspen since May 2011. Since 1983, Mr. Jensen has been the managing partner of Mara Gateway Associates, L.P., a privately owned real estate investment company he co-founded. Since 2006, Mr. Jensen has been the co-managing partner of Stronghurst, LLC, which provides advisory and financial services to emerging growth companies. Since April 2011, Mr. Jensen has served as a director of Sugarmade, Inc. (OTC BB: SGMD). From April 2006 until March 2008, Mr. Jensen served as a director of Health Benefits Direct Corp. (OTC BB: HBDT). Mr. Jensen was selected a director as a designee of Mr. Mathews in connection with the EGC Merger due to his previous service on a public company board and his experience with entrepreneurial companies.

David Pasi has served as a director of Aspen since May 2011. Since December 2010, Mr. Pasi has been a registered investment advisor under Delta Financial Group. From August 2008 until August 2010, Mr. Pasi was a risk manager at Credit Suisse. From January 2004 until June 2008, Mr. Pasi was the risk manager at Citigroup, Inc. Mr. Pasi was selected as a designee of Mr. Spada in connection with the EGC Merger. Because of his finance background, Mr. Pasi was selected as a director.

Sanford Rich has served as a director since March 13, 2012. In November 2012, Mr. Rich began serving as the Chief of Negotiations and Restructuring for the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. From October 2011 to September 2012, Mr. Rich served as Chief Executive Officer of In The Car LLC. Mr. Rich served as a director of interclick from August 28, 2007 until June 5, 2009. Since January 2008, Mr. Rich has served as Managing Director of Whitemarsh Capital Advisors, a broker-dealer. From May 2008 to February 2009, Mr. Rich was a Managing Director with Matrix USA LLC, a broker-dealer. From 1995 until January 2008, Mr. Rich was the Senior Vice President of Investments, a Portfolio Manager and a Specialist Manager of High Yield and Convertible Securities Portfolios for institutions at GEM Capital Management, Inc. Since April 2006, Mr. Rich has served as a director for his 32 years of experience in the financial sector and because he is independent and has experience serving on the audit committees of public companies.

John Scheibelhoffer has served as a director of Aspen for approximately six years. Since 1996, Dr. Scheibelhoffer has been a physician and surgeon employed by ENT Allergy Associates. Dr. Scheibelhoffer was selected to serve as a director for his experience in running a successful surgery center and his knowledge of Aspen from serving as a director member prior to the EGC Merger.

Paul Schneier has served as a director of Aspen for approximately five years. Since April 2007, Mr. Schneier has been a Division President at PulteGroup, Inc. (NYSE: PHM), a homebuilding company. Prior to that, Mr. Schneier was a Division President at Beazer Homes USA, Inc. (NYSE: BZEH), a homebuilding company. Mr. Schneier was selected to serve as a director because of his management background.

Brad Powers served as our Chief Marketing Officer until March 1, 2013.

Except for Dr. D'Anton and Mr. Pasi, who are brother-in-laws, there are no family relationships among our directors and/or executive officers.

# **Board Committees and Charters**

The Board and its committees meet throughout the year and act by written consent from time to time as appropriate. The Board delegates various responsibilities and authority to its Board committees. Committees regularly report on their activities and actions to the Board. The Board currently has, and appoints the members of the Audit Committee and the Compensation Committee. The following table identifies the independent and non-independent current Board and committee members:

Name	Independent	Audit	Compensation
Michael Mathews			
Michael D'Anton	$\checkmark$		
C. James Jensen	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Chairman
David Pasi	$\checkmark$	✓	
Sanford Rich	$\checkmark$	Chairman	
John Scheibelhoffer	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
Paul Schneier	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$

# Director Independence

We currently have seven directors serving on our Board. We are not a listed issuer and, as such, are not subject to any director independence standards. Using the definition of independence set forth in the rules of the NYSE MKT, all of our directors except Mr. Mathews are independent.

## Board Committees and Charters

The members of the Audit Committee are Sanford Rich, Chairman, David Pasi and C. James Jensen. Our Board has determined that each of the members are independent in accordance with the independence standards for audit committees under the NYSE MKT listing rules. The Board has also determined that Mr. Rich is an "Audit Committee Financial Expert." The Audit Committee has a written charter approved by the Board.

The members of the Compensation Committee are Mr. Jensen, Chairman, Paul Schneier and John Scheibelhoffer, MD.

Our Board is expected to appoint a Nominating Committee, and to adopt charters relative to the Compensation Committee and the Nominating Committee, in the future. We intend to appoint such persons to the Nominating Committee of the Board as are expected to be required to meet the corporate governance requirements imposed by a national securities exchange, although we are not required to comply with such requirements until we elect to seek listing on a national securities exchange, and we are under no obligation to do so.

# Code of Ethics

Our Board has adopted a Code of Ethics that applies to all of our employees, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Although not required, the Code of Ethics also applies to our directors. The Code of Ethics provides written standards that we believe are reasonably designed to deter wrongdoing and promote honest and ethical conduct, including the ethical handling of actual or apparent conflicts of interest between personal and professional relationships, full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure and compliance with laws, rules and regulations, including insider trading, corporate opportunities and whistle-blowing or the prompt reporting of illegal or unethical behavior. We will provide a copy, without charge, to anyone that requests one in writing to Aspen Group, Inc. 224 West 30th Street, Suite 604, New York, New York 10001, Attention: Corporate Secretary.

#### Shareholder Communications

Although we do not have a formal policy regarding communications with the Board, shareholders may communicate with the Board by writing to us at Aspen Group, Inc., 224 West 30th Street, Suite 604, New York, New York 10001, Attention: Corporate Secretary. Shareholders who would like their submission directed to a member of the Board may so specify, and the communication will be forwarded, as appropriate.

#### Board Structure

We have chosen to combine the Chief Executive Officer and Board Chairman positions. We believe that this Board leadership structure is the most appropriate for Aspen. Because we are a small company, it is more efficient to have the leadership of the Board in the same hands as the Chief Executive Officer. The challenges faced by us at this stage – obtaining financing and implementing our business and marketing plan – are most efficiently dealt with by one person who is familiar with both the operational aspects as well as the strategic aspects of our business.

# Board Assessment of Risk

Our risk management function is overseen by our Board. Our management keeps its Board apprised of material risks and provides its directors access to all information necessary for them to understand and evaluate how these risks interrelate, how they affect us, and how management addresses those risks. Mr. Michael Mathews, as our Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, works closely together with the Board once material risks are identified on how to best address such risks. If the identified risk poses an actual or potential conflict with management, our independent directors may conduct the assessment. Presently, the primary risks affecting us are our ability to grow our business with our current cash balance and manage our expected growth consistent with regulatory oversight.

# Risk Assessment Regarding Compensation Policies and Practices as they Relate to Risk Management

Our compensation program for employees does not create incentives for excessive risk taking by our employees or involve risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on us. Our compensation has the following risk-limiting characteristics:

- Our base pay programs consist of competitive salary rates that represent a reasonable portion of total compensation and provide a reliable level of income on a regular basis, which decreases incentive on the part of our executives to take unnecessary or imprudent risks;
- A portion of executive incentive compensation opportunity is tied to long-term incentive compensation that emphasizes sustained performance over time. This reduces any incentive to take risks that might increase short-term compensation at the expense of longer term company results.
- Awards are not tied to formulas that could focus executives on specific short-term outcomes;
- Equity awards may be recovered by us should a restatement of earnings occur upon which incentive compensation awards were based, or in the event of other wrongdoing by the recipient; and
- Equity awards, generally, have multi-year vesting which aligns the long-term interests of our executives with those of our shareholders and, again, discourages the taking of short-term risk at the expense of long-term performance.

#### EXECUTIVE COMPENSIION

The following information is related to the compensation paid, distributed or accrued by us to our Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer) and the two other most highly compensated executive officers serving at the end of the last fiscal year whose total compensation exceeded \$100,000. We refer to these persons as the "Named Executive Officers."

#### 2012 Summary Compensation Table

Name and Principal Position (a)	Year (b)	Salary (\$)(c)	Option Awards (\$)(f) (1)	Total (\$)(j)
Michael Mathews (2) Chief Executive Officer	2012 2011	265,702 125,000	1,286,880 0	1,552,582 125,000
David Garrity (3) Chief Financial Officer	2012	264,269	70,000	334,269
Brad Powers (4) Former Chief Marketing Officer	2012	264,520	70,000	334,520

(1) These amounts do not reflect the actual economic value realized by the Named Executive Officers. In accordance with SEC rules, this column represents the grant date fair value of awards, in accordance with applicable accounting guidance related to stock-based compensation. Pursuant to SEC rules, the amounts shown disregard the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions.

(2) Salary for 2011 includes \$62,500 of deferred base salary which as of December 31, 2012 remained unpaid. Includes 455,577 options accepted in lieu of \$159,452 of cash salary.

(3) Salary includes 302,674 options accepted in lieu of \$105,936 of cash salary.

(4) Salary includes 422,439 options accepted in lieu of \$147,854 of cash salary.

#### Executive Employment Agreements

Each of the Employment Agreements described below was entered into by Aspen prior to the Reverse Merger. Aspen Group assumed each agreement effective with the closing of the Reverse Merger, and all option grants and common stock issued as performance bonuses will be of Aspen Group. Each person's title with Aspen is identical with Aspen Group. See the discussion below concerning amendments to all Employment Agreements except Ms. Siegel.

Michael Mathews. Effective on July 5, 2011, Aspen entered into a four-year Employment Agreement with Michael Mathews to serve as its Chief Executive Officer. The Employment Agreement provides that Mr. Mathews will receive a base salary of \$250,000 per year, which will be increased by at least 10% annually. In addition to a base salary, Mr. Mathews is eligible to receive an annual performance bonus based upon the achievement of pre-established performance milestones of which at least half would be paid in cash and the remaining in common stock. If performance milestones are met, Mr. Mathews' bonus will be 100% of his base salary for the year the milestone was met. If Mr. Mathews and a majority of the Board are unable to mutually agree on performance milestones, Mr. Mathews will receive a guaranteed bonus for that fiscal year of no less than 15% of his base salary. In 2012, no performance milestones were set and Mr. Mathews waived his right to a guaranteed annual performance bonus. Additionally, in March 2012, Mr. Mathews was granted 300,000 five-year options to purchase shares of Aspen Group common stock exercisable at \$1.00 per share vesting over a three-year period. In December 2012, the options were re-priced to \$0.35 per share.

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**David Garrity.** Effective on June 9, 2011, Aspen entered into a four-year Employment Agreement with David Garrity to serve as its Chief Financial Officer. In accordance with the Employment Agreement, from June 9, 2011 through July 4, 2011, Mr. Garrity was paid a fee in lieu of salary at a rate of \$10,000 per month pursuant to a separate Consulting Agreement with Mr. Garrity. From July 4 until September 30, 2011, Aspen paid Mr. Garrity \$10,000 per month (a rate of \$125,000 per annum). Under his Employment Agreement, from October 1, 2011, Mr. Garrity was to be paid at the rate of \$250,000 per year, which will be increased by at least 10% annually. In addition to a base salary, Mr. Garrity is eligible to receive an annual performance bonus based upon the achievement of pre-established performance milestones of which at least half would be paid in cash and the remaining in Aspen common stock. If performance milestones are met, Mr. Garrity's bonus will be 100% of his base salary for the year the milestone was met. If Mr. Garrity and a majority of the Board are unable to mutually agree on performance milestones, Mr. Garrity will receive a guaranteed bonus for that fiscal year of no less than 15% of his base salary. In 2012, no performance milestones were set and Mr. Garrity waived his right to a guaranteed annual performance bonus. Additionally, in March 2012, Mr. Garrity was granted 200,000 five-year options to purchase shares of Aspen Group common stock exercisable at \$1.00 per share vesting over a three-year period. In December 2012, the options were re-priced to \$0.35 per share.

**Brad Powers**. Effective on July 5, 2011, Aspen entered into a four-year Employment Agreement with Brad Powers to serve as its Chief Marketing Officer. In accordance with the Employment Agreement, Mr. Powers was to be paid a base salary of \$250,000 per year. In March 2012, Mr. Powers was granted 200,000 five-year options to purchase shares of Aspen Group common stock exercisable at \$1.00 per share vesting over a three-year period. In December 2012, the options were re-priced to \$0.35 per share.

Effective March 1, 2013, Brad Powers resigned as Chief Marketing Officer and as an employee of Aspen Group in order to pursue other business ventures. Mr. Powers has agreed to provide consulting services to Aspen Group for a two-year period. Under a Consulting Agreement, Mr. Powers will receive a fee of \$100,000 per year and his outstanding stock options will continue to vest as originally in accordance with their terms provided that Mr. Powers is providing consulting services. Mr. Powers' Employment Agreement described above has been terminated.

**Gerald Williams**. Effective January 1, 2012, Aspen entered into a five-year Employment Agreement with Dr. Gerald Williams to serve as its President. In accordance with the Employment Agreement, Dr. Williams was to be paid a base salary of \$150,000 per year. In addition to base salary, Dr. Williams is eligible to receive an annual performance bonus in an amount equal to 50% of his then-current base salary, based upon the achievement of pre-established performance milestones mutually agreed upon by him and the Chief Executive Officer. One-half of the annual bonus is to be paid in cash and the remaining is to be paid in common stock. In 2012, no performance milestones were set and Dr. Williams waived his right to an annual performance bonus. Additionally, in March 2012, Dr. Williams was granted 200,000 five-year options to purchase shares of Aspen Group common stock at \$1.00 per share vesting over a three-year period. In December 2012, the options were repriced to \$0.35 per share.

Angela Siegel. Effective January 1, 2012, Aspen entered into a five-year Employment Agreement with Angela Siegel to serve as its Executive Vice President, Marketing. In accordance with the Employment Agreement, Ms. Siegel is paid a base salary of \$150,000 per year. In addition to base salary, Ms. Siegel is eligible to receive an annual performance bonus in an amount equal to 50% of her then-current base salary, based upon the achievement of pre-established performance milestones mutually agreed upon by her and the Chief Executive Officer. In 2012, no performance milestones were set and Ms. Siegel waived her right to an annual performance bonus. Additionally, in March 2012, Ms. Siegel was granted 150,000 five-year options to purchase shares of Aspen Group common stock exercisable at \$1.00 per share and vesting over a three-year period. In December 2012, the options were re-priced to \$0.35 per share.

#### Amendments to Employment Agreements

On December 31, 2011, Messrs. Michael Mathews and Brad Powers, our Chief Executive Officer and then Chief Marketing Officer, respectively, entered into amendments to their Employment Agreements waiving 50% of their salaries that would have otherwise accrued (\$62,500 each). Additionally, effective January 1, 2012, they agreed to defer 50% of their base salaries until such time as Mr. Mathews or our Board determine that we have sufficient cash flow to pay the previously agreed upon amount. As of August 31, 2012, these executives and our Board agreed to continue deferring their salaries until December 31, 2012. Separately, Mr. David Garrity, our Chief Financial Officer, effective April 1, 2012 deferred 40% of his base salary. At the same date, Mr. Michael Mathews deferred 60% of his base salary. In consideration for deferring their salaries, Messrs. Mathews, Powers and Garrity were granted 288,911, 255,773 and 136,008 fully-vested five-year stock options, respectively, exercisable at \$0.35 per share to settle deferred salaries.

As of August 31, 2012, Messrs. Michael Mathews, Brad Powers, David Garrity, and Gerald Williams, our Academic President, agreed to reduce their base salaries to \$100,000 per year for the remainder of 2012. In consideration for reducing their salaries, Messrs. Mathews, Powers and Garrity were each granted 166,666 stock options and Dr. Williams was granted 47,620 stock options. These stock options are exercisable at \$0.35 per share and vested in four equal installments at the end of each month of 2012, beginning on September 30, 2012.

Our Board approved the option grants in the two above paragraphs on October 23, 2012. The Board also granted Dr. Williams a \$45,000 bonus on October 23, 2012. On September 4, 2012, our Board granted Mr. Mathews up to 2,900,000 five-year options exercisable at \$0.35 per share and vesting in equal annual increments over four years with the first vesting date being September 4, 2013.

In April 2013, Mr. Mathews agreed to waive \$43,750 of accrued but unpaid salary due to him from employment during the first quarter of 2013. Additionally, on that same date, as compensation for reduced salaries for the first quarter of 2013, Mr. Garrity and Dr. Williams were granted 125,000 and 35,714 fully-vested five-year stock options, respectively, exercisable at \$0.35 per share.

# Termination Provisions

The table below describes the severance payments that our executive officers are entitled to in connection with a termination of their employment upon death, disability, dismissal without cause, for Good Reason, a change of control and the non-renewal of their employment at the discretion of Aspen Group. All of the termination provisions are intended to comply with Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Regulations thereunder.

	Michael Mathews	Gerald Williams	David Garrity	Angela Siegel
Death or Total Disability	Six months base salary	Three months base salary	Six months base salary	Six months base salary
Dismissal Without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason (1)	12 months base salary (2)	The greater of three months base salary or the remainder of the base salary due under the employment agreement	The greater of 12 months base salary or the remainder of the base salary due under the employment agreement (2)	The greater of six months base salary or the remainder of the base salary due under the employment agreement
Change of Control (3)	None	The greater of three months base salary or the remainder of the base salary due under the employment agreement (3)	The greater of 12 months base salary or the remainder of the base salary due under the employment agreement (2)	The greater of six months base salary or the remainder of the base salary due under the employment agreement.
Expiration of Initial Term and Aspen does not renew	12 months base salary (2)	Three months base salary	12 months base salary (2)	Six months base salary

(1) Generally, Good Reason in the above Agreements include the material diminution of the executives' duties, any material reduction in base salary without consent, the relocation of the geographical location where the executive performs services or any other action that constitutes a material breach by Aspen Group under the Employment Agreements.

(2) Any restricted stock or stock options held by the executive immediately vest upon occurrence of this event.

(3) Our standard form option agreement provides that all options shall vest in the event of a Change of Control event. Change of Control generally means a shareholder acquires over 50% of Aspen Group's total voting power, the sale of substantially all of Aspen Group's assets, or a merger which results in Aspen Group's current shareholders owning less than 50% of the surviving entity.

### **Outstanding Equity Awards At 2012 Year-End**

Listed below is information with respect to unexercised options for each Named Executive Officer as of December 31, 2012.

			Outstandi	ng Equity Awards At 2012 Year-E	nd
Name (a)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable (b)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable (c)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Unearned Options (#) (d)	Option Exercise Price (\$) (e)	Option Expiration Date (f)
Michael Mathews	0	300,000(1)	0	0.35	March 15, 2017
	0	2,876,800(2)	23,200(2)	0.35	September 4, 2017 March 22,
	0	500,000(3)	0	0.35	2017 October 23,
	288,911	0	0	0.35	2017 October 23,
	166,666	0	0	0.35	2017
David Garrity	0	200,000(1)	0	0.35	March 15, 2017 October 23,
	136,008	0	0	0.35	2017 October 23,
	166,666	0	0	0.35	2017
Brad Powers	0	200,000(1)	0	0.35	March 15, 2017 October 23,
	255,773	0	0	0.35	2017 October 23,
	166,666	0	0	0.35	2017

(1) The options vest in three equal increments on March 14, 2013, 2014 and 2015.

(2) The options were subject to Aspen Group raising \$3.5 million in its private placement offerings. As of December 31, 2012, Aspen Group raised a total of \$3,472,000 and therefore 2,876,800 options were earned by Mr. Mathews as of that date. Subsequent to December 31, 2012, Aspen Group raised an additional \$565,000, and all 2,900,000 options have been earned. The options vest in equal increments on September 4, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

(3) The options vest in three equal increments on March 20, 2013, 2014 and 2015.

# Equity Compensation Plan

Immediately following the closing of the Reverse Merger, our Board adopted the 2012 Equity Incentive Plan, or the Plan, which provided for 2,500,000 shares to be granted under the Plan. As of September 28, 2012, our Board increased the Plan to 5,600,000 shares and on January 16, 2013, the Board further increased the Plan to 8,000,000 shares.

The exercise price of options or stock appreciation rights granted under the Plan shall not be less than the fair market value of the underlying common stock at the time of grant. In the case of incentive stock options, the exercise price may not be less than 110% of the fair market value in the case of 10% shareholders. Options and stock appreciation rights granted under the Plan shall expire no later than 10 years after the date of grant. The total number of shares with respect to which options or stock awards may be granted under the Plan the purchase price per share, if applicable, shall be adjusted for any increase or decrease in the number of issued shares resulting from a recapitalization, reorganization, merger, consolidation, exchange of shares, stock dividend, stock split, reverse stock split, or other subdivision or consolidation of shares.

Our Board may from time to time may alter, amend, suspend, or discontinue the Plan with respect to any shares as to which awards of stock rights have not been granted. However no rights granted with respect to any awards under the Plan before the amendment or alteration shall be impaired by any such amendment, except with the written consent of the grantee.

Under the terms of the Plan, our Board may also grant awards which will be subject to vesting under certain conditions. The vesting may be timebased or based upon meeting performance standards, or both. Recipients of restricted stock awards will realize ordinary income at the time of vesting equal to the fair market value of the shares. We will realize a corresponding compensation deduction. Upon the exercise of stock options or stock appreciation rights, the holder will have a basis in the shares acquired equal to any amount paid on exercise plus the amount of any ordinary income recognized by the holder. Upon sale of the shares, the holder will have a capital gain or loss equal to the sale proceeds minus his or her basis in the shares.

The Plan and our standard Stock Option Agreement provide for "clawback" provisions, which enable our Board to cancel options and recover past profits if the person is dismissed for cause or commits certain acts which harm us.

## **Equity Compensation Plan Information**

The following chart reflects the number of securities granted and the weighted average exercise price for our compensation plans as of December 31, 2012.

Name Of Plan Equity compensation plans approved by security holders Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a) (1)	exercise outsta options, and	d-average price of anding warrants rights b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
2012 Equity Incentive Plan (1)	5,600,000	\$	0.35	0
Non-Plan Options	5,000,000	φ	0.55	0
(2)	1,291,167	\$	0.35	N/A
Total	6,891,167			

(1) Represents options issued under the Plan. Includes 5,176,800 options granted to directors and executive officers.

(2) Represents options issued outside of the Plan. All of these options were granted to directors and executive officers. In January 2013, the non-plan options were converted into Plan options.

# **Director Compensation**

We do not pay cash compensation to our directors for service on our Board and our employees do not receive compensation for serving as members of our Board. Directors are reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in attending meetings and carrying out duties as board and committee members. Under the Plan, our non-employee directors receive grants of stock options as compensation for their services on our Board, as described above. Because we do not pay compensation to employee directors, Mr. Michael Mathews was not compensated for his service as a director and is omitted from the following table.

# Director Compensation for 2012

Name	Option Awards (\$) (1)	Total (\$)
Michael D'Anton (2)	35,000	35,000
James Jensen (2)	35,000	35,000
David Pasi (2)	35,000	35,000
Sanford Rich (3)	35,000	35,000
John Scheibelhoffer (2)	35,000	35,000
Paul Schneier (2)	35,000	35,000

(1) The amounts in this column represent the fair value of the award as of the grant date as computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 and the recently revised SEC disclosure rules. These amounts represent awards that are paid in options to purchase shares of our common stock and do not reflect the actual amounts that may be realized by the directors. All of the options in this table are exercisable at \$0.35 per share.

(2) Of these options, one-third vested immediately and the remaining vest in equal increments on May 20, 2013 and 2014, subject to continued service as a director on each applicable vesting date.

(3) These options vest in equal increments on March 15, 2013, 2014 and 2015, subject to continued service as a director on each applicable vesting date.

## PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS

The following table sets forth the number of shares of Aspen Group's common stock beneficially owned as of April 8, 2013 by (i) those persons known by Aspen Group to be owners of more than 5% of its common stock, (ii) each director (iii) the Named Executive Officers (as disclosed in the Summary Compensation Table), and (iv) Aspen Group's executive officers and directors as a group. Unless otherwise specified in the notes to this table, the address for each person is: c/o Aspen Group, Inc. 224 West 30th Street, Suite 604 New York, New York 10001.

Title of Class	Beneficial Owner	Amount of Beneficial Ownership <sup>(1)</sup>	Percent Beneficially Owned <sup>(1)</sup>
The of Class	Owned	Ownership O	Owned
Named Executive Officers:			
Common Stock	Michael Mathews <sup>(2)</sup>	4,497,837	7.7%
Common Stock	David Garrity (3)	675,609	1.2%
Common Stock	Brad Powers <sup>(4)</sup>	989,106	1.7 %
Directors:			
Common Stock	Michael D'Anton <sup>(5)</sup>	2,246,899	4.0%
Common Stock	James Jensen <sup>(6)</sup>	738,643	1.3%
Common Stock	David Pasi <sup>(7)</sup>	383,861	*
Common Stock	Sanford Rich (8)	59,583	*
Common Stock	John Scheibelhoffer (9)	2,198,805	3.9%
Common Stock	Paul Schneier (10)	951,667	1.7%
	All directors and executive officers as a group (10		
Common Stock	persons) <sup>(11)</sup>	12,032,750	20.2%
5% Shareholders:			
Common Stock	Higher Education Management Group, Inc. (12)(13)	5,177,315	9.2%

\* Less than 1%.

<sup>(1)</sup> Applicable percentages are based on 56,168,005 shares outstanding as of April 5, 2013 adjusted as required by rules of the SEC. Beneficial ownership is determined under the rules of the SEC and generally includes voting or investment power with respect to securities. A person is deemed to be the beneficial owner of securities that can be acquired by such person within 60 days whether upon the exercise of options, warrants or conversion of notes. Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes to this table, Aspen Group believes that each of the shareholders named in the table has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares of common stock indicated as beneficially owned by them. This table does not include any unvested stock options except for those vesting within 60 days.

<sup>(2)</sup> Mr. Mathews is our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Includes: (i) 300,000 shares issuable upon conversion of a \$300,000 Note, (ii) 857,143 shares issuable upon the conversion of a second \$300,000 Note, (iii) 117,943 shares pledged as collateral for a receivable and (iv) 722,244 vested stock options.

(3) Mr. Garrity is our Chief Financial Officer. Includes: (i) 494,341 vested stock options and (ii) 25,000 shares underlying warrants.

<sup>(4)</sup> Mr. Powers is our former Chief Marketing Officer. Includes 489,106 vested stock options.

<sup>(5)</sup> Dr. D'Anton is a director. Includes 113,358 shares of common stock and 51,429 shares underlying warrants held as custodian for the benefit of Dr. D'Anton's children. Also includes 129,524 vested stock options.

<sup>(6)</sup> Mr. Jenson is a director. Includes (i) 150,000 shares underlying warrants and (ii) 66,667 vested stock options.

<sup>(7)</sup> A director. Includes 66,667 vested stock options.

(8) A director. Includes 33,333 vested stock options.

<sup>(9)</sup> Dr. Scheibelhoffer is a director. Includes 128,121 shares of common stock and 51,429 shares underlying warrants held as custodian for the benefit of Dr. Scheibelhoffer's children. Also includes 66,667 vested stock options.

<sup>(10)</sup> Mr. Schneier is a director. Includes (i) 50,000 shares underlying warrants and (ii) 66,667 vested stock options.

<sup>(11)</sup> In accordance with SEC rules, includes securities held by executive officers who are not Named Executive Officers.

<sup>(12)</sup> Higher Education Management Group, Inc., or HEMG, is an entity controlled by Aspen's former Chairman, Patrick Spada. A total of 772,793 shares of Aspen Group common stock are pledged to Aspen to secure payment of \$772,793 originally due in December 2013, and now due in 2014. The shares not pledged to Aspen Group are subject to a lien which is further described beginning on page 62.

(13) At inception, Aspen issued all of its 10 million shares of authorized common stock to HEMG. In order to raise money over a fiveyear period, Aspen sold shares and HEMG relinquished and returned to Aspen's treasury the number of shares Aspen sold. Due to some clerical errors, 120,500 shares owned by HEMG were not cancelled by Mr. Spada's personal assistant. Due to this pattern, Aspen does not believe that it sold shares improperly. In support of this, HEMG agreed not to sell 120,500 shares pending resolutions in connection with the April Agreement (described on page 64). Therefore, Aspen Group does not believe that it has any exposure to liability in these manners. Aspen Group is relying on its transfer records for information concerning HEMG's beneficial ownership.

### SELLING SHAREHOLDERS

The following table provides information about each selling shareholder listing how many shares of our common stock they own on the date of this prospectus, how many shares are offered for sale by this prospectus, and the number and percentage of outstanding shares each selling shareholder will own after the offering assuming all shares covered by this prospectus are sold. Except as disclosed in this prospectus, none of the selling shareholders have had any position, office, or material relationship with us or our affiliates within the past three years. The information concerning beneficial ownership has been taken from our stock transfer records and information provided by the selling shareholders. Information concerning the selling shareholders may change from time to time, and any changed information will be set forth if and when required in prospectus supplements or other appropriate forms permitted to be used by the SEC.

We do not know when or in what amounts a selling shareholder may offer shares for sale. The selling shareholders may not sell any or all of the shares offered by this prospectus. Because the selling shareholders may offer all or some of the shares, and because there are currently no agreements, arrangements or understandings with respect to the sale of any of the shares, we cannot estimate the number of the shares that will be held by the selling shareholders after completion of the offering. However, for purposes of this table, we have assumed that, after completion of the offering, all of the shares covered by this prospectus will be sold by the selling shareholder.

Unless otherwise indicated, the selling shareholders have sole voting and investment power with respect to their shares of common stock. All of the information contained in the table below is based upon information provided to us by the selling shareholders, and we have not independently verified this information. The selling shareholders may have sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of, or may sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of, at any time or from time to time since the date on which it provided the information regarding the shares beneficially owned, all or a portion of the shares beneficially owned in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, or the Securities Act.

The number of shares outstanding and the percentages of beneficial ownership are based on 56,168,005 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding as of April 5, 2013, which assumes all of the warrants being registered have been exercised. For the purposes of the following table, the number of shares common stock beneficially owned has been determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or the Exchange Act, and such information is not necessarily indicative of beneficial ownership for any other purpose. Under Rule 13d-3, beneficial ownership includes any shares as to which a selling shareholder has sole or shared voting power or investment power and also any shares which that selling shareholder has the right to acquire within 60 days of the date of this prospectus through the exercise of any stock option, warrant or other rights.

Name <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of securities beneficially owned before offering	Number of securities to be offered	Number of securities owned after offering	Percentage of securities beneficially owned after offering
Alvin Fund LLC (2)	1,050,000	1,050,000	0	0
Gregg A. Kattine	300,000	300,000	0	0
Powers Private Equity LLC (3)	1,071,429	1,071,429	0	0

\* Less than 1%.

<sup>(1)</sup> For all of the selling shareholders who are not natural persons, unless noted otherwise, the investment managers, general partners, trustees or principals named in the footnotes below have the sole voting and dispositive power over the shares held by the selling shareholders.

(2) George Melas-Kyriazi has the power to vote and dispose of the securities held by the selling shareholder.

<sup>(3)</sup> Frederic Powers has the power to vote and dispose of the securities held by the selling shareholder.

#### RELATED PERSON TRANSACTIONS

During 2010-2011, Aspen entered into numerous transactions with its then Chairman, Mr. Patrick Spada, and HEMG, a corporation he controlled. These transactions also occurred prior to 2010. In connection with the audit of Aspen's financial statements for 2010-2011, Aspen discovered in November 2011 that HEMG had borrowed \$2,195,084 from it from 2005 to 2010 without Board authority. In connection with this loan, three of Aspen's directors pledged 2,209,960 shares of common stock to secure payment of this loan receivable. The directors are Mr. Michael Mathews, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Drs. Michael D'Anton and John Scheibelhoffer. On August 16, 2012, following a series of discussions with the Staff of the SEC, Aspen Group determined that they should have expensed these amounts rather than report them as a secured receivable. In connection with this consolidated financial statement restatement, the disinterested directors concluded that it would be fundamentally unfair to retain the pledged shares due because the directors in pledging shares understood that the only risk they were taking involved either an unsuccessful suit to collect the receivable or the inability to collect any judgment. Accordingly, the Board concluded that the Pledge Agreement was null and void and directed that the shares be returned to each of the three directors. The three interested directors abstained on the matter.

Previously on September 16, 2011, Aspen, HEMG, and Mr. Spada entered into a series of agreements. In essence, Mr. Spada gave up substantial control he retained including the power to determine when, if ever, Aspen would go public; in exchange he received substantial benefits from Aspen which are described below.

In 2008, HEMG purchased video courses and program rights from Aspen for \$1,055,000. The balance due Aspen on September 16, 2011 was \$772,793. Under one agreement, HEMG pledged 772,793 shares of Series C Preferred Stock, or Series C, which converted to 654,850 shares of Aspen Group's common stock upon the closing of the Reverse Merger to secure payment of this \$772,793. Due to the approximate 0.847 conversion ratio of the Series C into common stock, the shares of Series C pledged by HEMG were not enough to fully secure the \$772,793. In order to avoid a portion of this loan from being partially written-off, on March 8, 2012, Mr. Mathews pledged an additional 117,943 shares as collateral for the repayment of the this obligation. Aspen's Board never authorized entry into the 2008 agreements. As a result, Aspen's Board accelerated the due date and declared it immediately due and payable. In connection with the April Agreement (described on page 64), Aspen agreed to extend the due date to September 30, 2014 and waived any default which had previously arisen.

On September 16, 2011, Aspen exchanged general releases with Mr. Spada/HEMG, and Mr. Spada entered into a modified non-compete agreement where he was permitted to compete with Aspen except with respect to three corporate customers for whom Aspen has an existing commercial relationship with. He also agreed to a two-year confidentiality provision and agreed not to solicit employees for nine months after expiration of the Consulting Agreement. Finally, Aspen entered into an Indemnification Agreement with HEMG on September 16, 2011 agreeing to indemnify it from liability for its actions to the fullest extent permitted by law. The Indemnification Agreement is similar to the form we provide to our directors and executive officers which is a standard form of corporate indemnification agreement. Aspen's Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation contains a provision which precludes indemnification of expenses from any litigation between Aspen and any officer or director.

Upon discovering the unauthorized borrowings described above, Aspen gave notice of termination of the Consulting Agreement. The undisclosed loan from Dr. Michael D'Anton described below would have also served as cause to terminate the Consulting Agreement.

Additionally, in connection with the HEMG Agreement, Aspen repaid a loan owed to Mr. Steve Karl, a former employee of Aspen, by Mr. Spada of approximately \$16,000. Aspen also agreed to pay Mr. Karl severance of \$75,000 (six months base pay). Additionally, Aspen agreed to pay Mr. Karl's wife and previously the bookkeeper of Aspen \$32,500 (six months base pay) and paid a former bookkeeping consultant \$6,000. When Aspen gave notice of termination of the Consulting Agreement to Mr. Spada, it also gave notice to the Karls that it was terminating its severance obligations (approximately \$71,000), given the fact that these employees were responsible for keeping Aspen's books and records during the timeframes of the unauthorized Spada borrowings. The Karls responded that they do not agree with Aspen terminating their severance payments. They have not filed suit against Aspen.

The 4,425,522 shares of Aspen Group's common stock which HEMG holds that are not pledged to Aspen are subject to a Lock-Up/Leak-Out Agreement which provides that (until March 13, 2014, HEMG and Spada, collectively, are, in any given week, allowed to sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of up to 5% of the total trading volume for Aspen Group's common stock for the prior 10 trading days not including any days in the week of sale. The current directors of Aspen Group also signed Lock-Up/Leak-Out Agreements at the same terms as the HEMG Lock-Up/Leak-Out Agreement. Recently Aspen Group was given notice by a creditor that the creditor has a lien for over \$1 million owed by HEMG and Spada, which requires that any proceeds of future sales must be used to first satisfy the lien.

Although Mr. Spada is believed to have devoted his full-time services to Aspen, there is no evidence he ever received any salary. For 2010 and 2011, Aspen paid \$655,191 of personal expenses on behalf of Mr. Spada. Aspen issued to Mr. Spada and HEMG two 1099s in relation to 2011 for \$119,800 and \$320,935, respectively. No 1099s were issued to HEMG or Mr. Spada prior to 2011, and the difference was added to the loan receivable. In 2012, Aspen Group issued Mr. Spada an amended 1099 for 2011 which included the full amount of the borrowed funds.

On September 16, 2011, Mr. Spada sold 3,769,150 shares of Series C (equivalent to 3,193,906 shares of common stock of Aspen Group) for \$1,000,000 or approximately \$0.265 per share (or the equivalent of \$0.313 per share of Aspen Group's common stock). Mr. Mathews was one of the purchasers; other purchasers included Mr. David Garrity, Aspen's Chief Financial Officer, and Michael D'Anton, MD, Mr. C. James Jensen and John Scheibelhoffer MD who are directors. On September 21, 2011, Aspen lent \$238,210 to Mr. Mathews to allow him to acquire Series C from HEMG. The loan was for a nine month period with 3% per annum interest and was guaranteed by Mr. Mathews' wife and secured by a pledge of 40,000 shares of interclick, inc. common stock owned by Mr. Mathews. Mr. Mathews repaid the loan in December 2011. In December 2011, Aspen lent Mr. Brad Powers, our former Chief Marketing Officer, \$150,000 in exchange for a promissory note bearing 3% per annum interest due September 14, 2012. As collateral, the note was secured by 500,000 shares of Aspen's common stock. The loan was repaid in February 2012.

On August 14, 2012, Mr. Mathews loaned Aspen Group \$300,000 in exchange for a convertible demand note bearing interest at 5% per annum. The note is convertible at \$0.35 per share, and the due date was extended until August 31, 2014. In March 2012, Mr. Mathews loaned Aspen \$300,000 in exchange for a convertible note bearing interest at 0.19% per annum. The note is convertible at \$1.00 per share, and the due date has been extended to August 31, 2014.

During 2009, Aspen received a loan of \$50,000 from the brother of Mr. Spada, the former Chairman. During 2011 and 2010, the loans were non-interest bearing demand loans. In February 2012, the lender agreed to convert the loan into a two-year convertible note payable convertible at \$1.00 per share.

In May 2011, the following investments in Aspen's Series A or Series A Preferred Stock offering were made directly or indirectly by our officers and/or directors:

- David Pasi invested \$30,000 for 31,500 shares of Series A.
- Sanford Rich, who was not affiliated with Aspen at the time, invested \$25,000 for 26,250 shares of Series A.
- C. James Jensen invested \$50,000 for 52,500 shares of Series A.
- Michael Mathews invested \$150,000 for 157,500 shares of Series A.
- David Garrity, who was not affiliated with Aspen at the time, invested \$25,000 for 26,250 shares of Series A.
- In May 2011, the following investments in Aspen's Series B Preferred Stock, or Series B, offering were made directly or indirectly by officers and/or directors:
- Michael Mathews invested \$50,000 for 52,631 shares of Series B.
- John Scheibelhoffer invested \$31,500 for 33,157 shares of Series B.
- Michael D'Anton invested \$7,500 for 7,894 shares of Series B.

- In September 2011, the following investments in Series C were made directly or indirectly by officers and/or directors:
- John Scheibelhoffer invested \$50,000 for 188,457 shares of Series C.
- Michael D'Anton invested \$50,000 for 188,457 shares of Series C.
- C. James Jensen invested \$53,062 for 200,000 shares of Series C.
- David E. Pasi invested \$50,000 for 188,457 shares of Series C.
- David Garrity invested \$25,053 for 94,430 shares of Series C.
- Michael Mathews invested \$238,209.94 for 897,848 shares of Series C.
- Gerald Williams invested \$25,000 for 94,229 shares of Series C.
- The Series C shares were sold by HEMG, not Aspen.

On April 10, 2012, HEMG, Spada, Aspen Group and one other person entered into an Agreement, which we refer to as the April Agreement, under which HEMG sold 400,000 shares of common stock of Aspen Group for \$200,000 to individuals who were not executive officers or directors of Aspen Group. In connection with the April Agreement, Aspen Group guaranteed that it would purchase 600,000 shares at \$0.50 per share within 90 days of the April Agreement and agreed to use its best efforts to purchase an additional 1,400,000 shares of common stock at \$0.50 per shares within 180 days from the date of the April Agreement. A group of predominately existing shareholders purchased 336,000 shares of common stock at \$0.50 per share and Aspen Group purchased 264,000 shares at \$0.50 per share. Aspen Group purchased the shares after the 90 day period had expired, Spada cashed the check without reserving his rights or protesting at the late payment. We have been advised by counsel that this means that the agreement (described below) of HEMG and Spada not to sue us is binding.

No additional shares were purchased at that time because Aspen Group could not sell its own common stock at a price that high. In December 2012, Aspen Group purchased 200,000 of HEMG's shares for \$0.35 per share. Provided that HEMG and Mr. Spada meet their obligations under the April Agreement, Aspen Group agreed to allow HEMG and Mr. Spada to privately sell up to 500,000 shares privately which are subject to the lock-up agreement described above provided that the purchaser agreed to be bound by the terms of the lock-up. Additionally, under the April Agreement, HEMG and Mr. Spada agreed not to commence any lawsuit, or cooperate in any lawsuit against us, except in an action, claim or lawsuit which is brought against HEMG or Mr. Spada by us in which case HEMG and Mr. Spada and HEMG against Aspen. See page 45 for a description of a lawsuit brought by Mr. Spada and HEMG against Aspen Group. Additionally, Additionally, Aspen agreed to extend the due date on the \$772,793 receivable to September 30, 2014.

A number of years ago Dr. Michael D'Anton lent Aspen \$25,000 of which \$22,000 was owed at September 30, 2012. The loan was not disclosed on Aspen's balance sheet at the time of the EGC merger. In November 2012, Dr. D'Anton cancelled Aspen's obligation in exchange for 62,857 five-year vested options exercisable at \$0.35 per share.

Additionally, directors and an executive officer have purchased securities in Aspen Group's private placement offerings on the same terms as other investors.

See page 49 for a discussion of director independence.

### DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

We are authorized to issue 120,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share. As of the date of this prospectus, 56,168,005 shares of common stock and 0 shares of preferred stock are outstanding.

## Common Stock

The holders of common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted to a vote of shareholders, including the election of directors. There is no cumulative voting in the election of directors. The holders of common stock are entitled to any dividends that may be declared by the board of directors out of funds legally available for payment of dividends subject to the prior rights of holders of preferred stock and any contractual restrictions we have against the payment of dividends on common stock. In the event of our liquidation or dissolution, holders of common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities and the liquidation preferences of any outstanding shares of preferred stock. Holders of common stock have no preemptive rights and have no right to convert their common stock into any other securities.

#### Preferred Stock

We are authorized to issue 10,000,000 shares of \$0.001 par value preferred stock in one or more series with such designations, voting powers, if any, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights, and such qualifications, limitations and restrictions, as are determined by resolution of our board of directors. The issuance of preferred stock may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of our company without further action by shareholders and could adversely affect the rights and powers, including voting rights, of the holders of common stock. In certain circumstances, the issuance of preferred stock could depress the market price of the common stock.

The following discussion of our common stock is qualified in its entirety by our Certificate of Incorporation, our Bylaws and by the full text of the agreements pursuant to which the securities were issued. We urge you to review these documents, copies of which have been filed with the SEC, as well as the applicable statutes of the State of Delaware for a more complete description of the rights and liabilities of holders of our securities.

Our charter documents include provisions that may have the effect of discouraging, delaying or preventing a change in control or an unsolicited acquisition proposal that a shareholder might consider favorable, including a proposal that might result in the payment of a premium over the market price for the shares held by our shareholders. Certain of these provisions are summarized in the following paragraphs.

Effects of authorized but unissued common stock and blank check preferred stock. One of the effects of the existence of authorized but unissued common stock and undesignated preferred stock may be to enable our to make more difficult or to discourage an attempt to obtain control of usell by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise, and thereby to protect the continuity of management. If, in the due exercise of its fiduciary obligations, our Board were to determine that a takeover proposal was not in our best interest, such shares could be issued by our Board without shareholder approval in one or more transactions that might prevent or render more difficult or costly the completion of the takeover transaction by diluting the voting or other rights of the proposed acquirer or insurgent shareholder group, by putting a substantial voting block in institutional or other hands that might undertake to support the position of the incumbent Board, by effecting an acquisition that might complicate or preclude the takeover, or otherwise.

In addition, our Certificate of Incorporation grants our Board broad power to establish the rights and preferences of authorized and unissued shares of preferred stock. The issuance of shares of preferred stock could decrease the amount of earnings and assets available for distribution to holders of shares of common stock. The issuance also may adversely affect the rights and powers, including voting rights, of those holders and may have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a change in control of usell.

*Cumulative Voting*. Our Certificate of Incorporation does not provide for cumulative voting in the election of directors which would allow holders of less than a majority of the stock to elect some directors.

Vacancies. Our bylaws provide that vacancies on the Board may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of directors then in office, even if less than a quorum.

Special Meeting of Shareholders. A special meeting of shareholders may only be called by the Board.

#### Anti-takeover Effects of Delaware Law

We are subject to the "business combination" provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. In general, such provisions prohibit a publicly-held Delaware corporation from engaging in various "business combination" transactions such as a merger with any interested shareholder which includes, a shareholder owning 15% of a corporation's outstanding voting securities, for a period of three years after the date in which the person became an interested shareholder, unless:

- The transaction is approved by the corporation's Board prior to the date the shareholder became an interested shareholder;
- Upon closing of the transaction which resulted in the shareholder becoming an interested shareholder, the shareholder owned at least 85% of the shares of stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors of the corporation outstanding excluding those shares owned by persons who are both directors and officers and specified types of employee stock plans; or
- On or after such date, the business combination is approved by the Board and at least 66 2/3% of outstanding voting stock not owned by the interested shareholder.

A Delaware corporation may opt out of Section 203 with either an express provision in its original Certificate of Incorporation or an amendment to its Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws approved by its shareholders. We have not opted out of this Statute. This Statute could prohibit, discourage or delay mergers or other takeover attempts to acquire us.



## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Selling Shareholders of the common stock and any of their pledgees, assignees and successors-in-interest may, from time to time, sell any or all of their shares of common stock on the Bulletin Board or any other stock exchange, market or trading facility on which the shares are traded or in private transactions. These sales may be at fixed or negotiated prices. A Selling Shareholder may use any one or more of the following methods when selling shares:

- ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker-dealer solicits purchasers;
- block trades in which the broker-dealer will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as
  principal to facilitate the transaction;
- purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;
- an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of the applicable exchange;
- privately negotiated transactions;
- settlement of short sales entered into after the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part;
- broker-dealers may agree with the Selling Shareholders to sell a specified number of such shares at a stipulated price per share;
- through the writing or settlement of options or other hedging transactions, whether through an options exchange or otherwise;
- a combination of any such methods of sale; or
- any other method permitted pursuant to applicable law.

The Selling Shareholders may also sell shares under Rule 144 under the Securities Act, if available, rather than under this prospectus.



Broker-dealers engaged by the Selling Shareholders may arrange for other brokers-dealers to participate in sales. Broker-dealers may receive commissions or discounts from the Selling Shareholders (or, if any broker-dealer acts as agent for the purchaser of shares, from the purchaser) in amounts to be negotiated, but, except as set forth in a supplement to this Prospectus, in the case of an agency transaction not in excess of a customary brokerage commission in compliance with FINRA NASD Rule 2440; and in the case of a principal transaction a markup or markdown in compliance with NASD IM-2440.

In connection with the sale of the common stock or interests therein, the Selling Shareholders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions, which may in turn engage in short sales of the common stock in the course of hedging the positions they assume. The Selling Shareholders may also sell shares of the common stock short and deliver these securities to close out their short positions, or loan or pledge the common stock to broker-dealers that in turn may sell these securities. The Selling Shareholders may also enter into options or other transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions or the creation of one or more derivative securities which require the delivery to such broker-dealer or other financial institution of shares offered by this prospectus, which shares such broker-dealer or other financial institution may resell pursuant to this prospectus (as supplemented or amended to reflect such transaction).

The Selling Shareholders and any broker-dealers or agents that are involved in selling the shares may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. In such event, any commissions received by such broker-dealers or agents and any profit on the resale of the shares purchased by them may be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts under the Securities Act. The Selling Shareholders have informed Aspen that it does not have any written or oral agreement or understanding, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the common stock. In no event shall any broker-dealer receive fees, commissions and markups which, in the aggregate, would exceed eight percent (8%).

Aspen is required to pay certain fees and expenses incurred by us incident to the registration of the shares. We have agreed to indemnify the Selling Shareholders against certain losses, claims, damages and liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Because the Selling Shareholders may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act, they will be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act including Rule 172 thereunder. In addition, any securities covered by this prospectus which qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act may be sold under Rule 144 rather than under this prospectus. There is no underwriter or coordinating broker acting in connection with the proposed sale of the resale shares by the Selling Shareholders.

We agreed to keep this prospectus effective until the earlier of (i) the date on which the shares may be resold by the Selling Shareholders without registration and without regard to any volume or manner-of-sale limitations by reason of Rule 144, without the requirement for us to be in compliance with the current public information under Rule 144 under the Securities Act or any other rule of similar effect or (ii) the date on which all of the shares have been sold pursuant to this prospectus or Rule 144 under the Securities Act or any other rule of similar effect. The resale shares will be sold only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers if required under applicable state securities laws. In addition, in certain states, the resale shares may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with.

Under applicable rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, any person engaged in the distribution of the resale shares may not simultaneously engage in market making activities with respect to the common stock for the applicable restricted period, as defined in Regulation M, prior to the commencement of the distribution. In addition, the Selling Shareholders will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including Regulation M, which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of shares of the common stock by the Selling Shareholders or any other person. We will make copies of this prospectus available to the Selling Shareholders and have informed them of the need to deliver a copy of this prospectus to each purchaser at or prior to the time of the sale (including by compliance with Rule 172 under the Securities Act).

## **Transfer Agent**

Action Stock Transfer Corp. is our transfer agent located at 2469 E. Fort Union Boulevard, Suite 214, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121.

### LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Nason, Yeager, Gerson, White & Lioce, P.A., West Palm Beach, Florida. An employee of this firm beneficially owns 312,260 shares of common stock of Aspen Group.

#### EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements appearing in this prospectus and registration statement for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 have been audited by Salberg & Company, P.A., an independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports appearing elsewhere herein, and are included in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-1, including the exhibits, schedules, and amendments to this registration statement, under the Securities Act with respect to the shares of common stock to be sold in this offering. This prospectus, which is part of the registration statement, does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement. For further information with respect to us and the shares of our common stock to be sold in this offering, we make reference to the registration statement. Although this prospectus contains all material information regarding us, statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract, agreement or other document referred to are not necessarily complete, and in each instance we make reference to the copy of such contract, agreement, or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, each such statement being qualified in all respects by such reference. We also file periodic reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy all or any portion of the registration statement or any other information, which we file at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days during the hours of 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. We also file periodic reports and other information with the SEC. You can request copies of these documents, upon payment of a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information of the public reference rooms.

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Aspen Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries Index to Consolidated Financial Statements

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## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of: Aspen Group, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Aspen Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in stockholders' equity (deficiency) and cash flows for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2012. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall consolidated financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Aspen Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2012 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company has a net loss allocable to common stockholders and net cash used in operating activities in 2012 of \$6,048,113 and \$4,403,361, respectively, and has an accumulated deficit of \$11,337,104 as of December 31, 2012. These matters raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Management's Plan in regards to these matters is also described in Note 1. The consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

/s/ Salberg & Company, P.A.

SALBERG & COMPANY, P.A. Boca Raton, Florida March 18, 2013

> 2295 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 240 • Boca Raton, FL 33431-7328 Phone: (561) 995-8270 • Toll Free: (866) CPA-8500 • Fax: (561) 995-1920 www.salbergco.com • info@salbergco.com Member National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts • Registered with the PCAOB Member CPAConnect with Affiliated Offices Worldwide • Member AICPA Center for Audit Quality

# ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

Assets	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents Restricted cash	\$ 644,988 264,992	\$ 766,602
Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$204,580 and \$47,595, respectively	561,697	847,234
Accounts receivable, secured - related party		772,793
Note receivable from officer, secured - related party	-	150,000
Prepaid expenses	192,533	103,268
Other current assets	72,438	210
Total current assets	1,736,648	2,640,107
Departy and appriments		
Property and equipment: Call center equipment	121,313	121,313
Computer and office equipment	45,718	38,577
Furniture and fixtures	11,336	-
Library (online)	100,000	100,000
Software	1,388,824	927,455
Vehicle		39,736
	1,667,191	1,227,081
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(455,871)	(229,972
Total property and equipment, net	1,211,320	997,109
Courseware, net	253,571 270,478	369,831
Accounts receivable, secured - related party, net of allowance of \$502,315 and \$0, respectively Other assets	270,478	6,559
	23,101	0,339
Total assets	<u>\$ 3,497,198</u>	\$ 4,013,606
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity (Deficiency)		
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity (Dericiency)		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 216,974	\$ 1,094,029
Accrued expenses	261,307	167,528
Deferred revenue	1,076,397	835,694
Notes payable, current portion Loan payable to stockholder	491	6,383
Deferred rent, current portion	6,257	4,291
Other current liabilities	69,000	-,291
Total current liabilities	1,630,426	2,107,925
Line of credit	250,000	233,215
Loans payable (includes \$50,000 to related parties)		200,000
Convertible notes payable (includes \$650,000 to related parties)	800,000	
Notes payable	-	8,768
Deferred rent	15,017	21,274
Total liabilities	2,695,443	2,571,182
Commitments and contingencies - See Note 10		
- -		
Temporary equity: Series A preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 850,500 shares designated,		
none and 850,395 shares issued and outstanding, respectively	-	809,900
Series D preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 3,700,000 shares designated,		00,,,00
none and 1,176,750 shares issued and outstanding, respectively		
(liquidation value of \$1,176,750)	-	1,109,268
Series E preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 2,000,000 shares designated,		
none and 1,700,000 shares issued and outstanding, respectively		
(liquidation value of \$1,700,000)		1,550,817
Total temporary equity		3,469,985
Stockholders' equity (deficiency):		
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized		
Series C preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 11,411,400 shares designated,		
none and 11,307,450 shares issued and outstanding, respectively		11 207
(liquidation value of \$11,307) Series B preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 368,421 shares designated,	-	11,307
none and 368,411 shares issued and outstanding, respectively		368
Common stock, \$0.001 par value; 120,000,000 shares authorized,	-	508
55,243,719 issued and 55,043,719 outstanding at December 31, 2012 and		
11,837,930 issued and outstanding at December 31, 2011	55,244	11,838
Additional paid-in capital	12,153,615	3,275,296
Treasury stock (200,000 shares)	(70,000)	-
Accumulated deficit	(11,337,104)	(5,326,370
Total stockholders' equity (deficiency)	801,755	(2,027,561)
	A	A 1012
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity (deficiency)	<u>\$ 3,497,198</u>	\$ 4,013,606

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012	For the Year Ended December 31, 2011
Revenues	<u>\$ 5,017,213</u>	<u>\$ 4,477,931</u>
Costs and expenses:		
Instructional costs and services	2,926,837	2,200,034
Marketing and promotional	1,442,128	515,362
General and administrative	5,404,326	3,593,956
Receivable collateral valuation reserve	502,315	-
Depreciation and amortization	397,923	264,082
Total costs and expenses	10,673,529	6,573,434
Operating loss	(5,656,316)	(2,095,503)
Other income (expense):		
Interest income	4,592	2,656
Interest expense	(364,889)	(27,850)
Gain on disposal of property and equipment	5,879	-
Loss due to unauthorized borrowing		(14,876)
Total other expense	(354,418)	(40,070)
Loss before income taxes	(6,010,734)	(2,135,573)
Income tax expense (benefit)		
Net loss	(6,010,734)	(2,135,573)
Cumulative preferred stock dividends	(37,379)	(87,326)
Net loss allocable to common stockholders	<u>\$ (6,048,113</u> )	<u>\$ (2,222,899</u> )
Net loss per share allocable to common stockholders: Basic and diluted	<u>\$ (0.17</u> )	<u>\$ (0.14</u> )
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding: Basic and diluted	35,316,681	15,377,413

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIENCY) FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012 AND 2011

-	Series B	Prefer	red Stock Series C		Common Stock		Common Stock		Additional Paid-In	Treasury	Accumulated	Total Stockholders' Equity
-	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Capital	Stock	Deficit	(Deficiency)		
Balance at												
December 31,												
2010	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	21,000,000	\$ 21,000	\$ 3,850,809	\$ -	\$ (3,190,797)	\$ 681,012		
Rescission of common												
shares	-	-	-	-	(170,100)	(170)	(164,830)	-	-	(165,000		
Common												
shares issued												
as part of merger	-	-	-	-	3,200,000	3,200	-	_	-	3,200		
Treasury												
shares acquired for cash					(884 520)	(885)	(760,315)			(761.200)		
Conversion of	-	-	-	-	(884,520)	(885)	(700,515)	-	-	(761,200		
convertible												
notes into Series B												
preferred												
shares	368,411	368	-	-	-	-	349,632	-	-	350,000		
Conversion of common												
shares into												
Series C												
preferred shares			11,307,450	11,307	(11 307 450)	(11 307)						
Net loss, 2011			11,507,450		(11,307,450)	(11,507)			(2,135,573)	(2,135,573		
Balance at												
December 31, 2011	368,411	368	11,307,450	11,307	11,837,930	11,838	3,275,296		(5,326,370)	(2 ()27 561		
Conversion of	500,411	508	11,307,430	11,507	11,037,930	11,038	5,215,290		(3,320,370)	(2,027,301		
all preferred												
shares into common												
	(368,411)	(368)	(11,307,450)	(11,307)	13,677,274	13,677	3,467,983	-	-	3,469,985		
Recapitalization	-	-	-	-	9,760,000	9,760	(30,629)	-	-	(20,869		
Conversion of convertible												
notes into												
common												
shares	-	-	-	-	5,293,152	5,293	1,770,532	-	-	1,775,825		
Issuance of common												
shares and												
warrants for cash, net of												
offering costs												
of \$446,764	-	-	-	-	9,920,000	9,920	3,015,316	-	-	3,025,236		
Issuance of common												
shares and												
warrants due to												
price protection Issuance of	-	-	-	-	4,516,917	4,517	(4,517)	-	-	-		
common												
shares and												
warrants to settle accrued												
interest	-	-	-	-	202,446	203	70,451	-	-	70,654		
Treasury												
shares acquired for cash					(264,000)	(264)	(131 736)	(70,000)		(202,000		
Issuance of	-	-	-	-	(204,000)	(204)	(151,750)	(70,000)	-	(202,000		
common												
shares for services					200,000	200	69,800			70,000		
Issuance of	-		-	-	200,000	200	09,000	_	-	70,000		
common												
shares and warrants for												
services	-	_	-	-	100,000	100	42,900	-	-	43,000		
Issuance of												
stock options to officers to												
settle accrued												
payroll	-	-	-	-	-	-	238,562	-	-	238,562		
Issuance of stock options												
stock options to officers to												
settle note												
payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,000	-	-	22,000		
	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,000 347,657	-	-	347,657		

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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# ASPEN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012	For the Year Ended December 31, 2011
Cash flows from operating activities: Net loss	\$ (6,010,734)	\$ (2,135,573)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Bad debt expense	302,952	21,200
Receivable collateral valuation reserve Amortization of debt issuance costs	502,315 266,473	-
Gain on disposal of property and equipment	(5,879)	-
Depreciation and amortization	397,923	264,082
Loss on settlement of accrued interest	3,339	
Issuance of convertible notes in exchange for services rendered	38,175	22,000
Stock-based compensation	347,657	-
Common shares and warrants issued for services rendered	113,000	-
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisition:	(17,415)	106 000
Accounts receivable Accounts receivable, secured - related party	(17,415)	196,229 7,376
Prepaid expenses	(89,055)	(97,474)
Other current assets	(72,438)	(210)
Other assets	(18,622)	(210)
Accounts payable	(865,405)	780,703
Accrued expenses	398,941	(98,588)
Deferred rent	(4,291)	(2,324)
Deferred revenue	240,703	(54,510)
Other current liabilities	69,000	
Net cash used in operating activities	(4,403,361)	(1,097,089)
Cash flame from investing activities		
Cash flows from investing activities:	337	3,200
Cash acquired as part of merger Purchases of property and equipment	(479,846)	(1,060,887)
Purchases of courseware	(25,300)	(54,090)
Increase in restricted cash	(264,992)	-
Advances to officer for note receivable	-	(388,210)
Proceeds received from officer loan repayments	150,000	238,210
Net cash used in investing activities	(619,801)	(1,261,777)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from (repayments on) line of credit, net	16,785	(10,284)
Proceeds from issuance of common shares and warrants, net	3,025,236	-
Principal payments on notes payable	-	(30,871)
Proceeds received from issuance of convertible notes and warrants Proceeds from related party for convertible notes	1,706,000 600,000	255,000 73,000
Disbursements for debt issuance costs	(266,473)	75,000
Proceeds from issuance of Series A, D and E preferred stock	(200,475)	3,469,985
Payments for stockholder rescissions	-	(165,000)
Proceeds from note payable	22,000	-
Disbursements to purchase treasury shares	(202,000)	(761,200)
Net cash provided by financing activities	4,901,548	2,830,630
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(121,614)	471,764
Cash and each aquivalents at beginning of year	766,602	294,838
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 644,988</u>	\$ 766,602
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		•
Cash paid for interest	<u>\$ 273,718</u>	\$ 34,804
Cash paid for income taxes	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
Supplemental disclosure of non-cash investing and financing activities:		
Conversion of all preferred shares into common shares	\$ 3,469,985	\$
Conversion of convertible notes payable into common shares	\$ 1,775,825	\$ -
Issuance of stock options to officers to settle accrued payroll	\$ 238,562	\$ -
Conversion of loans payable to convertible notes payable	\$ 200,000	\$ -
Issuance of common shares and warrants to settle accrued interest	\$ 70,654	<u>\$</u> -
Issuance of stock options to officers to settle note payable	\$ 22,000	\$ -
Liabilities assumed in recapitalization		<u>\$</u>
Settlement of notes payable by disposal of property and equipment	<u>\$ 15,151</u>	<u>\$</u>
Issuance of convertible notes payable to pay accounts payable	<u>\$ 11,650</u>	<u>\$</u>
Conversion of convertible notes payable into Preferred Series B shares	<u>\$</u>	\$ 350,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

#### Note 1. Nature of Operations and Going Concern

#### Overview

Aspen Group, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, the "Company" or "Aspen") was founded in Colorado in 1987 as the International School of Information Management. On September 30, 2004, it was acquired by Higher Education Management Group, Inc. ("HEMG") and changed its name to Aspen University Inc. On May 13, 2011, the Company formed a Colorado subsidiary, Aspen University Marketing, LLC, which was inactive and was formally dissolved on November 20, 2012. On March 13, 2012, the Company was recapitalized in a reverse merger (See Note 12). All references to the Company or Aspen before March 13, 2012 are to Aspen University, Inc.

Aspen's mission is to become an institution of choice for adult learners by offering cost-effective, comprehensive, and relevant online education. One of the key differences between Aspen and other publicly-traded, exclusively online, for-profit universities is that approximately 87% of our degree-seeking students (as of December 31, 2012) were enrolled in graduate degree programs (Master or Doctorate degree program). Since 1993, we have been nationally accredited by the Distance Education and Training Council ("DETC"), a national accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (the "DOE").

### Merger with Education Growth Corporation

On May 19, 2011, the Company closed an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Merger Agreement") wherein the Company acquired Education Growth Corporation, Inc. ("EGC"), a privately-held corporation formed in Delaware on January 21, 2011. EGC merged with and into Aspen University Inc. and Aspen University Inc. was the surviving corporation.

The consideration with respect to the merger with EGC consisted of 3,200,000 common shares of the Company. EGC was not an operating company and it did not meet the definition of a business for business combination accounting. EGC did possess intellectual property and, accordingly, the merger was accounted for as an asset acquisition. Since the stockholders of EGC acquired more than a 10% voting interest in the Company, the asset acquisition was accounted for in accordance with Staff Accounting Bulletin, Topic 5G, "Transfers of Nonmonetary Assets by Promoters or Shareholders". Accordingly, the assets acquired in the merger have been recorded at the transferors' historical cost basis determined under GAAP. The net purchase price, including acquisition costs paid, was allocated to assets acquired and liabilities assumed as follows:

Current assets (including cash of \$3,200)	\$ 3,200
Intangible assets	-
Liabilities assumed	 -
Net purchase price	\$ 3,200

Intangible assets acquired include a proprietary database of education-specific media publishers, a database of key words and performance metrics specific to the internet search channel of the education market, and a proprietary lead database processing architecture.

#### **Going Concern**

The Company had a net loss allocable to common stockholders of \$6,048,113 and negative cash flows from operations of \$4,403,361 for the year ended December 31, 2012. While management expects operating trends to improve over the course of 2013, the Company's ability to continue as a going concern is contingent on securing additional debt or equity financing from outside investors. These matters raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Management plans to continue to implement its business plan and to fund operations by raising additional capital through the issuance of debt and equity securities. During 2012, the Company raised \$5,778,000 in gross funding including: (i) \$1,706,000 from the sale of convertible notes and warrants under the Laidlaw arrangement (See Note 9), (ii) \$600,000 from the sale of convertible notes to the Company's chief executive officer (the "CEO") (See Notes 9 and 15), and (iii) \$3,472,000 from Units (consisting of common shares and warrants) (See Note 12). Since the beginning of 2013, the Company has received an additional \$565,000 in funding from the sale of Units (consisting of common stock and warrants). To aid the fund-raising process, the Company on March 14, 2013 engaged Laidlaw & Company to raise up to \$770,000 through the sale of additional Units.

The consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recovery of the recorded assets or the classification of the liabilities that might be necessary should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern.

#### Note 2. Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Aspen Group, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the consolidated financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Significant estimates in the accompanying consolidated financial statements include the allowance for doubtful accounts and other receivables, the valuation of collateral on certain receivables, amortization periods and valuation of courseware and software development costs, valuation of stock-based compensation and the valuation allowance on deferred tax assets.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less at the time of purchase to be cash equivalents.

#### **Restricted Cash**

Restricted cash represents amounts pledged as security for letters of credit for transactions involving Title IV programs.

Consistent with the Higher Education Act, Aspen's certification to participate in Title IV programs terminated after closing of the reverse merger, and Aspen applied to DOE to reestablish its eligibility and certification to participate in the Title IV programs. However, in order to avoid significant disruption in disbursements of Title IV funds, the DOE may temporarily and provisionally certify an institution, like Aspen, that is seeking approval of a change in ownership under certain circumstances while the DOE reviews the institution's application. In response to DOE requests, the Company pledged a \$105,865 letter of credit to the DOE on March 27, 2012 and on August 31, 2012, the Company pledged an additional \$158,800 to the letter of credit and extended the due date to December 31, 2013. The Company considers \$264,992 (includes accrued interest of \$327) as restricted cash (shown as a current asset as of December 31, 2012) until such letter of credit expires. As of December 31, 2012, the account bears interest of 0.25%.

## Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. The Company classifies assets and liabilities recorded at fair value under the fair value hierarchy based upon the observability of inputs used in valuation techniques. Observable inputs (highest level) reflect market data obtained from independent sources, while unobservable inputs (lowest level) reflect internally developed market assumptions. The fair value measurements are classified under the following hierarchy:

- Level 1—Observable inputs that reflect quoted market prices (unadjusted) for identical assets and liabilities in active markets;
- Level 2—Observable inputs, other than quoted market prices, that are either directly or indirectly observable in the marketplace for identical or similar assets and liabilities, quoted prices in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets and liabilities; and
- Level 3—Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity that are significant to the fair value of assets or liabilities.

The estimated fair value of certain financial instruments, including cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued expenses are carried at historical cost basis, which approximates their fair values because of the short-term nature of these instruments.

#### Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consist primarily of amounts due for tuition, technology fees and other fees for students who are in the course of completing a degree or certificate program. Students generally fund their education through personal funds, grants and/or loans under various DOE Title IV programs, or tuition assistance from military and corporate employers. Accounts receivable also includes secured amounts presented as non-current due from the sale of courseware to a former related party.

All students are required to select both a primary and secondary payment option with respect to amounts due to the Company for tuition, fees and other expenses. The most common payment option for the Company's students is personal funds or payment made on their behalf by an employer. In instances where a student selects financial aid as the primary payment option, he or she often selects personal cash as the secondary option. If a student who has selected financial aid as his or her primary payment option withdraws prior to the end of a course but after the date that the Company's institutional refund period has expired, the student will have incurred the obligation to pay the full cost of the course. If the withdrawal occurs before the date at which the student has earned 100% of his or her financial aid, the Company will have to return all or a portion of the Title IV funds to the DOE and the student will owe the Company all amounts incurred that are in excess of the amount of financial aid that the student earned and that the Company is entitled to retain. In this case, the Company must collect the receivable using the student's second payment option.

For accounts receivable from students, the Company records an allowance for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability, failure or refusal of its students to make required payments, which includes the recovery of financial aid funds advanced to a student for amounts in excess of the student's cost of tuition and related fees. The Company determines the adequacy of its allowance for doubtful accounts using a general reserve method based on an analysis of its historical bad debt experience, current economic trends, and the aging of the accounts receivable and student status. The Company applies reserves to its receivables based upon an estimate of the risk presented by the age of the receivables and student status. The Company writes off accounts receivable balances at the time the balances are deemed uncollectible. The Company continues to reflect accounts receivable with an offsetting allowance as long as management believes there is a reasonable possibility of collection.

For accounts receivable from primary payors other than students, the Company estimates its allowance for doubtful accounts by evaluating specific accounts where information indicates the customers may have an inability to meet financial obligations, such as bankruptcy proceedings and receivable amounts outstanding for an extended period beyond contractual terms. In these cases, the Company uses assumptions and judgment, based on the best available facts and circumstances, to record a specific allowance for those customers against amounts due to reduce the receivable to the amount expected to be collected. These specific allowances are re-evaluated and adjusted as additional information is received. The amounts calculated are analyzed to determine the total amount of the allowance. The Company may also record a general allowance as necessary.

Direct write-offs are taken in the period when the Company has exhausted its efforts to collect overdue and unpaid receivables or otherwise evaluate other circumstances that indicate that the Company should abandon such efforts.

#### **Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment are recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization are computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets per the following table.



Category	Depreciation Term
Call center equipment	5 years
Computer and office equipment	5 years
Furniture and fixtures	7 years
Library (online)	3 years
Software	5 years
Vehicle	5 years

Costs incurred to develop internal-use software during the preliminary project stage are expensed as incurred. Internal-use software development costs are capitalized during the application development stage, which is after: (i) the preliminary project stage is completed; and (ii) management authorizes and commits to funding the project and it is probable the project will be completed and used to perform the function intended. Capitalization ceases at the point the software project is substantially complete and ready for its intended use, and after all substantial testing is completed. Upgrades and enhancements are capitalized if it is probable that those expenditures will result in additional functionality. Amortization is provided for on a straight-line basis over the expected useful life of five years of the internal-use software development costs and related upgrades and enhancements. When existing software is replaced with new software, the unamortized costs of the old software are expensed when the new software is ready for its intended use.

Leasehold improvements are amortized using the straight-line method over the shorter of the lease term or the estimated useful lives of the assets.

Upon the retirement or disposition of property and equipment, the related cost and accumulated depreciation and amortization are removed and a gain or loss is recorded in the consolidated statements of operations. Repairs and maintenance costs are expensed in the period incurred.

#### Courseware

The Company records the costs of courseware in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 350 "Intangibles - Goodwill and Other".

Generally, costs of courseware are capitalized whereas costs for upgrades and enhancements are expensed as incurred. Courseware is stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization is provided for on a straight-line basis over the expected useful life of five years.

#### Long-Lived Assets

The Company assesses potential impairment to its long-lived assets when there is evidence that events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Events and circumstances considered by the Company in determining whether the carrying value of identifiable intangible assets and other long-lived assets may not be recoverable include, but are not limited to: significant changes in performance relative to expected operating results, significant changes in the use of the assets, significant decline in the Company's stock price for a sustained period of time, and changes in the Company's business strategy. An impairment loss is recorded when the carrying amount of the long-lived asset is not recoverable and exceeds its fair value. The carrying amount of a long-lived asset is not recoverable if it exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use and eventual disposition of the asset. Any required impairment loss is measured as the amount by which the carrying amount of a long-lived asset exceeds fair value and is recorded as a reduction in the carrying value of the related asset and an expense to operating results.

#### Leases

The Company enters into various lease agreements in conducting its business. At the inception of each lease, the Company evaluates the lease agreement to determine whether the lease is an operating or capital lease. Leases may contain initial periods of free rent and/or periodic escalations. When such items are included in a lease agreement, the Company records rent expense on a straight-line basis over the initial term of a lease. The difference between the rent payment and the straight-line rent expense is recorded as a deferred rent liability. The Company expenses any additional payments under its operating leases for taxes, insurance or other operating expenses as incurred.

### **Revenue Recognition and Deferred Revenue**

Revenues consist primarily of tuition and fees derived from courses taught by the Company online as well as from related educational resources that the Company provides to its students, such as access to our online materials and learning management system. Tuition revenue is recognized pro-rata over the applicable period of instruction. The Company maintains an institutional tuition refund policy, which provides for all or a portion of tuition to be refunded if a student withdraws during stated refund periods. Certain states in which students reside impose separate, mandatory refund policies, which override the Company's policy to the extent in conflict. If a student withdraws at a time when a portion or none of the tuition is refundable, then in accordance with its revenue recognition policy, the Company recognizes as revenue the tuition that was not refunded. Since the Company recognizes revenue pro-rata over the term of the course and because, under the Company's accounting policies revenue is not recognized to refund is never greater than the amount of the revenue that has been deferred, under the Company's accounting policies revenue is not recognized with respect to amounts that could potentially be refunded. The Company's educational programs have starting and ending dates that differ from its fiscal quarters. Therefore, at the end of each fiscal quarter, a portion of revenue from these programs is not yet earned and is therefore deferred. The Company also charges students annual fees for library, technology and other services, which are recognized over the related service period. Deferred revenue represents the amount of tuition, fees, and other student payments received in excess of the portion recognized as sales occur or services are performed.

The Company enters into certain revenue sharing arrangements with consultants whereby the consultants will develop course content primarily for technology related courses, recommend, but not select, faculty, lease equipment on behalf of the Company for instructional purposes for the on-site laboratory portion of distance learning courses and make introductions to corporate and government sponsoring organizations who provide students for the courses. The Company has evaluated ASC 605-45 "Principal Agent Considerations" and determined that there are more indicators than not that the Company is the primary obligor in the arrangements since the Company establishes the tuition, interfaces with the student or sponsoring organization, selects the faculty, is responsible for delivering the course, is responsible for issuing any degrees or certificates, and is responsible for collecting the tuition and fees. The gross tuition and fees are included in revenues while the revenue sharing payments are included in instructional costs and services, an operating expense.

#### Instructional Costs and Services

Instructional costs and services consist primarily of costs related to the administration and delivery of the Company's educational programs. This expense category includes compensation for faculty and administrative personnel, costs associated with online faculty, technology license costs and costs associated with other support groups that provide services directly to the students.

#### Marketing and Promotional Costs

Marketing and promotional costs include compensation of personnel engaged in marketing and recruitment, as well as costs associated with purchasing leads, producing marketing materials, and advertising. Such costs are generally affected by the cost of advertising media and leads, the efficiency of the Company's marketing and recruiting efforts, compensation for the Company's enrollment personnel and expenditures on advertising initiatives for new and existing academic programs. Advertising costs consists primarily of marketing leads and other branding and promotional activities. Non-direct response advertising activities are expensed as incurred, or the first time the advertising takes place, depending on the type of advertising activity.

#### General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses include compensation of employees engaged in corporate management, finance, human resources, information technology, compliance and other corporate functions. General and administrative expenses also include professional services fees, bad debt expense related to accounts receivable, financial aid processing costs, non-capitalizable courseware and software costs, travel and entertainment expenses and facility costs.

#### Reclassifications

Certain amounts in the accompanying 2011 consolidated financial statements have been reclassified in order to conform to the December 31, 2012 presentation.

On the consolidated balance sheet, software has been reclassified to property and equipment.

On the consolidated statement of operations, bad debt expense, courseware development costs and financial aid processing costs have been reclassified from instructional costs and services to general and administrative costs. Consulting expense and training and seminars expense have been reclassified from marketing and promotional costs to general and administrative costs. The following tables show the reclassifications to the consolidated statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2011.

			For the Year	Ended Decembe	r 31, 2011		
			F	Reclassifications			
	As Previously Reported	Bad Debt Expense	Consulting Expense	Courseware Development Costs	Financial Aid Processing Costs	Training and Seminars Expense	As Reclassified
Costs and expenses:							
Instructional costs and services	\$ 2,493,341	\$ (21,200)		\$ (236,953)	\$ (35,154)		\$ 2,200,034
Marketing and promotional	1,181,558		\$ (658,832)			\$ (7,364)	515,362
General and administrative	2,634,453	21,200	658,832	236,953	35,154	7,364	3,593,956
Depreciation and amortization	264,082	,		.,	-,-	.,	264,082
Total costs and expenses	\$ 6,573,434						\$ 6,573,434

### Income Taxes

The Company uses the asset and liability method to compute the differences between the tax basis of assets and liabilities and the related financial amounts. Valuation allowances are established, when necessary, to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount that more likely than not will be realized. The Company has deferred tax assets and liabilities that reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. Deferred tax assets are subject to periodic recoverability assessments. Realization of the deferred tax assets, net of deferred tax liabilities, is principally dependent upon achievement of projected future taxable income.

The Company records a liability for unrecognized tax benefits resulting from uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The Company accounts for uncertainty in income taxes using a two-step approach for evaluating tax positions. Step one, recognition, occurs when the Company concludes that a tax position, based solely on its technical merits, is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination. Step two, measurement, is only addressed if the position is more likely than not to be sustained. Under step two, the tax benefit is measured as the largest amount of benefit, determined on a cumulative probability basis, which is more likely than not to be realized upon ultimate settlement. The Company recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense.

### **Stock-Based Compensation**

Stock-based compensation expense is measured at the grant date fair value of the award and is expensed over the requisite service period. For employee stock-based awards, the Company calculates the fair value of the award on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. Determining the fair value of stock-based awards at the grant date under this model requires judgment, including estimating volatility, employee stock option exercise behaviors and forfeiture rates. The assumptions used in calculating the fair value of stock-based awards, the Company calculates the fair value of the award on the date of grant using the fair value of stock-based awards, the company calculates the fair value of the award on the date of grant in the same manner as employee awards, however, the awards are revalued at the end of each reporting period and the prorata compensation expense is adjusted accordingly until such time the non-employee award is fully vested, at which time the total compensation recognized to date shall equal the fair value of the stock-based award as calculated on the measurement date, which is the date at which the award recipient's performance is complete. The estimation of stock-based awards that will ultimately vest requires judgment, and to the extent actual results or updated estimates differ from original estimates, such amounts are recorded as a cumulative adjustment in the period estimates are revised.

#### Net Loss Per Share

Net loss per common share is based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during each year. Options to purchase 6,972,967 common shares, warrants to purchase 8,112,696 common shares, and \$800,000 of convertible debt (convertible into 1,357,143 common shares) were outstanding during the year ended December 31, 2012, but were not included in the computation of diluted loss per share because the effects would have been anti-dilutive. Warrants to purchase 456,000 common shares were outstanding during the year ended December 31, 2011, but were not included in the computation of diluted loss per share because the effects would have been anti-dilutive. The options, warrants and convertible debt are considered to be common stock equivalents and are only included in the calculation of diluted earnings per common share when their effect is dilutive.

In addition to the above common stock equivalents, the Company had outstanding preferred shares (Series A through E) that were contingently convertible into common shares upon it becoming an SEC reporting company. There were an aggregate of 15,403,006 preferred shares contingently convertible into 13,677,274 common shares for the years ended December 31, 2011 that could have been potentially dilutive in the future. As a result of its merger with Aspen Group, Inc., on March 13, 2012 (the SEC Reporting Date), the Company became subject to SEC reporting requirements. Accordingly, all of the preferred shares were automatically converted into common shares on that date (See Notes 11 and 12).

#### Segment Information

The Company operates in one reportable segment as a single educational delivery operation using a core infrastructure that serves the curriculum and educational delivery needs of its online students regardless of geography. The Company's chief operating decision makers, its CEO and President, manage the Company's operations as a whole, and no revenue, expense or operating income information is evaluated by the chief operating decision makers on any component level.

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In June 2011, the FASB, issued ASU 2011-05, which amends ASC Topic 220, Comprehensive Income, which requires an entity to present the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. It eliminates the option to present components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity. The ASU does not change the items which must be reported in other comprehensive income, how such items are measured or when they must be reclassified to net income. This ASU is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company adopted ASU 2011-05 effective January 1, 2012, and such adoption did not have a material effect on the Company's financial statements.

In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-12, which amends ASC Topic 220, Comprehensive Income, to defer certain aspects of ASU 2011-05. The new guidance is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company adopted this guidance, along with ASU 2011-05, on January 1, 2012, and such adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's financial statements.

In July 2012, the FASB issued ASU 2012-02, which amends ASC Topic 350 to allow an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of an indefinite-lived intangible asset is less than its carrying value. An entity would not be required to determine the fair value of the indefinite-lived intangible unless the entity determines, based on the qualitative assessment, that it is more likely than not that its fair value is less than the carrying value. ASU 2012-02 is effective for annual and interim impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after September 15, 2012 and early adoption is permitted. The Company is evaluating the impact of this ASU and does not expect the adoption will have an impact on its consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

We have implemented all new accounting standards that are in effect and that may impact our consolidated financial statements and do not believe that there are any other new accounting pronouncements that have been issued that might have a material impact on our consolidated financial position or results of operations.

#### Note 3. Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consisted of the following at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Accounts receivable	\$ 766,277	\$ 894,829
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	(204,580)	(47,595)
Accounts receivable, net	\$ 561,697	\$ 847,234

Bad debt expense was \$302,952 and \$21,200 for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

See also Note 14 for concentrations of accounts receivable.



### Note 4. Secured Accounts and Notes Receivable - Related Parties

On September 21, 2011, the Company loaned \$238,210 to its CEO in exchange for a promissory note bearing 3% per annum. As collateral, the note was secured by 40,000 shares of common stock of interclick, Inc. (a publicly-traded company) owned personally by the CEO. The note along with accrued interest was due and payable on June 21, 2012. For the year ended December 31, 2011, interest income of \$1,867 was recognized. On December 20, 2011, the note along with accrued interest of \$1,867 was paid in full (See Note 15).

On December 14, 2011, the Company loaned \$150,000 to an officer of the Company in exchange for a promissory note bearing 3% per annum. As collateral, the note was secured by 500,000 shares of the Company's common stock owned personally by the officer. The note along with accrued interest was due and payable on September 14, 2012. During the year ended December 31, 2011, interest income of \$210 was recognized on the note receivable and is included in other current assets. As of December 31, 2011, the balance due on the note receivable was \$150,000, all of which is short-term. During the year ended December 31, 2012, interest income of \$594 was recognized on the note receivable. On February 16, 2012, the note receivable from an officer was repaid along with accrued interest (See Note 15).

On March 30, 2008 and December 1, 2008, the Company sold courseware pursuant to marketing agreements to HEMG, a related party and principal stockholder of the Company whose president is Mr. Patrick Spada, the former Chairman of the Company, in the amount of \$455,000 and \$600,000, respectively; UCC filings were filed accordingly. Under the marketing agreements, the receivables are due net 60 months. On September 16, 2011, HEMG pledged 772,793 Series C preferred shares (automatically converted to 654,850 common shares on March 13, 2012) of the Company as collateral for this account receivable. On March 8, 2012, due to the impending reduction in the value of the collateral as the result of the Series C conversion ratio and the Company's inability to engage Mr. Spada in good faith negotiations to increase HEMG's pledge, Michael Mathews, the Company's CEO, pledged 117,943 common shares of the Company, owned personally by him, valued at \$1.00 per share based on recent sales of capital stock as additional collateral to the accounts receivable, secured - related party. On March 13, 2012, the Company deemed the receivables stemming from the sale of courseware curricula to be in default. On April 4, 2012, the Company entered into an agreement with: (i) an individual, (ii) HEMG, a related party and principal stockholder of the Company whose president is Mr. Patrick Spada, the former Chairman of the Company and (iii) Mr. Patrick Spada. Under the agreement, (a) the individual purchased and HEMG sold to the individual 400,000 common shares of the Company at \$0.50 per share; (b) the Company guaranteed it would purchase at least 600,000 common shares of the Company at \$0.50 per share within 90 days of the agreement and the Company would use its best efforts to purchase from HEMG and resell to investors an additional 1,400,000 common shares of the Company at \$0.50 per share within 180 days of the agreement; (c) provided HEMG and Mr. Patrick Spada fulfilled their obligations under (a) and (b) above, the Company shall consent to additional private transfers by HEMG and/or Mr. Patrick Spada of up to 500,000 common shares of the Company on or before March 13, 2013; (d) HEMG agreed to not sell, pledge or otherwise transfer 142,500 common shares of the Company pending resolution of a dispute regarding the Company's claim that HEMG sold 131,500 common shares of the Company without having enough authorized shares and a stockholder did not receive 11,000 common shares of the Company owed to him as a result of a stock dividend; and (e) the Company waived any default of the accounts receivable, secured - related party and extend the due date to September 30, 2014. As of September 30, 2012, third party investors purchased 336,000 shares for \$168,000 and the Company purchased 264,000 shares for \$132,000 per section (b) above. Based on proceeds received on September 28, 2012 under a private placement at \$0.35 per unit (consisting of one common share and one-half of a warrant exercisable at \$0.50 per share), the value of the aforementioned collateral decreased. Accordingly, as of December 31, 2012, the Company has recognized an allowance of \$502,315 for this account receivable. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, the balance of the account receivable, net of allowance, was \$270,478 and \$772,793 and is shown as accounts receivable, secured - related party, net (See Notes 12 and 15).

## Note 5. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment consisted of the following at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Call center	\$ 121,313	\$ 121,313
Computer and office equipment	45,718	38,577
Furniture and fixtures	11,336	-
Library (online)	100,000	100,000
Software	1,388,824	927,455
Vehicle		39,736
	1,667,191	1,227,081
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(455,871)	(229,972)
Property and equipment, net	\$1,211,320	\$ 997,109

Depreciation and amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$256,363 and \$85,662, respectively. Accumulated depreciation amounted to \$455,871 and \$229,972 as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Amortization expense for software, included in the above amounts, for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$226,454 and \$60,290, respectively. Software consisted of the following at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Software	\$1,388,824	\$ 927,455
Accumulated amortization	(286,744)	(60,290)
Software, net	\$1,102,080	\$ 867,165

The following is a schedule of estimated future amortization expense of software at December 31, 2012:

Year Ending December 31,	
2013	\$ 277,765
2014	277,765
2015	277,765
2016	217,474
2017	51,311
Total	\$1,102,080

#### Note 6. Courseware

Courseware costs capitalized were \$25,300 and \$54,090 for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Courseware consisted of the following at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

、	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Courseware	\$ 2,097,538	\$ 2,072,238
Accumulated amortization	(1,843,967)	(1,702,407)
Courseware, net	\$ 253,571	\$ 369,831

Amortization expense of courseware for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$141,560 and \$178,420, respectively.

The following is a schedule of estimated future amortization expense of courseware at December 31, 2012:

Year Ending December 31,	
2013	\$120,819
2014	77,757
2015	39,616
2016	12,738
2017	2,641
Total	\$253,571

#### Note 7. Accrued Expenses

Accrued expenses consisted of the following at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011:

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Accrued compensation	\$ 50,923	\$ 33,930
Accrued settlement payable	-	40,000
Other accrued expenses	210,384	93,598
Accrued expenses	\$ 261,307	\$ 167,528

In October 2009, the Company entered into an agreement with Glen Oaks College ("Glen Oaks") whereby Glen Oaks would provide technical training to Aspen students. Under the agreement, the Company received \$100,000 from Glen Oaks in order to develop and obtain the necessary approvals to begin the program. On May 20, 2011, Glen Oaks filed suit against the Company to return the \$100,000 when the agreement was not performed. On June 23, 2011, the Company agreed to settle the matter and paid Glen Oaks \$5,000 on that date. On July 22, 2011, the Company and Glen Oaks entered into a settlement agreement whereby the Company agreed to pay Glen Oaks as follows: (i) \$5,000 upon execution of the settlement agreement and (ii) \$10,000 per month for nine consecutive months commencing August 1, 2011. As of December 31, 2011, the remaining settlement payable to Glen Oaks was \$40,000. As of December 31, 2012, the settlement had been paid in full and no further amount was due.

# Note 8. Loans Payable

During 2009, the Company received advances aggregating \$200,000 from three individuals. Of the total funds received, \$50,000 was received from a related party. From the date the funds were received through the date the loans were converted into convertible promissory notes payable, the loans were non-interest bearing demand loans and, therefore, no interest expense was recognized or due. As of December 31, 2011, the entire balance of the loans payable is included in long-term liabilities as the Company, in February 2012, has converted the loans into long-term convertible notes payable (See Notes 9 and 15).

#### Note 9. Notes Payable

### Notes Payable - Related Party

In June 2009, the Company borrowed an aggregate of \$45,000 from an individual, who was an officer of the Company at that time, in exchange for notes payable bearing interest at 18% per annum. The notes were due in October 2009 and became demand notes at that time. During the year ended December 31, 2011, interest expense of \$2,393 was recognized on the notes. During the year ended December 31, 2011, the remaining principal balance of \$25,000 due on the notes payable was repaid and no further amount is due (See Note 15).

During April 2012, the Company received \$22,000 from a director of the Company in exchange for a note payable bearing interest of 10%, due on demand. On November 21, 2012, the director forgave a \$22,000 note receivable from the Company in exchange for 62,857 five-year vested non-Plan stock options exercisable at \$0.35 per share. No gain was recognized as the settlement was between the Company and related parties. On January 16, 2013, these options were modified to be Plan options (See Notes 12, 15 and 16).

#### **Convertible Notes Payable**

On March 6, 2011, the Company authorized the issuance of up to \$350,000 of convertible notes that were convertible into Series B preferred shares at \$0.95 per share, bearing interest of 6% per annum. The notes were convertible beginning after the closing of the EGC Merger (See Note 1). As of May 13, 2011, the Company had received an aggregate of \$328,000 (of which \$73,000 was received from related parties) from the sale of convertible notes. The Company evaluated the convertible notes and determined that, for the embedded conversion option, there was no beneficial conversion value to record. In addition, the Company issued an aggregate of \$22,000 (of which \$16,000 was to related parties) of convertible notes for services rendered. In May 2011, \$350,000 of the convertible notes were converted into 368,411 Series B preferred shares (See Notes 12 and 15).

As part of the recapitalization that occurred on March 13, 2012, the Company assumed from the public entity an aggregate of \$20,000 of convertible notes bearing interest at 10% per annum. Each note holder had the right to convert all or a portion of the principal amount of the note into shares of the Company's common stock at the conversion price of the next equity offering of the Company. The notes meet the criteria of stock settled debt under ASC 480, "Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity", and accordingly were presented at their fixed monetary amount of \$20,000. The convertible notes were past due as of the date of assumption and, accordingly, the Company was in default. In April 2012, the convertible notes payable of \$20,000 were converted into 20,000 common shares of the Company and, accordingly, the default was cured (See Note 12).

On February 25, 2012, February 27, 2012 and February 29, 2012, loans payable to an individual, another individual and a related party (the brother of Patrick Spada, the former Chairman of the Company), of \$100,000, \$50,000 and \$50,000, respectively, were converted into two-year convertible promissory notes, bearing interest of 0.19% per annum. Beginning March 31, 2012, the notes are convertible into common shares of the Company at the rate of \$1.00 per share. The Company evaluated the convertible notes and determined that, for the embedded conversion option, there was no beneficial conversion value to record as the conversion price is considered to be the fair market value of the common shares on the note issue dates. As these loans (now convertible promissory notes) are not due for at least 12 months after the balance sheet, they have been included in long-term liabilities as of December 31, 2012 (See Notes 8 and 15).

On March 13, 2012, the Company's CEO loaned the Company \$300,000 and received a convertible promissory note due March 31, 2013, bearing interest at 0.19% per annum. The note is convertible into common shares of the Company at the rate of \$1.00 per share upon five days written notice to the Company. The Company evaluated the convertible note and determined that, for the embedded conversion option, there was no beneficial conversion value to record as the conversion price is considered to be the fair market value of the common shares on the note issue date. On September 4, 2012, the maturity date was extended to August 31, 2013. On December 17, 2012, the maturity date was extended to August 31, 2014. There was no accounting effect for these two modifications (See Note 15).

On February 29, 2012 (the "Effective Date"), the Company retained the investment bank of Laidlaw & Company (UK) Ltd. ("Laidlaw") on an exclusive basis for the purpose of raising up to \$6,000,000 (plus up to an additional \$1,200,000 million to cover over-allotments at the option of Laidlaw) through two successive best-efforts private placements of the Company's securities following the reverse merger. Each Unit in the Phase One financing consisted of: (i) senior secured convertible notes (the "Convertible Notes"), bearing 10% interest, convertible into the Company's common shares at the lower of (a) \$1.00 or (b) 95% of the per share purchase price of any shares of common stock (or common stock equivalents) issued on or after the original issue date of the note and (ii) five-year warrant to purchase that number of the Company's common shares equal to 25% of the number of shares issuable upon conversion of the Convertible Notes. As of June 30, 2012, the Company, without the assistance of any broker-dealer, raised \$150,000 from the sale of 3.0 Units. Laidlaw raised \$1,289,527 (net of debt issuance costs of \$266,473) from the sale of 31.12 Units (including Convertible Notes payable and an estimated 389,000 warrants). Mandatory conversion was to occur on the initial closing of the Phase Two financing, which occurred September 28, 2012. The Convertible Notes (as extended) had a maturity date of September 30, 2012, carried provisions for price protection and contained registration rights. For the Phase One financing, Laidlaw received a cash fee of 10% of aggregate funds raised along with a five-year warrant (the "Laidlaw Warrant") equal to 10% of the common stock reserved for issuance in connection with the Units. Separately, Laidlaw required an activation fee of \$25,000. The Phase Two financing consisted of units offered at \$0.35 per unit (consisting of one common share and one-half of a warrant exercisable at \$0.50 per share. The Convertible Notes embedded conversion options did not qualify as derivatives since the conversion shares were not readily convertible to cash due to an inactive trading market and there was no beneficial conversion value since the conversion price equaled the fair value of the shares. As a result of proceeds received on September 28, 2012 in the Phase Two financing, all of the \$1,706,000 (face value) of Convertible Notes were automatically converted into 5,130,795 common shares at the contractual rate of \$0.3325 per share. Moreover, the warrants issuable upon conversion of the convertible notes became fixed and determinable and caused to be outstanding 1,282,674 warrants (includes an additional 856,174 warrants due to price protection provisions) to acquire common shares at \$0.3325 per share. In addition, 202,334 common shares and 50,591 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.3325 per share were issued to settle \$67,276 of accrued interest on the aforementioned Convertible Notes. Accordingly, a loss of \$3,339 was recognized in general and administrative expenses upon settlement (See Note 12).

On May 1, 2012, the Company issued a convertible note payable to a consultant in the amount of \$49,825 in exchange for past services rendered, of which \$38,175 pertains to the nine months ended September 30, 2012. The note bore interest at 0.19% per annum, had a maturity date of September 30, 2012, and was convertible into the Company's common shares at the lower (a) \$1.00 or (b) the per share purchase price of any shares of common stock (or common stock equivalents) issued on or after the original issue date of the note. The convertible note embedded conversion options did not qualify as derivatives since the conversion shares were not readily convertible to cash due to an inactive trading market and there was no beneficial conversion value since the conversion price equaled the fair value of the shares. As a result of the private placement closing on September 28, 2012, the \$49,825 (face value) convertible note was automatically convertible note. 112,357 common shares at the contractual rate of \$0.35 per share. In addition, 112 common shares were issued to settle \$39 of accrued interest on the aforementioned convertible note. No gain or loss was recognized upon settlement (See Note 12).

On August 14, 2012, the Company's CEO loaned the Company \$300,000 and received a convertible promissory note, payable on demand, bearing interest at 5% per annum. The note is convertible into common shares of the Company at the rate of \$0.35 per share (based on proceeds received on September 28, 2012 under a private placement at \$0.35 per unit). The Company evaluated the convertible notes and determined that, for the embedded conversion option, there was no beneficial conversion value to record as the conversion price is considered to be the fair market value of the common shares on the note issue date. On September 4, 2012, the maturity date was extended to August 31, 2013. On December 17, 2012, the maturity date was extended to August 31, 2014 (See Note 15).

As of December 31, 2012, the convertible notes embedded conversion options were still not accounted for as bifurcated derivatives since the conversion shares were not readily convertible to cash due to an inactive trading market.

Notes payable consisted of the following at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

	De	cember 31, 2012	Dec	ember 31, 2011
Note payable - related party originating August 14, 2012; no monthly payments required; bearing interest at 5%; [A]	\$	300,000	\$	-
Note payable - related party originating March 13, 2012; no monthly payments required; bearing interest at 0.19%; [A]		300,000		-
Note payable - originating February 25, 2012; no monthly payments required; bearing interest at 0.19%; maturing at February 25, 2014		100,000		-
Note payable - originating February 27, 2012; no monthly payments required; bearing interest at 0.19%; maturing at February 27, 2014		50,000		-
Note payable - related party originating February 29, 2012; no monthly payments required; bearing interest at 0.19%; maturing at February 29, 2014		50,000		-
Note payable for vehicle, 72 monthly payments of \$618; interest at 8.4% through March 2014 Total		- 800,000		<u>15,151</u> 15,151
Less: Current maturities (notes payable) Less: Current maturities (convertible notes payable)		-		(6,383)
Subtotal Less: amount due after one year for notes payable Amount due after one year for convertible notes payable	\$	800,000	\$	8,768 (8,768)

[A] - effective September 4, 2012, note amended to provide a maturity date of August 31, 2013. Effective December 17, 2012, notes amended to provide a maturity date of August 31, 2014.

Future maturities of notes payable are as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	_
2013	\$ -
2014	800,000
	\$800,000

### Note 10. Commitments and Contingencies

### Line of Credit

The Company maintains a line of credit with a bank, up to a maximum credit line of \$250,000. The line of credit bears interest equal to the prime rate plus 0.50% (overall interest rate of 3.75% at December 31, 2012). The line of credit requires minimum monthly payments consisting of interest only. The line of credit is secured by all business assets, inventory, equipment, accounts, general intangibles, chattel paper, documents, instruments and letter of credit rights of the Company. The line of credit is for an unspecified time until the bank notifies the Company of the Final Availability Date, at which time payments on the line of credit become the sum of: (a) accrued interest and (b) 1/60th of the unpaid principal balance immediately following the Final Availability Date, which equates to a five-year payment period. The balance due on the line of credit as of December 31, 2012 was \$250,000. Since the earliest the line of credit is due and payable is over a five year period and the Company believes that it could obtain a comparable replacement line of credit elsewhere, the entire line of credit is included in long-term liabilities. The unused amount under the line of credit available to the Company at December 31, 2012 was \$0 (See Note 16).

### **Operating Leases**

The Company leases office space for its corporate headquarters in New York, New York on a month-to-month basis with monthly rent payments of \$4,200 per month.

The Company leases office space for its Denver, Colorado location under a seven-year lease agreement commencing September 15, 2008. The operating lease granted four initial months of free rent and had a base monthly rent of \$6,526 commencing January 15, 2009. Thereafter, the monthly rent escalates 2.5% annually over the base year.

On October 4, 2012, the Company entered into a three-year lease agreement for its call center in Scottsdale, Arizona. The Company occupied temporary space at this location until moving into the leased space on February 1, 2013, the commencement date of the lease. The lease requires rent payments of \$4,491 per month during months 4 through 12, \$4,601 per month during the second year, and \$4,710 per month during the third year.

The following is a schedule by years of future minimum rental payments required under operating leases that have initial or remaining noncancelable lease terms in excess of one year as of December 31, 2012:

Year ending December 31,	
2013	\$ 56,979
2014	141,274
2015	144,550
2016	64,780
Total minimum payments required	\$407,583

Rent expense was \$140,783 and \$114,511 for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

#### **Employment Agreements**

From time to time, the Company enters into employment agreements with certain of its employees. These agreements typically include bonuses, some of which are performance-based in nature. As of December 31, 2012, the Company had entered into five employment agreements whereby the Company is obligated to pay an annual performance bonus ranging from 50% to 100% of the employee's base salary based upon the achievement of pre-established milestones. Such annual bonuses are to be paid one-half in cash and the remainder in common shares of the Company. As of December 31, 2012, no performance bonuses have been earned.

#### **Consulting Agreement**

On September 16, 2011, the Company entered into a two-year consulting agreement with the former Chairman of the Company in which the Company was obligated to pay \$11,667 per month. On September 28, 2011, the Company prepaid 13 months of the consulting agreement, or \$151,667, which was then amortized until December 31, 2011, at which time the consulting agreement was terminated and the remaining unamortized prepaid expense was recognized immediately as consulting expense. No additional amounts are due under the consulting agreement (See Note 15).

On October 1, 2012, the Company retained two investor relations firms agreeing to pay one firm \$50,000 a year for two years and issuing it 200,000 shares of common stock, having a fair value of \$70,000 based on recent sales of Units. The second firm was retained for one year with a fee of \$5,000 per month. The second firm also received 100,000 shares of common stock and 100,000 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.60 per share, having a fair value of \$43,000 based on recent sale of Units (See Note 12).

#### Legal Matters

From time to time, we may be involved in litigation relating to claims arising out of our operations in the normal course of business. As of December 31, 2012, there were no pending or threatened lawsuits that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the results of our operations and there are no proceedings in which any of our directors, officers or affiliates, or any registered or beneficial shareholder, is an adverse party or has a material interest adverse to our interest (See Note 16).

#### **Regulatory Matters**

The Company's subsidiary, Aspen University Inc. ("Aspen University"), is subject to extensive regulation by Federal and State governmental agencies and accrediting bodies. In particular, the Higher Education Act (the "HEA") and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the DOE subject Aspen University to significant regulatory scrutiny on the basis of numerous standards that schools must satisfy to participate in the various types of federal student financial assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the HEA. Aspen University has had provisional certification to participate in the Title IV programs. That provisional certification imposes certain regulatory restrictions including, but not limited to, a limit of 1200 student recipients for Title IV funding for the duration of the provisional certification. During 2011, Aspen University's provisional certification was scheduled to expire, but Aspen University timely filed its application for recertification restrictions continue with regard to Aspen University's participation in Title IV programs.

To participate in the Title IV programs, an institution must be authorized to offer its programs of instruction by the relevant agencies of the State in which it is located, and since July 2011, potentially in the States where an institution offers postsecondary education through distance education. In addition, an institution must be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the DOE and certified as eligible by the DOE. The DOE will certify an institution to participate in the Title IV programs only after the institution has demonstrated compliance with the HEA and the DOE's extensive academic, administrative, and financial regulations regarding institutional eligibility and certification. An institution must also demonstrate its compliance with these requirements to the DOE on an ongoing basis. Aspen University performs periodic reviews of its compliance with the various applicable regulatory requirements. As Title IV funds received in 2012 represented approximately 18% of the Company's cash revenues, as calculated in accordance with Department of Education guidelines, the loss of Title IV funding would have a material effect on the Company's future financial performance.

On March 27, 2012 and on August 31, 2012, Aspen University provided the DOE with letters of credit for which the due date was extended to December 31, 2013. The DOE may impose additional or different terms and conditions in any final provisional program participation agreement that it may issue (See Note 2 "Restricted Cash").

The HEA requires accrediting agencies to review many aspects of an institution's operations in order to ensure that the education offered is of sufficiently high quality to achieve satisfactory outcomes and that the institution is complying with accrediting standards. Failure to demonstrate compliance with accrediting standards may result in the imposition of probation, the requirements to provide periodic reports, the loss of accreditation or other penalties if deficiencies are not remediated.

Because Aspen University operates in a highly regulated industry, it may be subject from time to time to audits, investigations, claims of noncompliance or lawsuits by governmental agencies or third parties, which allege statutory violations, regulatory infractions or common law causes of action.

#### **Return of Title IV Funds**

An institution participating in Title IV programs must correctly calculate the amount of unearned Title IV program funds that have been disbursed to students who withdraw from their educational programs before completion and must return those unearned funds in a timely manner, generally within 45 days of the date the school determines that the student has withdrawn. Under Department regulations, failure to make timely returns of Title IV program funds for 5% or more of students sampled on the institution's annual compliance audit in either of its two most recently completed fiscal years can result in the institution having to post a letter of credit in an amount equal to 25% of its required Title IV returns during its most recently completed fiscal year. If unearned funds are not properly calculated and returned in a timely manner, an institution is also subject to monetary liabilities or an action to impose a fine or to limit, suspend or terminate its participation in Title IV programs.

#### **Delaware Approval to Confer Degrees**

Aspen University is a Delaware corporation. Delaware law requires an institution to obtain approval from the Delaware Department of Education ("Delaware DOE") before it may incorporate with the power to confer degrees. On July 3, 2012, Aspen University received notice from the Delaware DOE that it is granted provisional approval status effective until June 30, 2015. Aspen University is authorized by the Colorado Commission on Education to operate in Colorado as a degree granting institution.

#### Unauthorized Borrowings

During 2005 through 2011, the Company advanced funds without board authority to both Patrick Spada (former Chairman of the Company) and HEMG, of which Patrick Spada is President. The amount of unauthorized borrowings during the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$14,876, which has been expensed as a loss due to unauthorized borrowing, a non-operating item (See Note 15).

#### Letter of Credit

The Company maintains a letter of credit under a DOE requirement (See Note 2 "Restricted Cash").

### Note 11. Temporary Equity

During 2011, the Company sold an aggregate of 850,395 Series A preferred shares in exchange for cash proceeds of \$809,900 (of which \$230,000 was received from then related parties). The Series A shares had the following features: (i) equal voting rights as the common shares; (ii) automatically convert to common shares at the time the Company is required to file Forms 10-Q and 10-K with the SEC (the "SEC Reporting Date"); (iii) a conversion ratio of 1 share of common for each share of Series A; (iv) until the SEC Reporting Date, transfer restricted to permitted transfers; (v) until the SEC Reporting Date, price protection should any common stock or equivalents be issued with a lower conversion ratio; (vi) 5% cumulative accruing dividends whether or not declared (payable only upon redemption per vii); and (vii) shall be redeemed by the Company if: (a) Michael Mathews is no longer the CEO, or (b) the SEC Reporting Date does not occur on or before January 31, 2012 (on February 29, 2012, this was extended to March 15, 2012), but (c) only to the extent the Company has EBITDA. During the year ended December 31, 2011, cumulative dividend on the Series A preferred shares amounted to \$34,500 (See Note 15).

During 2011, the Company sold an aggregate of 1,176,750 Series D preferred shares and a warrant to purchase 400,000 Series D shares in exchange for cash proceeds of \$1,109,268, net of offering costs of \$67,482. The warrants are exercisable at \$1.00 per share for five years beginning June 28, 2011 and, after the SEC Reporting Date, are exercisable into common shares of the Company. The Series D shares have the same features as the Series A shares (see above) except for 550,000 of the Series D shares for which the price protection is for a period of 36 months following the SEC Reporting Date. During the year ended December 31, 2011, cumulative dividend on the Series D preferred shares amounted to \$30,632.

During 2011, the Company sold an aggregate of 1,700,000 Series E preferred shares in exchange for cash proceeds of \$1,550,817, net of offering costs of \$149,183 and a warrant to purchase 56,000 Series E shares. The warrants are exercisable at \$1.00 per share for five years beginning September 28, 2011 and, after the SEC Reporting Date, are exercisable into common shares of the Company.

The Series E shares had the same features as the Series A shares (see above) except item (v) the price protection is for a period of 36 months following the SEC Reporting Date. During the year ended December 31, 2011, cumulative dividend on the Series E preferred shares amounted to \$22,194.



On October 28, 2011, the Company filed a First Amendment to the second amended and restated certificate of incorporation whereby a liquidation preference equal to the original issue price (\$1.00) was added to both the Series D and Series E shares. In addition, the liquidation preferences of the Series D and Series E shares became pari passu with the liquidation preferences of the Series C shares. On January 23, 2012, the Company filed a Second Amendment to the second amended and restated certificate of incorporation whereby the Series A, Series D and Series E preferred shares shall be redeemed if the SEC Reporting Date does not occur on or before February 29, 2012. On February 29, 2012, the Company filed a Third Amendment to the second amended and restated certificate of incorporation whereby the Series A, Series D and Series E preferred shares shall be redeemed if the SEC Reporting Date does not occur on or before March 15, 2012. The SEC Reporting Date does not occur on or before March 15, 2012.

Prior to their conversion to common shares on March 13, 2012, the Series A, Series D and Series E preferred shares were classified as temporary equity. During 2012 through March 13, 2012, the preferred shares accumulated additional dividends of \$37,379 and as of March 13, 2012, total cumulative preferred dividends were \$124,705. On March 13, 2012, all preferred shares were automatically converted into common shares and, based on the terms of the preferred shares, none of the cumulative dividends shall ever be paid (See Note 12).

### Note 12. Stockholders' Equity (Deficiency)

#### Stock Dividends and Reverse Split

On May 17, 2011, the Company declared a stock dividend of 1.1 new shares of common stock of the Company for each share presently held as of the close of business on May 20, 2011. All references to the Company's outstanding shares, warrants and per share information have been retroactively adjusted to give effect to the stock dividend.

On February 23, 2012, the Company approved a stock dividend of one new share of the Company for each share presently held. Following the stock dividend, the Company approved a one-for-two reverse stock split as of the close of business on February 24, 2012 in which each two shares of common stock shall be combined into one share of common stock. This was done in order to reduce the conversion ratio of the convertible preferred stock for all Series to 1 for 1 except for Series C, which then had a conversion ratio of 0.8473809.

### Authorized and Designated Shares

On May 17, 2011, the Company amended its certificate of incorporation whereby the total number of authorized shares was increased from 10,000,000 shares to: (i) 60,000,000 shares of common stock having a par value of \$0.001 per share, and (ii) 20,000,000 shares of preferred stock having a par value of \$0.001 per share.

On May 17, 2011, the Company designated 850,500 Series A preferred shares, 368,421 Series B preferred shares, 11,411,400 Series C preferred shares, and 3,700,000 Series D preferred shares.

On September 9, 2011, the Company filed its second amended certificate of incorporation whereby the Company designated 2,000,000 Series E preferred shares.

## Preferred Shares

In May 2011, \$350,000 of convertible notes were converted into 368,411 Series B preferred shares (See Notes 9 and 15). The Series B shares had the following features: (i) equal voting rights as the common shares; (ii) automatically convert to common shares at the time the Company is required to file Forms 10-Q and 10-K with the SEC (the "SEC Reporting Date"); (iii) a conversion ratio of 1 share of common for each share of Series B; (iv) until the SEC Reporting Date, transfer restricted to permitted transfers; and (v) until the SEC Reporting Date, price protection should any common stock or equivalents be issued with a lower conversion ratio.

On May 20, 2011, as part of a post-closing transaction of the merger with EGC, the Company's largest stockholder exchanged all 11,307,450 common shares owned into 11,307,450 Series C shares. The Series C shares had the following features: (i) equal voting rights as the common shares; (ii) automatically convert to common shares at the time the Company is required to file Forms 10-Q and 10-K with the SEC (the "SEC Reporting Date"); (iii) a conversion ratio of 0.8473809 shares of common for each share of Series C; (iv) until the SEC Reporting Date, transfer restricted to permitted transfers; (v) exclusion from the two-for-one stock split effectuated immediately prior to the SEC Reporting Date (See Note 15); and (vi) a liquidation preference of \$0.001 per share.

On March 13, 2012, all preferred shares were automatically converted into common shares and, based on the terms of the preferred shares (See below).

#### **Common Shares**

On May 11, 2011, pursuant to a rescission offer, the Company repurchased an aggregate of 170,100 common shares and returned to investors an aggregate of \$165,000 as a result of Blue Sky violations. The treasury shares were subsequently retired.

On May 19, 2011, the Company issued 3,200,000 common shares of the Company in order to acquire all of the outstanding shares of EGC as part of a merger (See Note 1).

On May 20, 2011, as part of a post-closing transaction of the merger with EGC and a settlement with a certain group of investors, the Company repurchased an aggregate of 850,500 common shares and returned to investors an aggregate of \$740,000. The treasury shares were subsequently retired.

On December 28, 2011, the Company repurchased an aggregate of 34,020 common shares and returned to investors an aggregate of \$21,200. The treasury shares were subsequently retired.

On March 13, 2012, all of the outstanding preferred shares of the Company were automatically converted into 13,677,274 common shares of Aspen Group, Inc. (See Note 11).

Pursuant to the recapitalization discussed below, the Company is deemed to have issued 9,760,000 common shares to the original stockholders of the publicly-held entity.

In April 2012, the Company issued 20,000 common shares upon the conversion of \$20,000 of convertible notes payable (See Note 9).

On September 28, 2012, the Company raised \$2,494,899 (net of offering costs of \$262,101) from the sale of 78.77 Units (including 7,877,144 common shares and 3,938,570 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share) through Laidlaw. Of the amount raised, \$212,000 or 605,716 common shares were from directors of the Company. Also, on September 28, 2012, as a result of this financing, all of the \$1,706,000 (face value) of Convertible Notes from the Phase One financing automatically converted into 5,130,795 common shares at the contractual rate of \$0.3325 per share. In addition, 202,334 common shares and 50,591 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.3325 per share were issued to settle \$67,276 of accrued interest on the aforementioned Convertible Notes. Accordingly, a loss of \$3,339 was recognized upon settlement (See Note 9).

On September 28, 2012, as a result of the aforementioned financing, a \$49,825 (face value) convertible note was automatically converted into 142,357 common shares at the contractual rate of \$0.35 per share. In addition, 112 common shares were issued to settle \$39 of accrued interest on the aforementioned convertible note. No gain or loss was recognized upon settlement (See Note 9).

On September 28, 2012, as a result of the initial closing of the Phase Two financing, 4,516,917 common shares and warrants to purchase 915,429 commons shares at \$0.3325 per share were issued to the former owners of Series D and Series E shares under the price protection provision. This resulted in an increase in common stock of \$4,517 with a corresponding decrease in additional paid-in capital. 550,000 of the former Series D shares and all 1,700,000 of the former Series E shares continue to have price protection through March 13, 2015.

On October 1, 2012, the Company purchased 264,000 common shares for \$132,000, from the Company's former chairman (see Notes 4 and 15). On November 13, 2012, these shares were retired.

On December 7, 2012, the Company purchased 200,000 common shares for \$70,000, from the Company's former chairman. The shares are being held as treasury shares.

On October 1, 2012, the Company retained two investor relations firms agreeing to pay one firm \$50,000 a year for two years and issuing it 200,000 shares of common stock, having a fair value of \$70,000 based on recent sales of common stock. The second firm was retained for one year with a fee of \$5,000 per month. The second firm also received 100,000 shares of common stock and 100,000 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.60 per share, having a fair value of \$43,000 based on recent sale of Units.

On October 10, 2012, the Company entered into a non-exclusive agreement with Global Arena Capital Corp. ("GAC"), a broker-dealer, through which GAC agreed to use its best efforts to raise up to \$2,030,000 from the sale of Units of common stock and warrants that are identical to those Units sold on September 28, 2012. The Company agreed to compensate GAC from sales of Units by paying it compensation equal to 10% of the gross proceeds sold by it. The Company also agreed to issue GAC five-year warrants to purchase 10% of the same Units it sells to investors with an exercise price equal to the purchase price paid by investors (\$35,000 per Unit). In addition, the Company agreed to pay GAC a 3% non-accountable expense allowance from the proceeds of Units sold by it.

As of December 31, 2012, the Company raised \$530,337 (net of offering costs of \$184,663 and five-year warrants to purchase: (i) 100,000 common shares at \$0.35 per share and (ii) 98,000 common shares at \$0.50 per share.) from the sale of 20.43 Units (including 2,042,856 common shares and 1,021,432 warrants) under the offering. The offering shall terminate no later than March 31, 2013.

#### Recapitalization

On March 13, 2012 (the "recapitalization date"), Aspen University was acquired by Aspen Group, Inc., an inactive publicly-held company, in a reverse merger transaction accounted for as a recapitalization of Aspen University (the "Recapitalization" or the "Reverse Merger"). The common and preferred stockholders of the Company received 25,515,204 common shares of Aspen Group, Inc. in exchange for 100% of the capital stock of Aspen University Inc. For accounting purposes, Aspen University Inc. is the acquirer and Aspen Group, Inc. is the acquired company because the stockholders of Aspen University Inc. acquired both voting and management control of the combined entity. The Company is deemed to have issued 9,760,000 common shares to the original stockholders of the publicly-held entity. Accordingly, after completion of the recapitalization, the historical operations of the Company are those of Aspen University Inc. and the operations since the recapitalization date are those of Aspen University Inc. and Aspen Group, Inc. The assets and liabilities of both companies are combined at historical cost on the recapitalization date. As a result of the recapitalization and conversion of all Company preferred shares into common shares of the public entity, all redemption and dividend rights of preferred shares were terminated. As a result of the recapitalization, the Company now has 120,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share authorized. The assets acquired and liabilities assumed from the publicly-held company were as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	337
Liabilities assumed	(21	,206)
Net	\$(20	<u>,869</u> )

#### Stock Warrants

On September 28, 2012, as a result of the initial closing of the Phase Two financing, warrants to purchase 915,429 commons shares at \$0.3325 per share were issued to the former owners of Series D and Series E shares under a price protection provision. In addition, warrants to purchase 856,174 common shares at \$0.3325 per share were issued to the former holders of convertible notes (sold during March through June of 2012 with the assistance of Laidlaw) under price protection provisions. As the aforementioned issuances of warrants stemmed from price protection provisions in the original contracts, no expense was recognized.

On October 1, 2012, the Company retained an investor relations firm. As part of its compensation, the investor relations firm received 100,000 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.60 per share, having a fair value of \$8,000. As the warrants vested immediately, the entire \$8,000 was recognized as a prepaid expense and is being amortized over the term of the agreement.

On October 23, 2012, the Company issued 150,000 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share, having a fair value of \$15,000. As the warrants vested immediately and were for prior services, the entire \$15,000 was expensed immediately. On December 17, 2012, the warrants were repriced to have an exercise price of \$0.35 per share, resulting in additional expense of \$4,500, which was expensed immediately.

All other outstanding warrants issued by the Company to date have been related to capital raises. Accordingly, the Company has not recognized any additional stock-based compensation for other warrants issued during the years presented.

A summary of the Company's warrant activity during the year ended December 31, 2012 is presented below:

Warrants	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Balance Outstanding, December 31, 2011	456,000	\$ 0.33		
Granted	7,806,696	0.45		
Exercised	-	-		
Forfeited	(150,000)	0.50		
Expired		-		
Balance Outstanding, December 31, 2012	8,112,696	<u>\$ 0.44</u>	4.5	<u>\$ 47,332</u>
Exercisable, December 31, 2012	8,112,696	\$ 0.44	4.5	\$ 47,332

Certain of the Company's warrants contain price protection. The Company evaluated whether the price protection provision of the warrant would cause derivative treatment. In its assessment, the Company determined that since its shares are not readily convertible to cash due to an inactive trading market, the warrants are excluded from derivative treatment.

#### Stock Incentive Plan and Stock Option Grants to Employees and Directors

Immediately following the closing of the Reverse Merger, on March 13, 2012, the Company adopted the 2012 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan") that provides for the grant of 2,500,000 shares (increased to 5,600,000 shares effective September 28, 2012) in the form of incentive stock options, non-qualified stock options, restricted shares, stock appreciation rights and restricted stock units to employees, consultants, officers and directors. As of December 31, 2012, no shares were remaining under the Plan for future issuance (See Note 16).

On October 23, 2012, the Company issued non-Plan stock options to its executive officers as compensation for salary deferrals through August 31, 2012. Messrs. Michael Mathews, Brad Powers and David Garrity received 288,911, 255,773, and 136,008 five-year stock options, respectively, exercisable at \$0.35 per share which options are fully vested. In aggregate, 680,692 stock options were issued to settle \$238,562 of accrued salaries. No gain was recognized as the settlement was between the Company and related parties. On January 16, 2013, these options were modified to be Plan options (See Note 16).

On October 23, 2012, the Company issued additional non-Plan options to executive officers who reduced their salaries for the period September 1 through December 31, 2012. The Company granted Messrs. Mathews, Powers and Garrity each 166,666 five-year options, respectively, and Dr. Gerald Williams 47,620 five-year options, all exercisable at \$0.35 per share with 25% of these options vesting on the last day of September, October, November and December 2012, subject to the applicable executive remaining employed on each applicable vesting date. In aggregate, 547,618 stock options were issued as part of the reduced salaries. All stock options or shares granted are valued on the appropriate measurement date and the related expense shall be recognized over the requisite service period. On January 16, 2013, these options were modified to be Plan options (See Note 16).

During April 2012, the Company received \$22,000 from a director of the Company in exchange for a note payable bearing interest of 10%, due on demand. On November 21, 2012, the director forgave a \$22,000 note receivable from the Company in exchange for 62,857 five-year vested non-Plan stock options exercisable at \$0.35 per share. No gain was recognized as the settlement was between the Company and related parties. On January 16, 2013, these options were modified to be Plan options (See Notes 9, 15 and 16).

On December 17, 2012, the Company repriced 1,705,000 stock options from having an exercise price of \$1.00 per share to \$0.35 per share. Accordingly, the incremental increase in the fair value due to the repricing is being recognized over the remaining service period of the stock options.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, including the aforementioned stock option issuances in this section, the Company granted to employees 6,777,967 stock options, net of cancellations (including repriced stock options), all of which were under the Plan, having an exercise price of \$0.35 per share. While most of the options vest pro rata over three to four years on each anniversary date, 910,214 vested immediately; all options expire five years from the grant date. The total fair value of stock options granted to employees during the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$1,747,007. The Company recorded compensation expense of \$252,057 for the year ended December 31, 2012 in connection with employee stock options.

The Company estimates the fair value of share-based compensation utilizing the Black-Scholes option pricing model, which is dependent upon several variables such as the expected option term, expected volatility of the Company's stock price over the expected term, expected risk-free interest rate over the expected option term, expected dividend yield rate over the expected option term, and an estimate of expected forfeiture rates. The Company believes this valuation methodology is appropriate for estimating the fair value of stock options granted to employees and directors which are subject to ASC Topic 718 requirements. These amounts are estimates and thus may not be reflective of actual future results, nor amounts ultimately realized by recipients of these grants. The Company recognizes compensation on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period for each award. The following table summarizes the assumptions the Company utilized to record compensation expense for stock options granted to employees during the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011:

Assumptions	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012	For the Year Ended December 31, 2011
Expected life (years)	2.5 - 3.8	N/A
Expected volatility	44.2% - 50.9%	N/A
Weighted-average volatility	49.0%	N/A
Risk-free interest rate	0.31% - 0.60%	N/A
Dividend yield	0.00%	N/A
Expected forfeiture rate	1.7%	N/A

The Company utilized the simplified method to estimate the expected life for stock options granted to employees. The simplified method was used as the Company does not have sufficient historical data regarding stock option exercises. The expected volatility is based on the average of the expected volatilities from the most recent audited financial statements available for comparative public companies that are deemed to be similar in nature to the Company. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yields with terms equivalent to the expected life of the related option at the time of the grant. Dividend yield is based on historical trends. While the Company believes these estimates are reasonable, the compensation expense recorded would increase if the expected life was increased, a higher expected volatility was used, or if the expected dividend yield increased.

A summary of the Company's stock option activity for employees and directors during the year ended December 31, 2012 is presented below:

Options	Number of Shares	Veighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term	Aggreş Intrin Valı	sic
Balance Outstanding, December 31, 2011	-				
Granted	8,672,967	\$ 0.49			
Exercised	-				
Forfeited	(1,895,000)	\$ 1.00			
Expired					
Balance Outstanding, December 31, 2012	6,777,967	\$ 0.35	4.7	<u>\$</u>	
Exercisable, December 31, 2012	1,457,832	\$ 0.35	4.8	<u>\$</u>	

The weighted-average grant-date fair value of options granted to employees during the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$0.13.

As of December 31, 2012, there was \$980,898 of total unrecognized compensation costs related to nonvested share-based compensation arrangements. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.5 years.

#### Stock Option Grants to Non-Employees

On March 15, 2012, the Company granted 175,000 stock options to non-employees, all of which were under the Plan, having an exercise price of \$1.00 per share. The options vest pro rata over three years on each anniversary date; all options expire five years from the grant date. The total fair value of the stock options granted was \$57,750, all of which was recognized immediately as these stock options were issued for prior services rendered. On December 17, 2012, the Company repriced the stock options issued from having an exercise price of \$1.00 per share to \$0.35 per share. Accordingly, the incremental increase in the fair value of \$15,750 was recognized immediately.

On October 23, 2012, under the Plan, the Company issued to a consultant 20,000 five-year stock options exercisable at \$0.50 per share vesting in equal annual increments over a three-year period subject to the consultant continuing to provide services for the Company. The total fair value of the stock options granted was \$2,000, all of which was recognized immediately as these stock options were issued for prior services rendered. On December 17, 2012, the Company repriced the stock options issued from having an exercise price of \$0.50 per share to \$0.35 per share. Accordingly, the incremental increase in the fair value of \$600 was recognized immediately.

The total fair value of stock options granted to non-employees during the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$95,600, all of which was recognized immediately as these stock options were issued for prior services rendered. The Company recorded compensation expense of \$95,600 for the year ended December 31, 2012, in connection with non-employee stock options.

The following table summarizes the assumptions the Company utilized to record compensation expense for stock options granted to nonemployees during the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011:

Assumptions	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012	For the Year Ended December 31, 2011
Expected life (years)	2.7 - 5.0	N/A
Expected volatility	44.2% - 50.0%	N/A
Weighted-average volatility	47.4%	N/A
Risk-free interest rate	0.37% - 0.60%	N/A
Dividend yield	0.00%	N/A

A summary of the Company's stock option activity for non-employees during the year ended December 31, 2012 is presented below:

Options	Number of Shares		Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Balance Outstanding, December 31, 2011	-				
Granted	390,000	\$	0.65		
Exercised	-				
Forfeited	(195,000)	\$	0.95		
Expired	-				
Balance Outstanding, December 31, 2012	195,000	\$	0.35	4.5	<u>\$ -</u>
Exercisable, December 31, 2012		_	N/A	N/A	N/A

# Note 13. Income Taxes

The components of income tax expense (benefit) are as follows:

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012	For the Year Ended December 31, 2011
Current:		
Federal	\$ -	\$ -
State		
Deferred:		
Federal	-	-
State		
	-	-
Total Income tax expense (benefit)	\$ -	\$ -

Significant components of the Company's deferred income tax assets and liabilities are as follows:

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Deferred tax assets:		
Net operating loss	\$ 3,649,651	\$ 2,064,725
Allowance for doubtful accounts	261,946	17,637
Intangible assets	118,740	-
Deferred rent	7,883	9,473
Stock-based compensation	128,827	-
Contributions carryforward	93	-
Total deferred tax assets	4,167,140	2,091,835
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Intangible assets	-	(148,345)
Property and equipment	(630)	(805)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(630)	(149,150)
Deferred tax assets, net	4,166,510	1,942,685
Valuation allowance:		
Beginning of year	(1,942,685)	(1,152,977)
(Increase) decrease during year	(2,223,825)	(789,708)
Ending balance	(4,166,510)	(1,942,685)
Net deferred tax asset	<u>\$</u> -	<u>\$ -</u>

A valuation allowance is established if it is more likely than not that all or a portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. The Company recorded a valuation allowance in 2012 and 2011 due to the uncertainty of realization. Management believes that based upon its projection of future taxable operating income for the foreseeable future, it is more likely than not that the Company will not be able to realize the tax benefit associated with deferred tax assets. The net change in the valuation allowance during the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 was an increase of \$2,223,825 and \$789,708, respectively.

At December 31, 2012, the Company had \$9,849,068 of net operating loss carryforwards which will expire from 2029 to 2032. The Company believes its tax positions are all highly certain of being upheld upon examination. As such, the Company has not recorded a liability for unrecognized tax benefits. As of December 31, 2012, tax years 2004 and 2008 through 2011 remain open for IRS audit. The Company has received no notice of audit from the Internal Revenue Service for any of the open tax years.

A reconciliation of income tax computed at the U.S. statutory rate to the effective income tax rate is as follows:

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012	For the Year Ended December 31, 2011
Statutory U.S. federal income tax rate	34.0%	34.0%
State income taxes, net of federal tax benefit	3.1	3.1
Other	(0.1)	(0.1)
Change in valuation allowance	(37.0)	(37.0)
Effective income tax rate	0.0%	0.0%

### Note 14. Concentrations

#### **Concentration of Credit Risk**

On November 9, 2010, the FDIC issued a Final Rule implementing section 343 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act that provides for unlimited insurance coverage of noninterest-bearing transaction accounts. Beginning December 31, 2010, through December 31, 2012, all noninterest-bearing transaction accounts are fully insured, regardless of the balance of the account, at all FDIC-insured institutions. The unlimited insurance coverage is available to all depositors, including consumers, businesses, and governmental entities. This unlimited insurance coverage is separate from, and in addition to, the insurance coverage provided to a depositor's other deposit accounts held at an FDIC-insured institution. A noninterest-bearing transaction account is a deposit account where interest is neither accrued nor paid; depositors are permitted to make an unlimited number of transfers and withdrawals; and the bank does not reserve the right to require advance notice of an intended withdrawal.

The Company maintains its cash in bank and financial institution deposits that at times may exceed federally insured limits. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts through December 31, 2012. On January 1, 2013, the aforementioned additional federal insurance provision expired and accordingly, the standard insurance amount of \$250,000 per depositor, per bank, became effective. Had this provision expired by December 31, 2012, cash amounts in excess of FDIC limits would have been approximately \$583,000. As of December 31, 2011, the Company's bank balances exceeded FDIC insured amounts by approximately \$50,000.

### Concentration of Revenues, Accounts Receivable and Publisher Expense

For the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, the Company had significant customers with individual percentage of total revenues equaling 10% or greater as follows:

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012	For the Year Ended December 31, 2011
Customer 1	28.7%	44.6%
Customer 2	17.7%	-
Totals	46.4%	44.6%

At December 31, 2012 and 2011, concentration of accounts receivable with significant customers representing 10% or greater of accounts receivable was as follows:

	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Customer 1	54.4%	53.4%
Customer 2		17.3%
Totals	54.4%	<u> </u>

For the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, the Company had significant vendors representing 10% or greater of cost and expense as follows:

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2012	For the Year Ended December 31, 2011
Vendor 1	11.0%	24.4%
Totals	11.0%	24.4%

### Note 15. Related Party Transactions

On September 21, 2011, the Company loaned \$238,210 to its CEO in exchange for a promissory note bearing 3% per annum. As collateral, the note was secured by 40,000 shares of common stock of interclick, Inc. (a publicly-traded company) owned personally by the CEO. The note along with accrued interest was due and payable on June 21, 2012. For the year ended December 31, 2011, interest income of \$1,867 was recognized. On December 20, 2011, the note along with accrued interest of \$1,867 was paid in full (See Note 4).

On December 14, 2011, the Company loaned \$150,000 to an officer of the Company in exchange for a promissory note bearing 3% per annum. As collateral, the note was secured by 500,000 shares of the Company's common stock owned personally by the officer. The note along with accrued interest was due and payable on September 14, 2012. During the year ended December 31, 2011, interest income of \$210 was recognized on the note receivable and is included in other current assets. As of December 31, 2011, the balance due on the note receivable was \$150,000, all of which is short-term. During the year ended December 31, 2012, interest income of \$594 was recognized on the note receivable. On February 16, 2012, the note receivable from an officer was repaid along with accrued interest (See Note 4).

On March 30, 2008 and December 1, 2008, the Company sold courseware pursuant to marketing agreements to HEMG, a related party and principal stockholder of the Company whose president is Mr. Patrick Spada, the former Chairman of the Company, in the amount of \$455,000 and \$600,000, respectively; UCC filings were filed accordingly. Under the marketing agreements, the receivables are due net 60 months. On September 16, 2011, HEMG pledged 772,793 Series C preferred shares (automatically converted to 654,850 common shares on March 13, 2012) of the Company as collateral for this account receivable. On March 8, 2012, due to the impending reduction in the value of the collateral as the result of the Series C conversion ratio and the Company's inability to engage Mr. Spada in good faith negotiations to increase HEMG's pledge, Michael Mathews, the Company's CEO, pledged 117,943 common shares of the Company, owned personally by him, valued at \$1.00 per share based on recent sales of capital stock as additional collateral to the accounts receivable, secured - related party. On March 13, 2012, the Company deemed the receivables stemming from the sale of courseware curricula to be in default. On April 4, 2012, the Company entered into an agreement with: (i) an individual, (ii) HEMG, a related party and principal stockholder of the Company whose president is Mr. Patrick Spada, the former Chairman of the Company and (iii) Mr. Patrick Spada. Under the agreement, (a) the individual purchased and HEMG sold to the individual 400,000 common shares of the Company at \$0.50 per share; (b) the Company guaranteed it would purchase at least 600,000 common shares of the Company at \$0.50 per share within 90 days of the agreement and the Company would use its best efforts to purchase from HEMG and resell to investors an additional 1,400,000 common shares of the Company at \$0.50 per share within 180 days of the agreement; (c) provided HEMG and Mr. Patrick Spada fulfilled their obligations under (a) and (b) above, the Company shall consent to additional private transfers by HEMG and/or Mr. Patrick Spada of up to 500,000 common shares of the Company on or before March 13, 2013; (d) HEMG agreed to not sell, pledge or otherwise transfer 142,500 common shares of the Company pending resolution of a dispute regarding the Company's claim that HEMG sold 131,500 common shares of the Company without having enough authorized shares and a stockholder did not receive 11,000 common shares of the Company owed to him as a result of a stock dividend; and (e) the Company waived any default of the accounts receivable, secured - related party and extend the due date to September 30, 2014. As of September 30, 2012, third party investors purchased 336,000 shares for \$168,000 and the Company purchased 264,000 shares for \$132,000 per section (b) above. Based on proceeds received on September 28, 2012 under a private placement at \$0.35 per unit (consisting of one common share and one-half of a warrant exercisable at \$0.50 per share), the value of the aforementioned collateral decreased. Accordingly, as of December 31, 2012, the Company has recognized an allowance of \$502,315 for this account receivable. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, the balance of the account receivable, net of allowance, was \$270,478 and \$772,793 and is shown as accounts receivable, secured - related party, net (See Notes 4 and 12).

On February 25, 2012, February 27, 2012 and February 29, 2012, loans payable to an individual, another individual and a related party (the brother of Patrick Spada, the former Chairman of the Company), of \$100,000, \$50,000 and \$50,000, respectively, were converted into two-year convertible promissory notes, bearing interest of 0.19% per annum. Beginning March 31, 2012, the notes are convertible into common shares of the Company at the rate of \$1.00 per share. The Company evaluated the convertible notes and determined that, for the embedded conversion option, there was no beneficial conversion value to record as the convertible promissory notes) are not due for at least 12 months after the balance sheet, they have been included in long-term liabilities as of December 31, 2012 (See Notes 8 and 9).

In June 2009, the Company borrowed an aggregate of \$45,000 from an individual, who was an officer of the Company at that time, in exchange for notes payable bearing interest at 18% per annum. The notes were due in October 2009 and became demand notes at that time. During the year ended December 31, 2011, interest expense of \$2,393 was recognized on the notes. During the year ended December 31, 2011, the remaining principal balance of \$25,000 due on the notes payable was repaid and no further amount is due (See Note 9).

During April 2012, the Company received \$22,000 from a director of the Company in exchange for a note payable bearing interest of 10%, due on demand. On November 21, 2012, the director forgave a \$22,000 note receivable from the Company in exchange for 62,857 five-year vested non-Plan stock options exercisable at \$0.35 per share. No gain was recognized as the settlement was between the Company and related parties. On January 16, 2013, these options were modified to be Plan options (See Notes 9, 12 and 16).

On March 6, 2011, the Company authorized the issuance of up to \$350,000 of convertible notes that were convertible into Series B preferred shares at \$0.95 per share, bearing interest of 6% per annum. The notes were convertible beginning after the closing of the EGC Merger (See Note 1). As of May 13, 2011, the Company had received an aggregate of \$328,000 (of which \$73,000 was received from related parties) from the sale of convertible notes. The Company evaluated the convertible notes and determined that, for the embedded conversion option, there was no beneficial conversion value to record. In addition, the Company issued an aggregate of \$22,000 (of which \$16,000 was to related parties) of convertible notes for services rendered. In May 2011, \$350,000 of the convertible notes were converted into 368,411 Series B preferred shares (See Notes 9 and 12).

On March 13, 2012, the Company's CEO loaned the Company \$300,000 and received a convertible promissory note due March 31, 2013, bearing interest at 0.19% per annum. The note is convertible into common shares of the Company at the rate of \$1.00 per share upon five days written notice to the Company. The Company evaluated the convertible note and determined that, for the embedded conversion option, there was no beneficial conversion value to record as the conversion price is considered to be the fair market value of the common shares on the note issue date. On September 4, 2012, the maturity date was extended to August 31, 2013. On December 17, 2012, the maturity date was extended to August 31, 2014. There was no accounting effect for these two modifications (See Note 9).

On August 14, 2012, the Company's CEO loaned the Company \$300,000 and received a convertible promissory note, payable on demand, bearing interest at 5% per annum. The note is convertible into common shares of the Company at the rate of \$0.35 per share (based on proceeds received on September 28, 2012 under a private placement at \$0.35 per unit). The Company evaluated the convertible notes and determined that, for the embedded conversion option, there was no beneficial conversion value to record as the conversion price is considered to be the fair market value of the common shares on the note issue date. On September 4, 2012, the maturity date was extended to August 31, 2013. On December 17, 2012, the maturity date was extended to August 31, 2014 (See Note 9).

During 2005 through 2011, the Company advanced funds without board authority to both Patrick Spada (former Chairman of the Company) and HEMG, of which Patrick Spada is President. The amount of unauthorized borrowings during the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$14,876, which has been expensed as loss due to unauthorized borrowing, a non-operating item (See Note 10).

On September 16, 2011, the Company entered into a two-year consulting agreement with the former Chairman of the Company in which the Company was obligated to pay \$11,667 per month. On September 28, 2011, the Company prepaid 13 months of the consulting agreement, or \$151,667, which was then amortized until December 31, 2011, at which time the consulting agreement was terminated and the remaining unamortized prepaid expense was recognized immediately as consulting expense. No additional amounts are due under the consulting agreement (See Note 10).

During 2011, the Company sold an aggregate of 850,395 Series A preferred shares in exchange for cash proceeds of \$809,900 (of which \$230,000 was received from then related parties). The Series A shares had the following features: (i) equal voting rights as the common shares; (ii) automatically convert to common shares at the time the Company is required to file Forms 10-Q and 10-K with the SEC (the "SEC Reporting Date"); (iii) a conversion ratio of 1 share of common for each share of Series A; (iv) until the SEC Reporting Date, transfer restricted to permitted transfers; (v) until the SEC Reporting Date, price protection should any common stock or equivalents be issued with a lower conversion ratio; (vi) 5% cumulative accruing dividends whether or not declared (payable only upon redemption per vii); and (vii) shall be redeemed by the Company if: (a) Michael Mathews is no longer the CEO, or (b) the SEC Reporting Date does not occur on or before January 31, 2012 (on February 29, 2012, this was extended to March 15, 2012), but (c) only to the extent the Company has EBITDA. During the year ended December 31, 2011, cumulative dividend on the Series A preferred shares amounted to \$34,500 (See Note 11).

#### Note 16. Subsequent Events

On January 16, 2013, the Company increased the number of shares in its stock option plan to 8,000,000 shares. Also on January 16, 2013, 1,291,167 options were modified to be Plan options (See Notes 9, 12 and 15).

On February 11, 2013, HEMG and Mr. Spada sued us, certain senior management members and our directors in state court in New York seeking damages arising from losses and other matters incurred in the operation of the Company's business since May 2011, our filings with the SEC and the DOE where we stated that HEMG and Mr. Spada borrowed \$2.2 million without board authority and our failure to use our best efforts to purchase certain shares of common stock from HEMG following an April 2012 agreement. While we have been advised by our counsel that the lawsuit is baseless, we cannot assure you that we will be successful. Defending the ltigation will be expensive and divert our management from the Company's business. If we are unsuccessful, the damages we pay may be material.

During February and March 2013, the Company sold \$565,000 of Units (consisting of one common share and one-half of a warrant exercisable at \$0.50 per share).

During February 2013, the Company repaid approximately \$250,000 of its line of credit. The line of credit remains open.

On March 14, 2013, the Company entered into a letter of intent with Laidlaw & Company (UK) Ltd. under which Laidlaw agreed to use its best efforts to sell up to \$770,000 of Units at the same terms as the Units the Company sold in 2012 and 2013 to date. Laidlaw will receive cash commissions of 10% based on the number of Units sold and five year warrants equal to 10% of the securities sold exercisable at \$0.50 per share.

### PART II. INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

### ITEM 13. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION.

The following table sets forth the costs and expenses payable by us in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered hereunder. All of the amounts shown are estimates, except for the SEC Registration Fees.

SEC registration fees	\$	136
Printing expenses	\$	1,500
Accounting fees and expenses	\$	1,500
Legal fees and expenses	\$	3,500
Blue sky fees	\$	0
Miscellaneous	\$	364
Total	<u>\$</u>	7,000

# ITEM 14. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that none of our directors will be personally liable to us or our shareholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for liability:

- For any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to us or our shareholders;
- For acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law;
- Under Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law for the unlawful payment of dividends; or
- For any transaction from which the director derives an improper personal benefit.

These provisions eliminate our rights and those of our shareholders to recover monetary damages from a director for breach of his fiduciary duty of care as a director except in the situations described above. The limitations summarized above, however, do not affect our ability or that of our shareholders to seek non-monetary remedies, such as an injunction or rescission, against a director for breach of his fiduciary duty.

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides a corporation with the power to indemnify any officer or director acting in his capacity as our representative who is or is threatened to be made a party to any lawsuit or other proceeding for expenses, judgment and amounts paid in settlement in connection with such lawsuit or proceeding. The indemnify provisions apply whether the action was instituted by a third party or was filed by one of our shareholders. The Delaware General Corporation Law provides that Section 145 is not exclusive of other rights to which those seeking indemnification may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of shareholders or disinterested directors or otherwise. We have provided for this indemnification in our Certificate of Incorporation because we believe that it is important to attract qualified directors and officers. We have also entered into Indemnification Agreements with our directors and officers which agreements are designed to indemnify them to the fullest extent permissible by law, subject to one limitation described in the next sentence. We have further provided in our Certificate of Incorporation that no indemnification shall be available, whether pursuant to our Certificate of Incorporation or otherwise, arising from any lawsuit or proceeding in which we assert a direct claim, as opposed to a shareholders' derivative action, against any directors and officers. This limitation is designed to insure that if we sue a direct or or officer we do not have to pay for his defense.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers or persons controlling us pursuant to the foregoing provisions, we have been informed that in the opinion of the SEC, such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

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#### ITEM 15. RECENT SALES OF UNREGISTERED SECURITIES.

In September 2012, we sold \$2,757,000 of units containing a total of 7,877,144 shares of common stock and 3,938,570 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share to 14 investors including four directors of Aspen Group. The investors acquired the securities for investment and were all accredited investors. Each investor had a pre-existing relationship with Aspen Group or its placement agent. As a result of this private placement, on September 28, 2012, 202,334 shares of common stock and 50,591 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.3325 per share were issued in connection with the conversion of accumulated interest on convertible notes. Additionally, 4,516,917 shares were issued in connection with price protection rights provided to certain shareholders who invested prior to the September offering. The interest shares were exempt from registration under Section 3(a)(9) of the Securities Act and the warrants issued to the investors as well as the price protection shares were exempt from registration under Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and Rule 506 thereunder.

In December 2012, we sold \$715,000 of units containing a total of 2,042,857 shares of common stock and 1,021,432 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share in a private placement offering to 15 accredited investors including an executive officer of Aspen Group. The investors acquired the securities for investment, there was no general solicitation and all investor were accredited. Each investor had a pre-existing relationship with Aspen Group or its placement agent. The securities were exempt from registration under Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and Rule 506 thereunder.

In February 2013, we sold \$315,000 of units containing a total of 900,000 shares of common stock and 450,000 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share in a private placement offering to two accredited investors. The investors acquired the securities for investment, there was no general solicitation and all investor were accredited. Each investor had a pre-existing relationship with Aspen Group or its placement agent. The securities were exempt from registration under Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and Rule 506 thereunder.

In March 2013, we sold \$250,000 of units containing a total of 714,286 shares of common stock and 357,143 five-year warrants exercisable at \$0.50 per share in a private placement offering to one accredited investor. The investor acquired the securities for investment, there was no general solicitation and the investor was accredited. The investor had a pre-existing relationship with Aspen Group or its placement agent. The securities were exempt from registration under Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and Rule 506 thereunder.

#### ITEM 16. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES.

The Exhibits provided for under the Exhibit Index are incorporated herein.

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#### ITEM 17. UNDERTAKINGS.

(a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

- (i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;
- (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement.
- (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser, each prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) as part of a registration statement relating to an offering, other than registration statements relying on Rule 430B or other than prospectuses filed in reliance on Rule 430A, shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the date it is first used after effectiveness. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such first use, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such date of first use.

(b) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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### SIGNATURES

In accordance with the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized, in the City of New York, State of New York, on April 8, 2013.

## ASPEN GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ Michael Mathews			
	Michael Mathews,		
	Chief Executive Officer		

In accordance with the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Michael Mathews Michael Mathews	Principal Executive Officer and Director	April 8, 2013
<i>ls/ David Garrity</i> David Garrity	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer) and Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)	April 8, 2013
/s/Dr. Michael D'Anton Dr. Michael D'Anton	Director	April 8, 2013
C. James Jensen /s/ David E. Pasi	Director Director	April 8, 2013
David E. Pasi	Director	
/s/ John Scheibelhoffer Dr. John Scheibelhoffer	Director	April 8, 2013
/s/ Paul Schneier Paul Schneier	Director	April 8, 2013
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## EXHIBIT INDEX

			Incorporated by Reference		
Exhibit #	Exhibit Description	Form	Date	Number	Herewith
2.1	Certificate of Merger	8-K	3/19/12	2.1	
2.2	Agreement and Plan of Merger	8-K	3/19/12	2.2	
.3	Agreement and Plan of Merger – DE Reincorporation	8-K	3/19/12	2.3	
.4	Articles of Merger – DE Reincorporation	8-K	3/19/12	2.3	
	Certificate of Merger – DE Reincorporation	8-K	3/19/12	2.5	
.1	Certificate of Incorporation, as amended	8-K	3/19/12	2.6	
.2	Bylaws	8-K	3/19/12	2.0	
.2	Certificate of Incorporation – Acquisition Sub	8-K	3/19/12	2.8	
.4	Articles of Amendment to FL Articles of Incorporation	8-K	3/19/12	2.9	
.5	Articles of Amendment to FL Articles of Incorporation	8-K	6/20/11	3.3	
.6	FL Articles of Incorporation	S-1/A	5/5/10	3.1	
.1	Opinion Regarding Legality	<b>J</b> -1/1	5/5/10	5.1	Filed
0.1	Employment Agreement – Mathews**	8-K	3/19/12	10.1	1 neu
0.1	Employment Agreement – Garrity **	8-K	3/19/12	10.1	
0.2	Employment Agreement – Oarny ***	8-K	3/19/12	10.2	
0.5	Employment Agreement - Siegel**	8-K	3/19/12	10.3	
0.4	Employment Agreement - Sieger **	8-K	3/19/12	10.4	
0.5	Amendment to Mathews Employment Agreement**	8-K	3/19/12	10.14	
0.0	Amendment of Manews Employment Agreement**	8-K	3/19/12	10.14	
0.7	September 16, 2011 Spada Agreement	8-K	3/19/12	10.15	
0.8		8-K	3/19/12	10.0	
0.9	Consulting Agreement – Spada	8-K		10.7	
0.10	Lock-Up/Leak-Out Agreement – Spada	8-K 8-K	3/19/12		
0.11	Form of Lock-Up/Leak-Out Agreement – Officers and Directors Spada / HEMG April 2012 Agreement	8-K/A	3/19/12	10.9 10.19	
	1 1 0		5/7/12		
0.13	Spada - Indemnification Agreement	8-K/A	5/7/12	10.20	
0.14	Form of Directors Indemnification Agreement	8-K/A	5/7/12	10.21	
0.15	Stock Pledge Agreement - Mathews dated March 8, 2012	8-K	3/19/12	10.12	
0.16	Stock Pledge Agreement - Mathews dated March 16, 2012	8-K	3/19/12	10.16	
0.17	Form of Convertible Note – Mathews - \$1.00	S-1	2/11/13	10.17	
0.18	Form of Convertible Note – Mathews	S-1	2/11/13	10.18	
0.19	Form of Convertible Note – Private Placement	10-Q	8/20/12	10.5	
0.20	Form of Warrant – Private Placement	10-Q	8/20/12	10.6	
0.21	2012 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended	S-1	2/11/13	10.21	
0.22	Form of Stock Option Agreement	8-K	3/19/12	10.14	
0.23	Form of Siegel Stock Option Agreement**	8-K	3/19/12	10.15	
0.24	Form of Warrant – September Private Placement	8-K	10/1/12	10.3	
	Form of Registration Rights Agreement – September Private	0 TT			
0.25	Placement	8-K	10/1/12	10.2	
0.26	Form of Registration Rights Agreement – Whalehaven	S-1	10/1/12	10.26	
0.27	Form of Salary Reduction Agreement	S-1	10/1/12	10.27	
	Form of Securities Purchase Agreement – September Private				
0.28	Placement	8-K	10/1/12	10.1	
0.29	Form of Subscription Agreement – December Private Placement				Filed
0.30	Form of Registration Rights Agreement – December Private Placement				Filed
0.31	Form of Warrant - December and February Private Placement	8-K	12/17/12	10.3	
0.32	Form of Securities Purchase Agreement – February Private Placement				Filed
0.33	Form of Registration Rights Agreement – February Private Placement				Filed
0.34	D'Anton Agreement - Loan Cancellation	S-1	2/11/13	10.34	
0.35	Powers Consulting Agreement	10-K	3/18/13	10.35	
1.1	Subsidiaries	S-1	2/11/13	21.1	
3.1	Consent of Salberg & Company, P.A.				Filed
23.2	Consent of Nason, Yeager, Gerson, White & Lioce, P.A.***				Filed

\*\* Management contract or compensation plan.

\*\*\* Contained in Exhibit 5.1.

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Nason, Yeager, Gerson White & Lioce, P.A. 1645 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 1200 West Palm Beach, FL 33401

April 8, 2013

Aspen Group, Inc. 720 South Colorado Blvd. Ste. 1150N Denver, CO 80246 Attention: Mr. Michael Mathews, CEO

Re: Aspen Group, Inc. / Form S-1

## Dear Mr. Mathews:

At your request, we have examined the Registration Statement on Form S-1 (the "Registration Statement") filed by Aspen Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), with the Securities and Exchange Commission, in connection with the registration under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Act") of up to 2,421,429shares of the Company's common stock of which 1,614,286 have been issued and 807,143 will be issued upon the exercise of outstanding warrants.

In rendering this opinion, we have examined such matters of fact as we have deemed necessary in order to render the opinion set forth herein, which included examination of: the Company's Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, minutes of meetings and actions by written consent of the Company's Board of Directors, the financial statements contained in the Prospectus, information supplied by the Company and its stock transfer agent and other information we deemed appropriate for purposes of this opinion. In our examination of documents for purposes of this opinion, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to authentic original documents of all copies submitted to us as conformed and certified or reproduced copies.

The opinions expressed herein are limited to the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, as currently in effect, and we express no opinion as to the effect of any other law of the State of Delaware or the laws of any other jurisdiction.

In connection with our opinions expressed below, we have assumed that, at or prior to the time of the issuance and the delivery of any shares, the Registration Statement will have been declared effective under the Act, that the shares will have been registered under the Act pursuant to the Registration Statement and that such registration will not have been modified or rescinded, and that there will not have occurred any change in law affecting the validity of the issuance of such shares.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that of the 2,421,429 shares of common stock being registered, 1,614,286 are validly issued, duly authorized, fully paid and non-assessable, and 807,143 shares, when issued, sold and delivered in the manner and for the consideration stated in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, will be validly issued, duly authorized, fully paid and non-assessable.

We hereby consent to being named in the Registration Statement, to the use of this opinion as Exhibit 5.1 to the Registration Statement and to the reference to our firm under the caption "Legal Matters" in the Prospectus that is a part of the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not hereby admit that we are acting within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act or the rules or regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder.

This opinion is solely for your benefit and may not be relied upon by any person without our prior written consent.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Nason, Yeager, Gerson, White & Lioce, P.A.

Nason, Yeager, Gerson, White & Lioce, P.A.

### SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENT

Aspen Group, Inc. 224 West 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 604 New York, New York 10001 Attention: Michael Mathews

Dear Sirs:

**1.1 Subscription**. I, the undersigned investor (the "Investor") understand the Company is conducting a private placement offering on a "best efforts basis" (the "Offering") as described in a Term Sheet dated December 10, 2012 (the "Term Sheet"). I hereby acknowledge receipt of the Term Sheet. I hereby subscribe for and agree to purchase on the terms and conditions contained herein \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shares of common stock ("Common Stock") of Aspen Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company") and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ warrants to purchase Common Stock. The warrants will be exercisable at \$0.50 per share for a five-year period. The Common Stock and warrants are referred to herein as the "Securities".

**1.2 Subscription Payment.** As payment for this subscription, simultaneously with the execution hereof, I am providing payment in the amount of \$ as instructed in Exhibit C to the Term Sheet.

2.1 Investor Representations and Warranties. I acknowledge, represent and warrant to, and agree with, the Company as follows:

- (a) I am aware that my investment involves a high degree of risk.
- (b) I acknowledge and am aware that there is no assurance as to the future performance of the Company;
- (c) I am purchasing the Securities for my own account for investment and not with a view to or for sale in connection with the distribution of the Securities nor with any present intention of selling or otherwise disposing of all or any part of the Securities. I agree that I must bear the economic risk of my investment for an indefinite period of time because, among other reasons, the shares have not been registered under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") or under the securities laws of any states and, therefore, cannot be resold, pledged, assigned or otherwise disposed of unless they are subsequently registered under the Securities Act and under applicable securities laws of such states or an exemption from such registration is available. I hereby authorize the Company to place a legend denoting the restriction on the certificates to be issued.

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- (d) I further acknowledge my understanding that the Company's reliance on such exemptions referred to in subsection (c) above are, in part, based upon the foregoing representations, warranties, and agreements by me and that the statutory basis for such exemptions would not be present, if, notwithstanding such representations, warranties and agreements, I were acquiring the Securities for resale on the occurrence or non-occurrence of some pre-determined event. In order to induce the Company to issue and sell the Securities subscribed for hereby to me, it is agreed that the Company will have no obligation to recognize the ownership, beneficial or otherwise, of such Securities or any part thereof by anyone, except as set forth herein;
- (e) I have the financial ability to bear the economic risk of my investment in the Company (including its possible total loss), have adequate means for providing for my current needs and personal contingencies and have no need for liquidity with respect to my investment in the Company;
- (f) I have such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of an investment in the Securities and have obtained, in my judgment, sufficient information from the Company to evaluate the merits and risks of an investment in the Company;
- (g) I: \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) Have carefully read this Subscription Agreement and the Term Sheet, and understand and have evaluated the risks of a purchase of the Securities including the risks disclosed in the Prospectus filed on November 29, 2012 and have relied solely (except as indicated in subsection (2) and (3)) on the information contained in this Subscription Agreement and the Term Sheet;
  - (2) Have been provided an opportunity to obtain any additional information concerning the Offering, the Company and all other information to the extent the Company possesses such information or can acquire it without unreasonable effort or expense; and
  - (3) Have been given the opportunity to ask questions of, and receive answers from, the Company concerning the terms and conditions of the Offering and other matters pertaining to this investment. In addition, if the offer or sale occurs in Florida, as required by Section 517.061(11)(a)(3), Florida Statutes and by Rule 3E-500.05(a) thereunder, or if it occurs elsewhere, I may have, at the offices of the Company, at any reasonable hour, after reasonable prior notice, access to the materials set forth in the Rule which the Company can obtain without unreasonable effort or expense.

- (h) If the undersigned is a corporation, trust, partnership, employee benefit plan, individual retirement account, Keogh Plan, or other tax-exempt entity, it is authorized and qualified to become an investor in the Company and the person signing this Subscription Agreement on behalf of such entity has been duly authorized by such entity to do so;
- (i) I hereby acknowledge that the Company raised \$2,757,000 of the Offering on September 28, 2012 (the "September Offering"). The investors in the September Offering executed a Securities Purchase Agreement which is different than this Subscription Agreement. The Securities Purchase Agreement provided certain representations and warranties which are not included in this Subscription Agreement. I hereby acknowledge that the Company has provided me with a copy of the Prospectus filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 29, 2012 in lieu of making the representations and warranties contained in the Securities Purchase Agreement.
- (j) No representations or warranties have been made to the undersigned by the Company, or any of their respective officers, employees, agents, affiliates or attorneys;
- (k) The information contained in Section 2.2 of this Subscription Agreement is true and correct including any information which I have furnished and furnish to the Company with respect to my financial position and business experience, is correct and complete as of the date of this Subscription Agreement and if there should be any material change in such information prior to acceptance of my subscription, I will furnish such revised or corrected information to the Company;
- (1) I hereby acknowledge and am aware that except for any rescission rights that may be provided under applicable state laws including the three day rights under Florida law, I am not entitled to cancel, terminate or revoke this subscription, and any agreements made in connection herewith shall survive my death or disability;
- (m) I have not received any general solicitation or advertising regarding the purchase of the Securities and became aware of this investment through a substantive, pre-existing relationship with the Company or Michael Mathews; and
- (n) Where applicable, I agree to be bound by any restrictions on resale of the Securities required by applicable state laws.

2.2 Investor Representations and Warranties Concerning Suitability, Accredited Investor and Eligible Client Status. I represent and warrant the following information:

(a)

		owing information should be provided by the person making the investment decision whether on his own behalf or o f an entity:
(1)	Name of	f Investor:Age:
(2)	Name o	f person making investment decision
	( <b>D</b> :)	Age:
	(Print)	
(3)	Principa	al residence address and telephone number:
(4)	Seconda	ary residence address and telephone number:
	I have n	no present intention of becoming a resident of any other state or jurisdiction.
(5)	Name, a	address, telephone number and facsimile number of employer or business:
	(i)	Nature of business
	(ii)	Position and nature of responsibilities
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(6) Length of employment or in current position

(7) Prior employment, positions or occupations during the past five years (and the inclusive dates of each) are as follows:

Nature of Employment, or Occupation	Position/Duties	From/To
	income, tax rate, net worth, liquid assets	Each prospective investor should answer the s, and non-liquid assets by including spousal
Business or professional education and	the degree(s) received are as follows:	
School	Degree	Year Received

(b) Investor Representations. Must Initial One. Initial all appropriate spaces on the following pages (please initial only where appropriate).

For Individual Investors Only:

(8)

(1) I certify that I am an accredited investor because I have an individual net worth, or my spouse and I have combined net worth, in excess of \$1,000,000. For purposes of calculating net worth under this paragraph (1), (i) the primary residence shall not be included as an asset, (ii) to the extent that the indebtedness that is secured by the primary residence is in excess of the fair market value of the primary residence, the excess amount shall be included as a liability, and (iii) if the amount of outstanding indebtedness that is secured by the primary residence exceeds the amount outstanding 60 days prior to the excess shall be included as a liability.

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- (2a) I certify that I am an accredited investor because I had individual income (exclusive of any income attributable to my spouse) of more than \$200,000 in the two most recent calendar years and I reasonably expect to have an individual income in excess of \$200,000 in the current year.
- (2b) Alternatively, my spouse and I have joint income in excess of \$300,000 in each applicable year.
- (3) I am a director or executive officer of the Company.

## Other Investors:

- (4) The undersigned certifies that it is one of the following: any bank as defined in Section 3(a)(2) of the Securities Act whether acting in its individual or fiduciary capacity; any broker or dealer registered pursuant to section 15 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; insurance company as defined in Section 2(13) of the Securities Act; investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or a business development company as defined in Section 2(a)(48) of that Act; Small Business Investment Company licensed by the U.S. Small Business Administration under Section 301(c) or (d) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958; any plan established and maintained by a state, its political subdivisions, or any agency or instrumentality of a state or its political subdivisions, for the benefit of its employees, if such plan has total assets in excess of \$5,000,000; employee benefit plan within the meaning of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, if the investment decision is made by a plan fiduciary, as defined in Section 3(21) of such Act, which is either a bank, savings and loan association, insurance company, or registered investment advisor, or if the employee benefit plan has total assets in excess of \$5,000,000, or if a self-directed plan, with investment decisions made solely by persons that are accredited investors.
- (5) The undersigned certifies that it is a private business development company as defined in Section 202(a)(22) of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940.
- (6) The undersigned certifies that it is a organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, corporation, Massachusetts or similar business trust or partnership, not formed for the specific purpose of acquiring the securities offered, with total assets in excess of \$5,000,000.
- (7) The undersigned certifies that it is a trust, with total assets in excess of \$5,000,000, not formed for the specific purpose of acquiring the Securities offered, whose purchase is directed by a sophisticated person as described in Rule 506(b)(2)(ii) of the Securities Act.
- (8) The undersigned certifies that it is an entity in which all of the equity owners are accredited investors.

(9) I am none of the above.

**3. Indemnification**. I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Company, its officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents and attorneys against any and all losses, claims, demands, liabilities and expenses (including reasonable legal or other expenses) incurred by each such person in connection with defending or investigating any such claims or liabilities, whether or not resulting in any liability to such person) to which any such indemnified party may become subject under the Securities Act, under any other statute, at common law or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, demands, liabilities and expenses (a) arise out of or are based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact made by me and contained in this Subscription Agreement, or (b) arise out of or are based upon any breach of any representation, warranty or agreement contained herein.

**4. Arbitration**. Any controversy, dispute or claim against the Company, its officers, directors or employees arising out of or relating to this Subscription Agreement, or its interpretation, application, implementation, breach or enforcement which the parties are unable to resolve by mutual agreement, shall be settled by submission by either party of the controversy, claim or dispute to binding arbitration in New York, N.Y. (unless the parties agree in writing to a different location) before three arbitrators in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association then in effect. In any such arbitration proceeding, the parties agree to provide all discovery deemed necessary by the arbitrators. The decision and award made by the arbitrators shall be final, binding and conclusive on all parties to any arbitration proceeding for all purposes, and judgment may be entered thereon in any court having jurisdiction thereof.

**5.** Counterparts. This Subscription Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. The execution of this Subscription Agreement may be by actual or facsimile signature.

**6. Benefit**. This Subscription Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their legal representatives, successors and assigns.

7. Notices and Addresses. All notices, offers, acceptance and any other acts under this Agreement (except payment) shall be in writing, and shall be sufficiently given if delivered to the addressees in person, by FedEx or similar overnight next business day delivery or by email delivery as follows:

Investor:	At the address designated in Section 2.2 of the Subscription Agreement		
The Company: Asper Group, Inc.	224 West 30 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 604 New York, New York 10001 Email: michael.mathews@aspen.edu		

or to such other address as any of them, by notice to the other may designate from time to time.

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**8.** Governing Law. This Subscription Agreement and any dispute, disagreement, or issue of construction or interpretation arising hereunder whether relating to its execution, its validity, the obligations provided therein or performance shall be governed or interpreted according to the laws of the State of Delaware.

**9. Oral Evidence**. This Subscription Agreement constitutes the entire Subscription Agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior oral and written agreements between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof. Neither this Subscription Agreement nor any provision hereof may be changed, waived, discharged or terminated orally, except by a statement in writing signed by the party or parties against whom enforcement or the change, waiver discharge or termination is sought.

**10. Section Headings**. Section headings herein have been inserted for reference only and shall not be deemed to limit or otherwise affect, in any matter, or be deemed to interpret in whole or in part any of the terms or provisions of this Subscription Agreement.

**11.** Survival of Representations, Warranties and Agreements. The representations, warranties and agreements contained herein shall survive the delivery of, and payment for, the Securities.

**12.** Acceptance of Subscription. The Company may accept this Subscription Agreement at any time for all or any portion of the securities subscribed for by executing a copy hereof as provided and notifying me within a reasonable time thereafter.

## FLORIDA SALES

FLORIDA LAW PROVIDES THAT WHEN SALES ARE MADE TO FIVE OR MORE PERSONS IN FLORIDA, ANY SALE MADE IN FLORIDA IS VOIDABLE BY THE PURCHASER WITHIN THREE DAYS AFTER THE FIRST TENDER OF CONSIDERATION IS MADE BY SUCH PURCHASER TO THE COMPANY, AN AGENT OF THE COMPANY OR AN ESCROW AGENT OR WITHIN THREE DAYS AFTER THE AVAILABILITY OF THAT PRIVILEGE IS COMMUNICATED TO SUCH PURCHASER, WHICHEVER OCCURS LATER. PAYMENTS FOR TERMINATED SUBSCRIPTIONS VOIDED BY PURCHASERS AS PROVIDED FOR IN THIS PARAGRAPH WILL BE PROMPTLY REFUNDED WITHOUT INTEREST. NOTICE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE COMPANY TO THE ATTENTION OF MICHAEL MATHEWS AT THE ADDRESS ON THE FIRST PAGE OF THIS SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENT.



# SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENT SIGNATURE PAGE

By signing below, the undersigned has executed this Subscription Agreement and agrees to be bound by its terms.

# **Individual Investors**

Social Security Number	Print Name of Investor		-	
	Signature of Investor		-	
DATED: December	, 2012			
Corporate or Other En	<u>tity</u>			
Federal ID Number			Print Name of Entity	
		By:	Signature, Title	
DATED: December	, 2012			
All Investors Manner in which the Sec	curities are to be held:			
Individual Owner	ship		Partnership	
Tenants-in-Comm	non		Trust	
Joint Tenant With	Right of Survivorship		Corporation	
Tenants by the En	tirety		Employee Benefit Plan	
Community Prop	erty		Other (please indicate)	
Separate Property				

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# ACCEPTANCE OF SUBSCRIPTION

By signing below, the undersigned accepts the foregoing subscription and agrees to be bound by the terms of the Subscription Agreement.

Aspen Group, Inc.

By:

Dated: December \_\_\_\_, 2012

Michael Mathews Chief Executive Officer

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## **REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT**

This Registration Rights Agreement (this "<u>Agreement</u>") is made and entered into as of December \_\_\_, 2012, between Aspen Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "<u>Company</u>") and each of the several purchasers signatory hereto (each such purchaser, a "<u>Purchaser</u>" and, collectively, the "<u>Purchasers</u>").

This Agreement is made pursuant to the Subscription Agreement, dated as of the date hereof, between the Company and each Purchaser (the "Purchase Agreement").

The Company and each Purchaser hereby agrees as follows:

1. Definitions

# Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined herein that are defined in the Purchase Agreement shall have the meanings given such terms in the Purchase Agreement.

As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

"Advice" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 6(d).

"Commission" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"<u>Effectiveness Date</u>" means, with respect to the Initial Registration Statement required to be filed hereunder, April 30, 2013; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that in the event the Company is notified by the Commission that one or more of the Registration Statements will not be reviewed or is no longer subject to further review and comments, the Effectiveness Date as to such Registration Statement shall be the fifth Trading Day following the date on which the Company is so notified if such date precedes the date otherwise required above.

"Effectiveness Period" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2(a).

"Event" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2(b).

"Event Date" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2(b).

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

"<u>Filing Date</u>" means, with respect to the Initial Registration Statement required hereunder, no later then 60 days following the last Closing and, with respect to any additional Registration Statements which may be required pursuant to Section 3(c), the earliest practical date on which the Company is permitted by SEC Guidance to file such additional Registration Statement related to the Registrable Securities.

"Holder" or "Holders" means the holder or holders, as the case may be, from time to time of Registrable Securities.

"Indemnified Party" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5(c).

"Indemnifying Party" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5(c).

"Initial Registration Statement" means the initial Registration Statement filed pursuant to this Agreement.

"Losses" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5(a).

"Plan of Distribution" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2(a).

"<u>Prospectus</u>" means the prospectus included in a Registration Statement (including, without limitation, a prospectus that includes any information previously omitted from a prospectus filed as part of an effective registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A promulgated by the Commission pursuant to the Securities Act), as amended or supplemented by any prospectus supplement, with respect to the terms of the offering of any portion of the Registrable Securities covered by a Registration Statement, and all other amendments and supplements to the Prospectus, including post-effective amendments, and all material incorporated by reference or deemed to be incorporated by reference in such Prospectus.

"<u>Registrable Securities</u>" means (a) all of the shares of Common Stock issued pursuant to the Purchase Agreement (b) all Warrant Shares (assuming on the date of determination the Warrants are exercised in full without regard to any exercise limitations therein), (c) any additional shares of Common Stock issuable in connection with any anti-dilution provisions in the Purchase Agreement and/or the Warrants (without giving effect to any limitations on exercise set forth in the Purchase Agreement and Warrants) and (d) any securities issued or issuable upon any stock split, dividend or other distribution, recapitalization or similar event with respect to the foregoing; <u>provided, however</u>, that the Company shall not be required to maintain the effectiveness, or file another Registration Statement hereunder with respect to any Registrable Securities that are not subject to the current public information requirement under Rule 144 and that are eligible for resale without volume or manner-of-sale restrictions without current public information pursuant to Rule 144 promulgated by the Commission pursuant to a written opinion letter to such effect, addressed, delivered and acceptable to the affected Holders.

"<u>Registration Statement</u>" means any registration statement required to be filed hereunder pursuant to Section 2(a) and any additional registration statements contemplated by Section 3(c), including (in each case) the Prospectus, amendments and supplements to any such registration statement or Prospectus, including pre- and post-effective amendments, all exhibits thereto, and all material incorporated by reference or deemed to be incorporated by reference in any such registration statement.

"<u>Rule 415</u>" means Rule 415 promulgated by the Commission pursuant to the Securities Act, as such Rule may be amended or interpreted from time to time, or any similar rule or regulation hereafter adopted by the Commission having substantially the same purpose and effect as such Rule.

"<u>Rule 424</u>" means Rule 424 promulgated by the Commission pursuant to the Securities Act, as such Rule may be amended or interpreted from time to time, or any similar rule or regulation hereafter adopted by the Commission having substantially the same purpose and effect as such Rule.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

"Selling Stockholder Questionnaire" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3(a).

"SEC Guidance" means (i) any publicly-available written or oral guidance, comments, requirements or requests of the Commission staff and (ii) the Securities Act.

### 2. Shelf Registration

(a) On or prior to each Filing Date, the Company shall prepare and file with the Commission a Registration Statement covering the resale of all of the Registrable Securities that are not then registered on an effective Registration Statement for an offering to be made on a continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415. Each Registration Statement filed hereunder shall be on Form S-3 (except if the Company is not then eligible to register for resale the Registrable Securities on Form S-3, in which case such registration shall be on another appropriate form in accordance herewith) and shall contain (unless otherwise directed by at least an 85% majority in interest of the Holders) substantially the "Plan of Distribution" attached hereto as Annex A. The Company shall respond to any comments from the staff of the Commission within 15 days of the receipt of such comments. In the event the amount of Registrable Securities which may be included in the Registration Statement is limited due to SEC Guidance (provided that, the Company shall use diligent efforts to advocate with the Commission for the registration of all of the Registrable Securities in accordance with the SEC Guidance, including without limitation, the Section 612.09 of the Compliance and Disclosure Interpretations) the Company shall use its best efforts to register such maximum portion of the Registrable Securities as permitted by SEC Guidance. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Company shall use its best efforts to cause a Registration Statement to be declared effective under the Securities Act as promptly as possible after the filing thereof, but in any event prior to the applicable Effectiveness Date, and shall use its best efforts to keep such Registration Statement continuously effective under the Securities Act until all Registrable Securities covered by such Registration Statement have been sold, or may be sold without volume or manner-of-sale restrictions pursuant to Rule 144, without the requirement for the Company to be in compliance with the current public information requirement under Rule 144, or not required to be registered in reliance upon the exemption in Section 4(a)(1) under the Securities Act, in either case as determined by the counsel to the Company pursuant to a written opinion letter to such effect, addressed and acceptable to the Transfer Agent and the affected Holders (the "Effectiveness Period"). The Company shall telephonically request effectiveness of a Registration Statement as of 5:00 p.m. New York City time on a Trading Day. The Company shall immediately notify the Holders via facsimile or by e-mail of the effectiveness of a Registration Statement on the same Trading Day that the Company telephonically confirms effectiveness with the Commission, which shall be the date requested for effectiveness of such Registration Statement. The Company shall, by 9:30 a.m. New York City time on the Trading Day after the effective date of such Registration Statement, file a final Prospectus with the Commission as required by Rule 424. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, if any SEC Guidance sets forth a limitation on the number of Registrable Securities permitted to be registered on a particular Registration Statement (and notwithstanding that the Company used diligent efforts to advocate with the Commission for the registration of all or a greater portion of Registrable Securities), unless otherwise directed in writing by a Holder as to its Registrable Securities, the number of Registrable Securities to be registered on such Registration Statement will first be reduced by Registrable Securities represented by Warrant Shares (applied, in the case that some Warrant Shares may be registered, to the Holders on a pro rata basis based on the total number of unregistered Warrant Shares held by such Holders), and second by Registrable Securities represented by the Common Shares purchased by the Purchasers pursuant to the Purchase Agreement. In the event of a cutback hereunder, the Company shall give the Holder at least five (5) Trading Days prior written notice along with the calculations as to such Holder's allotment.



(b) If a Registration Statement registering for resale all of the Registrable Securities is not declared effective by the Commission by the Effectiveness Date of the Initial Registration Statement (unless the sole reason for such non-registration of all or any portion of the Registrable Securities is solely as a result of SEC Guidance under Rule 415 or similar rule which limits the number of Registrable Securities which may be included in a registration statement with respect to the Holders), or (ii) after the effective date of a Registration Statement, such Registration Statement ceases for any reason to remain continuously effective as to all Registrable Securities included in such Registration Statement, or the Holders are otherwise not permitted to utilize the Prospectus therein to resell such Registrable Securities, for more than 30 calendar days during any 12-month period, (any such failure or breach being referred to as an "Event", and the date on which such Event occurs, being referred to as "Event Date"), then, in addition to any other rights the Holders may have hereunder or under applicable law, on each such Event Date and on each monthly anniversary of each such Event Date (if the applicable Event shall not have been cured by such date) until the applicable Event is cured, the Company shall pay to each Holder an amount in cash, as partial liquidated damages and not as a penalty, equal to 1% of the purchase price paid by such Holder pursuant to the Purchase Agreement up to a maximum of 6%, during which such Event continues uncured. If the Company fails to pay any partial liquidated damages pursuant to this Section in full within seven days after the date payable, the Company will pay interest thereon at a rate of 18% per annum (or such lesser maximum amount that is permitted to be paid by applicable law) to the Holder, accruing daily from the date such partial liquidated damages are due until such amounts, plus all such interest thereon, are paid in full. The partial liquidated damages pursuant to the terms hereof shall apply on a daily pro rata basis for any portion of a month prior to the cure of an Event. Provided, however, the foregoing liquidated damages shall not accrue or be otherwise charged during any period in which the Investor may sell all Shares on any given day under Rule 144, or in reliance upon the exemption in Section 4(1) under the Securities Act, or after such Investor has publicly sold its Registrable Securities. Provided, further, no penalty shall accrue under this Section 2(b) in the event that the Company elects to suspend the use of the Prospectus or Registration Statement under Section 3(c)(vi) for up to 30 days in any 365 day period.

## 3. Registration Procedures.

In connection with the Company's registration obligations hereunder, the Company shall:

(a) Not less than five (5) Trading Days prior to the filing of each Registration Statement and not less than one (1) Trading Day prior to the filing of any related Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto (including any document that would be incorporated or deemed to be incorporated therein by reference), the Company shall (i) furnish to the Purchasers copies of all such documents proposed to be filed, which documents (other than those incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference) will be subject to the review of the Purchasers, and (ii) cause its officers and directors, counsel and independent registered public accountants to respond to reasonable inquiries as shall be necessary, in the reasonable opinion of Legal Counsel, to conduct a reasonable investigation within the meaning of the Securities Act. The Company shall not file a Registration Statement or any such Prospectus or any amendments or supplements thereto to which the Holders of a majority of the Registrable Securities shall reasonably object in good faith, provided that, the Company is notified of such objection in writing no later than five (5) Trading Days after Purchasers have been furnished copies of a Registration Statement or one (1) Trading Day after Purchasers have been furnished copies of any related Prospectus or amendments or supplements thereto. Each Holder agrees to furnish to the Company a completed questionnaire in the form attached to this Agreement as <u>Annex B</u> (a "<u>Selling Stockholder Questionnaire</u>") on a date that is not less than two (2) Trading Days prior to the Filing Date or by the end of the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Trading Day following the date on which such Holder receives draft materials in accordance with this Section.

(b) (i) prepare and file with the Commission such amendments, including post-effective amendments, to a Registration Statement and the Prospectus used in connection therewith as may be necessary to keep a Registration Statement continuously effective as to the applicable Registrable Securities for the Effectiveness Period and prepare and file with the Commission such additional Registration Statements in order to register for resale under the Securities Act all of the Registrable Securities, (ii) cause the related Prospectus to be amended or supplemented by any required Prospectus supplement (subject to the terms of this Agreement), and, as so supplemented or amended, to be filed pursuant to Rule 424, (iii) respond as promptly as reasonably possible to any comments received from the Commission with respect to a Registration Statement or any amendment thereto and provide as promptly as reasonably possible to the Holders true and complete copies of all correspondence from and to the Commission relating to a Registration Statement (provided that, the Company may excise any information contained therein which would constitute material non-public information as to any Holder which has not executed a confidentiality agreement with the Company), and (iv) comply in all material respects with the provisions of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act with respect to the terms of this Agreement) with the intended methods of disposition by the Holders thereof set forth in such Registration Statement as so amended or in such Prospectus as so supplemented.

(c) Notify the Holders of Registrable Securities to be sold (which notice shall, pursuant to clauses (iii) through (vi) hereof, be accompanied by an instruction to suspend the use of the Prospectus until the requisite changes have been made) as promptly as reasonably possible (and, in the case of (i)(A) below, not less than one Trading Day prior to such filing) and (if requested by any such Person) confirm such notice in writing no later than one Trading Day following the day (i)(A) when a Prospectus or any Prospectus supplement or post-effective amendment to a Registration Statement is proposed to be filed, (B) when the Commission notifies the Company whether there will be a "review" of such Registration Statement and whenever the Commission comments in writing on such Registration Statement, and (C) with respect to a Registration Statement or any post-effective amendment, when the same has become effective, (ii) of any request by the Commission or any other federal or state governmental authority for amendments or supplements to a Registration Statement or Prospectus or for additional information, (iii) of the issuance by the Commission or any other federal or state governmental authority of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of a Registration Statement covering any or all of the Registrable Securities or the initiation of any Proceedings for that purpose; (iv) of the receipt by the Company of any notification with respect to the suspension of the qualification or exemption from qualification of any of the Registrable Securities for sale in any jurisdiction, or the initiation or threatening of any Proceeding for such purpose, (v) of the occurrence of any event or passage of time that makes the financial statements included in a Registration Statement ineligible for inclusion therein or any statement made in a Registration Statement or Prospectus or any document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated therein by reference untrue in any material respect or that requires any revisions to a Registration Statement, Prospectus or other documents so that, in the case of a Registration Statement or the Prospectus, as the case may be, it will not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading and (vi) of the occurrence or existence of any pending corporate development with respect to the Company that the Company believes may be material and that, in the determination of the Company, makes it not in the best interest of the Company to allow continued availability of a Registration Statement or Prospectus, provided that, any and all of such information shall remain confidential to each Holder until such information otherwise becomes public, unless disclosure by a Holder is required by law; provided, further, that notwithstanding each Holder's agreement to keep such information confidential, each such Holder makes no acknowledgement that any such information is material, non-public information.

(d) Use its best efforts to avoid the issuance of, or, if issued, obtain the withdrawal of (i) any order stopping or suspending the effectiveness of a Registration Statement, or (ii) any suspension of the qualification (or exemption from qualification) of any of the Registrable Securities for sale in any jurisdiction, at the earliest practicable moment.

(e) Furnish to each Holder, without charge, at least one conformed copy of each such Registration Statement and each amendment thereto, including financial statements and schedules, all documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated therein by reference to the extent requested by such Person, and all exhibits to the extent requested by such Person (including those previously furnished or incorporated by reference) promptly after the filing of such documents with the Commission; provided, that any such item which is available on the EDGAR system need not be furnished in physical form.

(f) Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Company hereby consents to the use of such Prospectus and each amendment or supplement thereto by each of the selling Holders in connection with the offering and sale of the Registrable Securities covered by such Prospectus and any amendment or supplement thereto, except after the giving of any notice pursuant to Section 3(c).

(g) The Company shall cooperate with any broker-dealer through which a Holder proposes to resell its Registrable Securities in effecting a filing with the FINRA Corporate Financing Department pursuant to NASD Rule 2710, as requested by any such Holder, and the Company shall pay the filing fee required by such filing within two (2) Business Days of request therefor.

(h) Prior to any resale of Registrable Securities by a Holder, use its commercially reasonable efforts to register or qualify or cooperate with the selling Holders in connection with the registration or qualification (or exemption from the Registration or qualification) of such Registrable Securities for the resale by the Holder under the securities or Blue Sky laws of such jurisdictions within the United States as any Holder reasonably requests in writing, to keep each registration or qualification (or exemption therefrom) effective during the Effectiveness Period and to do any and all other acts or things reasonably necessary to enable the disposition in such jurisdictions of the Registrable Securities covered by each Registration Statement; provided, that, the Company shall not be required to qualify generally to do business in any jurisdiction where it is not then so qualified, subject the Company to any material tax in any such jurisdiction where it is not then so subject or file a general consent to service of process in any such jurisdiction.

(i) If requested by a Holder, cooperate with such Holders to facilitate the timely preparation and delivery of certificates representing Registrable Securities to be delivered to a transferee pursuant to a Registration Statement, which certificates shall be free, to the extent permitted by the Purchase Agreement, of all restrictive legends, and to enable such Registrable Securities to be in such denominations and registered in such names as any such Holder may request.

(j) If the Company notifies the Holders in accordance with clauses (iii) through (vi) of Section 3(c) above to suspend the use of any Prospectus until the requisite changes to such Prospectus have been made, then the Holders shall suspend use of such Prospectus. The Company will use its best efforts to ensure that the use of the Prospectus may be resumed as promptly as is practicable.

(k) Comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Commission.

(1) The Company may require each selling Holder to furnish to the Company a certified statement as to the number of shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by such Holder and, if required by the Commission, the natural persons thereof that have voting and dispositive control over the shares. The Company shall not be liable for any damages during any periods that the Company is unable to meet its obligations hereunder with respect to the registration of the Registrable Securities solely because any Holder fails to furnish such information within three Trading Days of the Company's request.

4. Registration Expenses. All fees and expenses incident to the performance of or compliance with this Agreement by the Company shall be borne by the Company whether or not any Registrable Securities are sold pursuant to a Registration Statement. The fees and expenses referred to in the foregoing sentence shall include, without limitation, (i) all registration and filing fees (including, without limitation, fees and expenses of the Company's counsel and independent registered public accountants) (A) with respect to filings made with the Commission, (B) with respect to filings required to be made with any Trading Market on which the Common Stock is then listed for trading, (C) in compliance with applicable state securities or Blue Sky laws reasonably agreed to by the Company in writing (including, without limitation, fees and disbursements of counsel for the Company in connection with Blue Sky qualifications or exemptions of the Registrable Securities) and (D) if not previously paid by the Company in connection with an Issuer Filing, with respect to any filing that may be required to be made by any broker through which a Holder intends to make sales of Registrable Securities with the FINRA pursuant to NASD Rule 2710, so long as the broker is receiving no more than a customary brokerage commission in connection with such sale, (ii) printing expenses (including, without limitation, expenses of printing certificates for Registrable Securities), (iii) messenger, telephone and delivery expenses, (iv) fees and disbursements of counsel for the Company, (v) Securities Act liability insurance, if the Company so desires such insurance, and (vi) fees and expenses of all other Persons retained by the Company in connection with the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. In addition, the Company shall be responsible for all of its internal expenses incurred in connection with the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement (including, without limitation, all salaries and expenses of its officers and employees performing legal or accounting duties), the expense of any annual audit and the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the listing of the Registrable Securities on any securities exchange as required hereunder. In no event shall the Company be responsible for any broker or similar commissions of any Holder or, except to the extent provided for in the Transaction Documents, any legal fees or other costs of the Holders.

## 5. <u>Indemnification</u>.

(a) Indemnification by the Company. The Company shall, notwithstanding any termination of this Agreement, indemnify and hold harmless each Holder, the officers, directors, members, partners, agents, brokers (including brokers who offer and sell Registrable Securities as principal as a result of a pledge or any failure to perform under a margin call of Common Stock), investment advisors and employees (and any other Persons with a functionally equivalent role of a Person holding such titles, notwithstanding a lack of such title or any other title) of each of them, each Person who controls any such Holder (within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act or Section 20 of the Exchange Act) and the officers, directors, members, stockholders, partners, agents and employees (and any other Persons with a functionally equivalent role of a Person holding such titles, notwithstanding a lack of such title or any other title) of each such controlling Person, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, from and against any and all losses, claims, damages, liabilities, costs (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees) and expenses (collectively, "Losses"), as incurred, arising out of or relating to (1) any untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in a Registration Statement, any Prospectus or any form of prospectus or in any amendment or supplement thereto or in any preliminary prospectus, or arising out of or relating to any omission or alleged omission of a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein (in the case of any Prospectus or supplement thereto, in light of the circumstances under which they were made) not misleading or (2) any violation or alleged violation by the Company of the Securities Act, the Exchange Act or any state securities law, or any rule or regulation thereunder, in connection with the performance of its obligations under this Agreement, except to the extent, but only to the extent, that (i) such untrue statements or omissions are based solely upon information regarding such Holder furnished in writing to the Company by such Holder expressly for use therein, or to the extent that such information relates to such Holder or such Holder's proposed method of distribution of Registrable Securities and was reviewed and expressly approved in writing by such Holder expressly for use in a Registration Statement, such Prospectus or in any amendment or supplement thereto (it being understood that the Holder has approved Annex A hereto for this purpose) or (ii) in the case of an occurrence of an event of the type specified in Section 3(c)(iii)-(vi), the use by such Holder of an outdated or defective Prospectus after the Company has notified such Holder in writing that the Prospectus is outdated or defective and prior to the receipt by such Holder of the Advice contemplated in Section 6(d). The Company shall notify the Holders promptly of the institution, threat or assertion of any Proceeding arising from or in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement of which the Company is aware.

(b) Indemnification by Holders. Each Holder shall, severally and not jointly, indemnify and hold harmless the Company, its directors, officers, agents and employees, each Person who controls the Company (within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act and Section 20 of the Exchange Act), and the directors, officers, agents or employees of such controlling Persons, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, from and against all Losses, as incurred, to the extent arising out of or based solely upon: (x) such Holder's failure to comply with the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act or (y) any untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Registration Statement, any Prospectus, or in any amendment or supplement thereto or in any preliminary prospectus, or arising out of or relating to any omission or alleged omission of a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading (i) to the extent, but only to the extent, that such untrue statement or omission is contained in any information so furnished in writing by such Holder to the Company specifically for inclusion in such Registration Statement or such Prospectus or (ii) to the extent that such information relates to such Holder's proposed method of distribution of Registrable Securities and was reviewed and expressly approved in writing by such Holder expressly for use in a Registration Statement (it being understood that the Holder has approved Annex A hereto for this purpose), such Prospectus or in any amendment or supplement thereto or (ii) in the case of an occurrence of an event of the type specified in Section 3(c)(iii)-(vi), the use by such Holder of an outdated or defective Prospectus after the Company has notified such Holder in writing that the Prospectus is outdated or defective and prior to the receipt by such Holder of the Advice contemplated in Section 6(d). In no event shall the liability of any selling Holder hereunder be greater in amount than the dollar amount of the net proceeds (after underwriting fees, commissions, or discounts) actually received by such Holder upon the sale of the Registrable Securities giving rise to such indemnification obligation.

(c) <u>Conduct of Indemnification Proceedings</u>. If any Proceeding shall be brought or asserted against any Person entitled to indemnity hereunder (an "<u>Indemnified Party</u>"), such Indemnified Party shall promptly notify the Person from whom indemnity is sought (the "<u>Indemnifying Party</u>") in writing, and the Indemnifying Party shall have the right to assume the defense thereof, including the employment of counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Indemnified Party and the payment of all fees and expenses incurred in connection with defense thereof but solely for one law firm except as otherwise provided in this Section 5.5(c); provided, that, the failure of any Indemnified Party to give such notice shall not relieve the Indemnifying Party of its obligations or liabilities pursuant to this Agreement, except (and only) to the extent that it shall be finally determined by a court of competent jurisdiction (which determination is not subject to appeal or further review) that such failure shall have prejudiced the Indemnifying Party.

An Indemnified Party shall have the right to employ separate counsel in any such Proceeding and to participate in the defense thereof, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the expense of such Indemnified Party or Parties unless: (1) the Indemnifying Party has agreed in writing to pay such fees and expenses, (2) the Indemnifying Party shall have failed promptly to assume the defense of such Proceeding and to employ counsel reasonably satisfactory to such Indemnified Party in any such Proceeding, or (3) the named parties to any such Proceeding (including any impleaded parties) include both such Indemnified Party and the Indemnifying Party, and counsel to the Indemnified Party shall reasonably believe that a material conflict of interest is likely to exist if the same counsel were to represent such Indemnified Party and the Indemnifying Party (in which case, if such Indemnified Party notifies the Indemnifying Party in writing that it elects to employ separate counsel at the expense of no more than one separate counsel shall be at the expense of the Indemnifying Party). The Indemnifying Party shall not be liable for any settlement of any such Proceeding effected without its written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. No Indemnifying Party shall, without the prior written consent of the Indemnified Party, effect any settlement of any pending Proceeding in respect of which any Indemnified Party is a party, unless such settlement includes an unconditional release of such Indemnified Party from all liability on claims that are the subject matter of such Proceeding.

Subject to the terms of this Agreement, all reasonable fees and expenses of the Indemnified Party (including reasonable fees and expenses to the extent incurred in connection with investigating or preparing to defend such Proceeding in a manner not inconsistent with this Section) shall be paid to the Indemnified Party, as incurred, within ten Trading Days of written notice thereof to the Indemnifying Party; provided, that, the Indemnified Party shall promptly reimburse the Indemnifying Party for that portion of such fees and expenses applicable to such actions for which such Indemnified Party is judicially determined not to be entitled to indemnification hereunder.

(d) <u>Contribution</u>. If the indemnification under Section 5(a) or 5(b) is unavailable to an Indemnified Party or insufficient to hold an Indemnified Party harmless for any Losses, then each Indemnifying Party shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such Indemnified Party, in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative fault of the Indemnifying Party and Indemnified Party in connection with the actions, statements or omissions that resulted in such Losses as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative fault of such Indemnifying Party and Indemnified Party shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether any action in question, including any untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or omission or alleged omission of a material fact, has been taken or made by, or relates to information supplied by, such Indemnifying Party or Indemnified Party, and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such action, statement or omission. The amount paid or payable by a party as a result of any Losses shall be deemed to include, subject to the limitations set forth in this Agreement, any reasonable attorneys' or other fees or expenses incurred by such party in connection with any Proceeding to the extent such party would have been indemnified for such fees or expenses if the indemnification provided for in this Section was available to such party in accordance with its terms.

The parties hereto agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution pursuant to this Section 5(d) were determined by pro rata allocation or by any other method of allocation that does not take into account the equitable considerations referred to in the immediately preceding paragraph. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 5(d), no Holder shall be required to contribute, in the aggregate, any amount in excess of the amount by which the net proceeds actually received by such Holder from the sale of the Registrable Securities subject to the Proceeding exceeds the amount of any damages that such Holder has otherwise been required to pay by reason of such untrue or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission.

The indemnity and contribution agreements contained in this Section are in addition to any liability that the Indemnifying Parties may have to the Indemnified Parties.

### 6. Miscellaneous.

(a) <u>Remedies</u>. In the event of a breach by the Company or by a Holder of any of their respective obligations under this Agreement, each Holder or the Company, as the case may be, in addition to being entitled to exercise all rights granted by law and under this Agreement, including recovery of damages, shall be entitled to specific performance of its rights under this Agreement. The Company and each Holder agree that monetary damages would not provide adequate compensation for any losses incurred by reason of a breach by it of any of the provisions of this Agreement and hereby further agrees that, in the event of any action for specific performance in respect of such breach, it shall not assert or shall waive the defense that a remedy at law would be adequate.

(b) <u>No Piggyback on Registrations</u>; Prohibition on Filing Other Registration Statements. Except as set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(v) of the Purchase Agreement</u>, neither the Company nor any of its security holders (other than the Holders in such capacity pursuant hereto) may include securities of the Company in any Registration Statements other than the Registrable Securities. The Company shall not file any other registration statements until all Registrable Securities are registered pursuant to a Registration Statement that is declared effective by the Commission, provided that this Section 6(b) shall not prohibit the Company from filing amendments to registration statements filed prior to the date of this Agreement.

(c) <u>Compliance</u>. Each Holder covenants and agrees that it will comply with the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act as applicable to it in connection with sales of Registrable Securities pursuant to a Registration Statement.

(d) <u>Discontinued Disposition</u>. By its acquisition of Registrable Securities, each Holder agrees that, upon receipt of a notice from the Company of the occurrence of any event of the kind described in Section 3(c)(iii) through (vi), such Holder will forthwith discontinue disposition of such Registrable Securities under a Registration Statement until it is advised in writing (the "<u>Advice</u>") by the Company that the use of the applicable Prospectus (as it may have been supplemented or amended) may be resumed. The Company will use its best efforts to ensure that the use of the Prospectus may be resumed as promptly as is practicable.

(e) <u>Piggy-Back Registrations</u>. If, at any time during the Effectiveness Period, there is not an effective Registration Statement covering all of the Registrable Securities and the Company shall determine to prepare and file with the Commission a registration statement relating to an offering for its own account or the account of others under the Securities Act of any of its equity securities, other than on Form S-4 or Form S-8 (each as promulgated under the Securities Act) or their then equivalents relating to equity securities to be issued solely in connection with any acquisition of any entity or business or equity securities issuable in connection with the Company's stock option or other employee benefit plans, then the Company shall deliver to each Holder a written notice of such determination and, if within fifteen days after the date of the delivery of such notice, any such Holder shall so request in writing, the Company shall include in such registration statement all or any part of such Registrable Securities pursuant to this Section 6(e) that are not subject to the current public information requirement under Rule 144 and that are eligible for resale without volume or manner-of-sale restrictions without current public information pursuant to Rule 144 promulgated by the Commission pursuant to a written opinion letter to such effect, addressed, delivered and acceptable to the affected Holders or that are the subject of a then effective Registration Statement.

(f) <u>Amendments and Waivers</u>. The provisions of this Agreement, including the provisions of this sentence, may not be amended, modified or supplemented, and waivers or consents to departures from the provisions hereof may not be given, unless the same shall be in writing and signed by the Company and the Holders of 67% or more of the then outstanding Registrable Securities (including, for this purpose any Registrable Securities issuable upon exercise or conversion of any Security). If a Registration Statement does not register all of the Registrable Securities pursuant to a waiver or amendment done in compliance with the previous sentence, then the number of Registrable Securities to be registered for each Holder shall be reduced pro rata among all Holders and each Holder shall have the right to designate which of its Registrable Securities shall be omitted from such Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a waiver or consent to depart from the provisions hereof with respect to a matter that relates exclusively to the rights of a Holder or some Holders and that does not directly or indirectly affect the rights of other Holders may be given by such Holder or Holders of all of the Registrable Securities to which such waiver or consent relates; provided, however, that the provisions of this sentence may not be amended, modified, or supplemented except in accordance with the provisions of the first sentence of this Section 6(f).

(g) <u>Notices</u>. Any and all notices or other communications or deliveries required or permitted to be provided hereunder shall be delivered as set forth in the Purchase Agreement.

(h) <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the successors and permitted assigns of each of the parties and shall inure to the benefit of each Holder. The Company may not assign (except by merger) its rights or obligations hereunder without the prior written consent of all of the Holders of the then outstanding Registrable Securities. Each Holder may assign their respective rights hereunder in the manner and to the Persons as permitted under the Purchase Agreement.

(i) <u>No Inconsistent Agreements</u>. Neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries has entered, as of the date hereof, nor shall the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, on or after the date of this Agreement, enter into any agreement with respect to its securities, that would have the effect of impairing the rights granted to the Holders in this Agreement or otherwise conflicts with the provisions hereof. Except as set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(v) of the Purchase Agreement</u>, neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries has previously entered into any agreement granting any registration rights with respect to any of its securities to any Person that have not been satisfied in full.

(j) Execution and Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, all of which when taken together shall be considered one and the same agreement and shall become effective when counterparts have been signed by each party and delivered to the other party, it being understood that both parties need not sign the same counterpart. In the event that any signature is delivered by facsimile transmission or by e-mail delivery of a ".pdf" format data file, such signature shall create a valid and binding obligation of the party executing (or on whose behalf such signature is executed) with the same force and effect as if such facsimile or ".pdf" signature page were an original thereof.

(k) <u>Governing Law</u>. All questions concerning the construction, validity, enforcement and interpretation of this Agreement shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the Purchase Agreement.

(1) <u>Cumulative Remedies</u>. The remedies provided herein are cumulative and not exclusive of any other remedies provided by law.

(m) <u>Severability</u>. If any term, provision, covenant or restriction of this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal, void or unenforceable, the remainder of the terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions set forth herein shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired or invalidated, and the parties hereto shall use their commercially reasonable efforts to find and employ an alternative means to achieve the same or substantially the same result as that contemplated by such term, provision, covenant or restriction. It is hereby stipulated and declared to be the intention of the parties that they would have executed the remaining terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions without including any of such that may be hereafter declared invalid, illegal, void or unenforceable.

(n) <u>Headings</u>. The headings in this Agreement are for convenience only, do not constitute a part of the Agreement and shall not be deemed to limit or affect any of the provisions hereof.

(o) <u>Independent Nature of Holders' Obligations and Rights</u>. The obligations of each Holder hereunder are several and not joint with the obligations of any other Holder hereunder, and no Holder shall be responsible in any way for the performance of the obligations of any other Holder hereunder. Nothing contained herein or in any other agreement or document delivered at any closing, and no action taken by any Holder pursuant hereto or thereto, shall be deemed to constitute the Holders as a partnership, an association, a joint venture or any other kind of entity, or create a presumption that the Holders are in any way acting in concert with respect to such obligations or the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. Each Holder shall be entitled to protect and enforce its rights, including without limitation the rights arising out of this Agreement, and it shall not be necessary for any other Holder to be joined as an additional party in any proceeding for such purpose.

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(Signature Pages Follow)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Registration Rights Agreement as of the date first written above.

# ASPEN GROUP, INC.

By:

Michael D. Mathews, Chief Executive Officer

# [SIGNATURE PAGE OF HOLDERS FOLLOWS]

# [SIGNATURE PAGE OF HOLDERS TO ASPEN GROUP, INC. RRA]

Name of Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Authorized Signatory of Holder:

Name of Authorized Signatory:

Title of Authorized Signatory: \_\_\_\_\_

# [SIGNATURE PAGES CONTINUE]

### Plan of Distribution

Each Selling Stockholder (the "<u>Selling Stockholders</u>") of the common stock and any of their pledgees, assignees and successors-ininterest may, from time to time, sell any or all of their shares of common stock on the OTC Bulletin Board or any other stock exchange, market or trading facility on which the shares are traded or in private transactions. These sales may be at fixed or negotiated prices. A Selling Stockholder may use any one or more of the following methods when selling shares:

- ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker-dealer solicits purchasers;
- block trades in which the broker-dealer will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;
- purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;
- an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of the applicable exchange;
- privately negotiated transactions;
- settlement of short sales entered into after the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part;
- broker-dealers may agree with the Selling Stockholders to sell a specified number of such shares at a stipulated price per share;
- through the writing or settlement of options or other hedging transactions, whether through an options exchange or otherwise;
- a combination of any such methods of sale; or
- any other method permitted pursuant to applicable law.

The Selling Stockholders may also sell shares under Rule 144 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), if available, rather than under this prospectus.

Broker-dealers engaged by the Selling Stockholders may arrange for other brokers-dealers to participate in sales. Broker-dealers may receive commissions or discounts from the Selling Stockholders (or, if any broker-dealer acts as agent for the purchaser of shares, from the purchaser) in amounts to be negotiated, but, except as set forth in a supplement to this Prospectus, in the case of an agency transaction not in excess of a customary brokerage commission in compliance with FINRA NASD Rule 2440; and in the case of a principal transaction a markup or markdown in compliance with NASD IM-2440.

In connection with the sale of the common stock or interests therein, the Selling Stockholders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions, which may in turn engage in short sales of the common stock in the course of hedging the positions they assume. The Selling Stockholders may also sell shares of the common stock short and deliver these securities to close out their short positions, or loan or pledge the common stock to broker-dealers that in turn may sell these securities. The Selling Stockholders may also enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions or the creation of one or more derivative securities which require the delivery to such broker-dealer or other financial institution of shares offered by this prospectus, which shares such broker-dealer or other financial institution or amended to reflect such transaction).

The Selling Stockholders and any broker-dealers or agents that are involved in selling the shares may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. In such event, any commissions received by such broker-dealers or agents and any profit on the resale of the shares purchased by them may be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts under the Securities Act. Each Selling Stockholder has informed the Company that it does not have any written or oral agreement or understanding, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the Common Stock. In no event shall any broker-dealer receive fees, commissions and markups which, in the aggregate, would exceed eight percent (8%).

The Company is required to pay certain fees and expenses incurred by the Company incident to the registration of the shares. The Company has agreed to indemnify the Selling Stockholders against certain losses, claims, damages and liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Because Selling Stockholders may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act, they will be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act including Rule 172 thereunder. In addition, any securities covered by this prospectus which qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act may be sold under Rule 144 rather than under this prospectus. There is no underwriter or coordinating broker acting in connection with the proposed sale of the resale shares by the Selling Stockholders.

We agreed to keep this prospectus effective until the earlier of (i) the date on which the shares may be resold by the Selling Stockholders without registration and without regard to any volume or manner-of-sale limitations by reason of Rule 144, without the requirement for the Company to be in compliance with the current public information under Rule 144 under the Securities Act or any other rule of similar effect or (ii) all of the shares have been sold pursuant to this prospectus or Rule 144 under the Securities Act or any other rule of similar effect. The resale shares will be sold only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers if required under applicable state securities laws. In addition, in certain states, the resale shares may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with.

Under applicable rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, any person engaged in the distribution of the resale shares may not simultaneously engage in market making activities with respect to the common stock for the applicable restricted period, as defined in Regulation M, prior to the commencement of the distribution. In addition, the Selling Stockholders will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including Regulation M, which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of shares of the common stock by the Selling Stockholders or any other person. We will make copies of this prospectus available to the Selling Stockholders and have informed them of the need to deliver a copy of this prospectus to each purchaser at or prior to the time of the sale (including by compliance with Rule 172 under the Securities Act).

#### ASPEN GROUP, INC.

#### Selling Stockholder Notice and Questionnaire

The undersigned beneficial owner of common stock (the "<u>Registrable Securities</u>") of Aspen Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "<u>Company</u>"), understands that the Company has filed or intends to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "<u>Commission</u>") a registration statement (the "<u>Registration Statement</u>") for the registration and resale under Rule 415 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "<u>Securities Act</u>"), of the Registrable Securities, in accordance with the terms of the Registration Rights Agreement (the "<u>Registration Rights Agreement</u>") to which this document is annexed. A copy of the Registration Rights Agreement is available from the Company upon request at the address set forth below. All capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed thereto in the Registration Rights Agreement.

Certain legal consequences arise from being named as a selling stockholder in the Registration Statement and the related prospectus. Accordingly, holders and beneficial owners of Registrable Securities are advised to consult their own securities law counsel regarding the consequences of being named or not being named as a selling stockholder in the Registration Statement and the related prospectus.

# NOTICE

The undersigned beneficial owner (the "Selling Stockholder") of Registrable Securities hereby elects to include the Registrable Securities owned by it in the Registration Statement.

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The undersigned hereby provides the following information to the Company and represents and warrants that such information is accurate:

QUESTIONNAIRE		
1	1.	Name.
(	(a)	Full Legal Name of Selling Stockholder
(	(b)	Full Legal Name of Registered Holder (if not the same as (a) above) through which Registrable Securities are held:
(	(c)	Full Legal Name of Natural Control Person (which means a natural person who directly or indirectly alone or with others has power to vote or dispose of the securities covered by this Questionnaire):
2	2.	Address for Notices to Selling Stockholder:
Telephone Fax:	e:	
Contact Person:		
2	3.	Broker-Dealer Status:
(	(a)	Are you a broker-dealer?
		Yes D No D
(	(b)	If "yes" to Section 3(a), did you receive your Registrable Securities as compensation for investment banking services to the Company?
		Yes D No D
1	Note:	If "no" to Section 3(b), the Commission's staff has indicated that you should be identified as an underwriter in the Registration Statement.
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(c) Are you an affiliate of a broker-dealer?

Yes □ No □

(d) If you are an affiliate of a broker-dealer, do you certify that you purchased the Registrable Securities in the ordinary course of business, and at the time of the purchase of the Registrable Securities to be resold, you had no agreements or understandings, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the Registrable Securities?

Yes D No

Note: If "no" to Section 3(d), the Commission's staff has indicated that you should be identified as an underwriter in the Registration Statement.

# 4. Beneficial Ownership of Securities of the Company Owned by the Selling Stockholder.

*Except as set forth below in this Item 4, the undersigned is not the beneficial or registered owner of any securities of the Company other than the securities issuable pursuant to the Purchase Agreement.* 

(a) Type and Amount of other securities beneficially owned by the Selling Stockholder:

## 5. Relationships with the Company:

Except as set forth below, neither the undersigned nor any of its affiliates, officers, directors or principal equity holders (owners of 5% of more of the equity securities of the undersigned) has held any position or office or has had any other material relationship with the Company (or its predecessors or affiliates) during the past three years.

State any exceptions here:

The undersigned agrees to promptly notify the Company of any inaccuracies or changes in the information provided herein that may occur subsequent to the date hereof at any time while the Registration Statement remains effective.

By signing below, the undersigned consents to the disclosure of the information contained herein in its answers to Items 1 through 5 and the inclusion of such information in the Registration Statement and the related prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto. The undersigned understands that such information will be relied upon by the Company in connection with the preparation or amendment of the Registration Statement and the related prospectus.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, by authority duly given, has caused this Notice and Questionnaire to be executed and delivered either in person or by its duly authorized agent.

Date:

Beneficial Owner:

By:

Name: Title:

PLEASE FAX A COPY OF THE COMPLETED AND EXECUTED NOTICE AND QUESTIONNAIRE, AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL BY OVERNIGHT MAIL, TO:

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# SECURITIES PURCHASE AGREEMENT

This Securities Purchase Agreement (this "<u>Agreement</u>") is dated as of February \_\_\_\_\_, 2013, between Aspen Group Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "<u>Company</u>"), and each purchaser identified on the signature pages hereto (each, including its successors and assigns, a "<u>Purchaser</u>" and collectively the "<u>Purchasers</u>").

WHEREAS, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement and pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and Rule 506 promulgated thereunder, the Company desires to issue and sell to each Purchaser, and each Purchaser, severally and not jointly, desires to purchase from the Company, securities of the Company as more fully described in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual covenants contained in this Agreement, and for other good and valuable consideration the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the Company and each Purchaser agree as follows:

# ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

1.1 <u>Definitions</u>. In addition to the terms defined elsewhere in this Agreement the following terms have the meanings set forth in this Section 1.1:

"Action" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 3.1(j).

"<u>Affiliate</u>" means any Person that, directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls or is controlled by or is under common control with a Person, as such terms are used in and construed under Rule 405 under the Securities Act. With respect to a Purchaser, any investment fund or managed account that is managed on a discretionary basis by the same investment manager as such Purchaser will be deemed to be an Affiliate of such Purchaser.

"<u>Approved Stock Plan</u>" means any employee benefit plan which has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Corporation, pursuant to which the Company's securities may be issued to any employee, consultant, officer or director for services provided to the Company.

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

"<u>Business Day</u>" means any day except any Saturday, any Sunday, any day which is a federal legal holiday in the United States or any day on which banking institutions in the State of New York are authorized or required by law or other governmental action to close.

"Closing" means the closing of the purchase and sale of the Securities pursuant to Section 2.2.

"<u>Closing Date</u>" means the Trading Day when all of the Transaction Documents have been executed and delivered by the applicable parties thereto, and all conditions precedent to (i) the Purchasers' obligations to pay the Subscription Amount and (ii) the Company's obligations to deliver the Securities have been satisfied or waived.

"Commission" means the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

"<u>Common Stock</u>" means the common stock of the Company, par value \$0.001 per share, and any other class of securities into which such securities may hereafter be reclassified or changed into.

"<u>Common Stock Equivalents</u>" means any securities of the Company or the Subsidiaries which would entitle the holder thereof to acquire at any time Common Stock, including, without limitation, any debt, preferred stock, rights, options, warrants or other instrument that is at any time convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for, or otherwise entitles the holder thereof to receive, Common Stock.

"<u>Company Counsel</u>" means Nason Yeager Gerson White & Lioce, P.A., with offices located at 1645 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401.

"Disclosure Schedules" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 3.1.

"Evaluation Date" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 3.1(r).

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

"Exempt Issuance" means the issuance of (a) shares of Common Stock or options to employees, officers, consultants, advisors or directors of the Company pursuant to any stock or option plan duly adopted for such purpose by a majority of the existing members of the Board of Directors or a majority of the members of a committee of directors established for such purpose, (b) securities upon the exercise or exchange of or conversion of any securities issued hereunder and/or other securities exercisable or exchangeable for or convertible into shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding on the date of this Agreement, provided that such securities have not been amended since the date of this Agreement to increase the number of such securities or to decrease the exercise, exchange or conversion price of such securities, (c) shares of Common Stock or the repricing of any shares of Common Stock or Common Stock Equivalents upon any anti-dilution adjustment to Common Stock and Common Stock Equivalents held by current unaffiliated shareholders of Aspen Group as of March 13, 2012, (d) securities issued to the Placement Agents or other registered broker-dealers as commission or fees in connection with any financing transactions, (e) the securities issued in connection with debt financings, and (f) securities issued pursuant to acquisitions or strategic transactions approved by a majority of the disinterested directors of the Company, provided that any such issuance shall only be to a Person which is, itself or through its subsidiaries, an operating company in a business synergistic with the business of the Company and in which the Company receives benefits in addition to the investment of funds, but shall not include a transaction in which the Company is issuing securities primarily for the purpose of raising capital or to an entity whose primary business is investing in securities.

"GAAP" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 3.1(h).

"Intellectual Property Rights" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 3.1(o).

"Legend Removal Date" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 4.1(c).

"Liens" means a lien, charge, security interest, encumbrance, right of first refusal, preemptive right or other restriction.

"Material Adverse Effect" shall have the meaning assigned to such term in Section 3.1(b).

"Material Permits" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 3.1(m).

"Maximum Offering" means the sale of Units for aggregate gross proceeds of up to a maximum of \$1,315,000.

"Person" means an individual or corporation, partnership, trust, incorporated or unincorporated association, joint venture, limited liability company, joint stock company, government (or an agency or subdivision thereof) or other entity of any kind.

"Pre-Notice" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 4.16.

"<u>Proceeding</u>" means an action, claim, suit, investigation or proceeding (including, without limitation, an informal investigation or partial proceeding, such as a deposition), whether commenced or threatened.

"Purchaser Party" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 4.10.

"Registration Rights Agreement" means the Registration Rights Agreement, dated the date hereof, among the Company and the Purchasers, in the form of Exhibit A attached hereto.

"<u>Registration Statement</u>" means a registration statement meeting the requirements set forth in the Registration Rights Agreement and covering the resale of the Underlying Shares by each Purchaser as provided for in the Registration Rights Agreement.

"Required Approvals" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 3.1(e).

"<u>Required Minimum</u>" means, as of any date, the maximum aggregate number of shares of Common Stock then issued or potentially issuable in the future pursuant to the Transaction Documents, including any Underlying Shares issuable upon exercise or conversion in full of all Warrants, ignoring any conversion or exercise limits set forth therein.

"<u>Rule 144</u>" means Rule 144 promulgated by the Commission pursuant to the Securities Act, as such Rule may be amended from time to time, or any similar rule or regulation hereafter adopted by the Commission having substantially the same effect as such Rule.

"SEC Reports" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 3.1(h).

"Securities" means the Common Stock, the Warrants, the Warrant Shares and the Underlying Shares.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

"Short Sales" means all "short sales" as defined in Rule 200 of Regulation SHO under the Exchange Act (but shall not be deemed to include the location and/or reservation of borrowable shares of Common Stock).

"Subscription Amount" shall mean, as to each Purchaser, the aggregate amount to be paid for the Units purchased hereunder as specified below such Purchaser's name on the signature page of this Agreement and next to the heading "Subscription Amount," in United States dollars and in immediately available funds.

"Subsequent Financing" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 4.16.

"Subsequent Financing Notice" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 4.16.

"Subsidiary" means any subsidiary of the Company as set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(a)</u> and shall, where applicable, also include any direct or indirect subsidiary of the Company formed or acquired after the date hereof.

"Trading Day" means a day on which the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

"<u>Trading Market</u>" means any of the following markets or exchanges on which the Common Stock is listed or quoted for trading on the date in question: the NYSE MKT, the Nasdaq Capital Market, the Nasdaq Global Market, the Nasdaq Global Select Market, the New York Stock Exchange or the OTC Bulletin Board (or any successors to any of the foregoing).

"<u>Transaction Documents</u>" means this Agreement, the Warrants, the Registration Rights Agreement, all schedules and exhibits thereto and hereto and any other documents or agreements executed in connection with the transactions contemplated hereunder.

"<u>Transfer Agent</u>" means Action Stock Transfer Corp. the transfer agent of the Company, with a mailing address of 7069 S. Highland Drive, Salt lake City, UT 84121, and a facsimile number of (801) 274-1099, and any successor transfer agent of the Company.

"Underlying Shares" means the shares of Common Stock issued and issuable upon exercise of the Warrants.

"Units" shall consist of 100,000 shares of Common Stock and a Warrant to purchase 50,000 shares of Common Stock.

<u>"VWAP</u>" means, for any date, the price determined by the first of the following clauses that applies: (a) if the Common Stock is then listed or quoted on a Trading Market, the daily volume weighted average price of the Common Stock for such date (or the nearest preceding date) on the Trading Market on which the Common Stock is then listed or quoted as reported by Bloomberg L.P. (based on a Trading Day from 9:30 a.m. (New York City time) to 4:02 p.m. (New York City time)), (b) if the OTC Bulletin Board is not a Trading Market, the volume weighted average price of the Common Stock for such date (or the nearest preceding date) on the OTC Bulletin Board is not a Trading Market, the volume weighted average price of the Common Stock for such date (or the nearest preceding date) on the OTC Bulletin Board is not a Trading Market, the volume weighted average price of the Common Stock for such date (or the nearest preceding date) on the OTC Bulletin Board, (c) if the Common Stock is not then listed or quoted for trading on the OTC Bulletin Board and if prices for the Common Stock are then reported in the "Pink Sheets" published by Pink OTC Markets, Inc. (or a similar organization or agency succeeding to its functions of reporting prices), the most recent bid price per share of the Common Stock so reported, or (d) in all other cases, the fair market value of a share of Common Stock as determined by an independent appraiser selected in good faith by the Purchasers of a majority in interest of the Securities then outstanding and reasonably acceptable to the Company, the fees and expenses of which shall be paid by the Company.

"<u>Warrants</u>" means, collectively, the Common Stock purchase warrants delivered to the Purchasers at the Closing in accordance with Section 2.2(a) hereof, which Warrants shall be exercisable immediately and have a term of exercise equal to five years and an exercise price equal to \$0.50 per share subject to adjustment therein, in the form of <u>Exhibit B</u> attached hereto.

"Warrant Shares" means the shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of the Warrants.

# ARTICLE II PURCHASE AND SALE

#### 2.1 Term of the Offering; Minimum.

(a) The Units will be offered for sale until the earlier of (i) the closing on the Maximum Offering or (ii) March 15, 2013 the ("<u>Termination Date</u>"). The offering of the Units hereunder, up to the Maximum Offering, shall be made directly by the Company, with respect to Units sold to "accredited investors" as such term is defined under Rule 501(a) under the Securities Act or by the Company with respect to Units sold to certain institutional investors who qualify as "accredited investors" as such term is defined under Rule 501(a) under the Securities Act.

(b) The minimum purchase that may be made by any prospective investor shall be \$35,000. Subscriptions for investment below the minimum investment may be accepted at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to reject any subscription made hereby, in whole or in part, in their sole discretion. The Company's agreement with each Purchaser is a separate agreement and the sale of the Units to each Purchaser is a separate sale.

#### 2.2 Closing.

(a) The purchase, sale, and issuance of the Units shall take place at one or more closings (each of which is referred to in this Agreement as a "<u>Closing</u>". After the first Closing, subsequent Closings up to the Maximum Offering may take place at any time prior to the Termination Date as determined by the Company. The last Closing of this offering, occurring on or prior to the Termination Date, shall be referred to as the "<u>Final Closing</u>." Any subscription documents or funds received after the Final Closing will be returned, without interest or deduction.

(b) All subscription amounts shall be paid directly to the Company in connection with each Closing.

#### 2.3 Deliveries.

(a) On each Closing Date, the Company shall deliver or cause to be delivered to each Purchaser the following:

(i) this Agreement duly executed by the Company;

(ii) a certificate evidencing a number of shares of Common Stock equal to the number of Units subscribed for by the Purchaser multiplied by 100,000, registered in the name of such Purchaser;

(iii) a Warrant registered in the name of such Purchaser to purchase up to a number of shares of Common Stock equal to the number of Units subscribed for by the Purchaser multiplied by 50,000;

(iv) the Registration Rights Agreement duly executed by the Company, and

(v) a legal opinion of Company Counsel, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit C.

(b) On or before each Closing Date, each Purchaser shall deliver or cause to be delivered to the Company (except as noted) the following:

(i) this Agreement duly executed by such Purchaser;

(ii) such Purchaser's Subscription Amount as to the Closing by wire transfer to the Escrow Agent;

and

(iii) the Registration Rights Agreement duly executed by such Purchaser.

# 2.4 Closing Conditions.

(a) The obligations of the Company hereunder in connection with a Closing are subject to the following conditions being met:

(i) the accuracy in all material respects on the Closing Date of the representations and warranties of the Purchasers contained herein;

(ii) all obligations, covenants and agreements of each Purchaser required to be performed at or prior to the Closing Date shall have been performed; and

(iii) the delivery by each Purchaser of the items set forth in Section 2.3(b) of this Agreement.

(b) The respective obligations of the Purchasers hereunder in connection with a Closing are subject to the following conditions being met:

(i) the accuracy in all material respects when made and on the Closing Date of the representations and warranties of the Company contained herein;

(ii) all obligations, covenants and agreements of the Company required to be performed at or prior to the Closing Date shall have been performed;

(iii) the delivery by the Company of the items set forth in Section 2.3(a) of this Agreement;

(iv) there shall have been no Material Adverse Effect with respect to the Company since September

30, 2012;

(v) The Company shall have applied for key man life insurance policies for the benefit of the Company for Michael Mathews in the amount of no less than \$5,000,000; and

(vi) From the date hereof to the Closing Date, trading in the Common Stock shall not have been suspended by the Commission or the Company's principal Trading Market (except for any suspension of trading of limited duration agreed to by the Company, which suspension shall be terminated prior to the Closing), and, at any time prior to Closing, trading in securities generally as reported by Bloomberg L.P. shall not have been suspended or limited, or minimum prices shall not have been established on securities whose trades are reported by such service, or on any Trading Market, nor shall a banking moratorium have been declared either by the United States or New York State authorities nor shall there have occurred any material outbreak or escalation of hostilities or other national or international calamity of such magnitude in its effect on, or any material adverse change in, any financial market which, in each case, in the reasonable judgment of each Purchaser, makes it impracticable or inadvisable to purchase the Units at the Closing.

# ARTICLE III REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

3.1 <u>Representations and Warranties of the Company</u>. Except as set forth in the Disclosure Schedules, which Disclosure Schedules shall be deemed a part hereof and shall qualify any representation or otherwise made herein to the extent of the disclosure contained in the corresponding section of the Disclosure Schedules, the Company hereby makes the following representations and warranties to each Purchaser:

(a) <u>Subsidiaries</u>. All of the direct and indirect subsidiaries of the Company are set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(a)</u>. The Company owns, directly or indirectly, all of the capital stock or other equity interests of each Subsidiary free and clear of any Liens, and all of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of each Subsidiary are validly issued and are fully paid, non-assessable and free of preemptive and similar rights to subscribe for or purchase securities.

(b) <u>Organization and Qualification</u>. The Company and each of the Subsidiaries is an entity duly incorporated or otherwise organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation or organization (as applicable), with the requisite power and authority to own and use its properties and assets and to carry on its business as currently conducted. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is in violation or default of any of the provisions of its respective certificate or articles of incorporation, bylaws or other organizational or charter documents. Each of the Company and the Subsidiaries is duly qualified to conduct business and is in good standing as a foreign corporation or other entity in each jurisdiction in which the nature of the business conducted or property owned by it makes such qualification necessary, except where the failure to be so qualified or in good standing, as the case may be, could not have or reasonably be expected to result in (i) a material adverse effect on the legality, validity or enforceability of any Transaction Document, (ii) a material adverse effect on the results of operations, assets, business, prospects or condition (financial or otherwise) of the Company and the Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, or (iii) a material adverse effect on the Company's ability to perform in any material respect on a timely basis its obligations under any Transaction Document (any of (i), (ii) or (iii), a "<u>Material Adverse Effect</u>") and no Proceeding has been instituted in any such jurisdiction revoking, limiting or curtailing or seeking to revoke, limit or curtail such power and authority or qualification.

(c) <u>Authorization; Enforcement</u>. The Company has the requisite corporate power and authority to enter into and to consummate the transactions contemplated by each of the Transaction Documents and otherwise to carry out its obligations hereunder and thereunder. The execution and delivery of each of the Transaction Documents by the Company and the consummation by it of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby have been duly authorized by all necessary action on the part of the Company and no further action is required by the Company, the Board of Directors or the Company's stockholders in connection therewith other than in connection with the Required Approvals. Each Transaction Document has been (or upon delivery will have been) duly executed by the Company and, when delivered in accordance with the terms hereof and thereof, will constitute the valid and binding obligation of the Company enforceable against the Company in accordance with its terms, except (i) as limited by general equitable principles and applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other laws of general application affecting enforcement of creditors' rights generally, (ii) as limited by laws relating to the availability of specific performance, injunctive relief or other equitable remedies and (iii) insofar as indemnification and contribution provisions may be limited by applicable law.

(d) <u>No Conflicts</u>. The execution, delivery and performance of the Transaction Documents by the Company and the consummation by the Company of the other transactions contemplated hereby and thereby do not and will not: (i) conflict with or violate any provision of the Company's or any Subsidiary's certificate or articles of incorporation, bylaws or other organizational or charter documents, or (ii) conflict with, or constitute a default (or an event that with notice or lapse of time or both would become a default) under, result in the creation of any Lien upon any of the properties or assets of the Company or any Subsidiary, or give to others any rights of termination, amendment, acceleration or cancellation (with or without notice, lapse of time or both) of, any agreement, credit facility, debt or other instrument (evidencing a Company or Subsidiary debt or otherwise) or other understanding to which the Company or any Subsidiary is a party or by which any property or asset of the Company or any Subsidiary is bound or affected, or (iii) subject to the Required Approvals, conflict with or result in a violation of any law, rule, regulation, order, judgment, injunction, decree or other restriction of any court or governmental authority to which the Company or a Subsidiary is bound or affected; except in the case of each of clauses (ii) and (iii), such as could not have or reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

(e) <u>Filings, Consents and Approvals</u>. The Company is not required to obtain any consent, waiver, authorization or order of, give any notice to, or make any filing or registration with, any court or other federal, state, local or other governmental authority or other Person in connection with the execution, delivery and performance by the Company of the Transaction Documents other than (i) filings required pursuant to Section 4.6, (ii) the filing with the Commission of the Registration Statement, and (iii) the filing of Form D with the Commission and such filings as are required to be made under applicable state securities laws) (collectively, the "<u>Required Approvals</u>").

(f) <u>Issuance of the Securities</u>. The Securities are duly authorized and, when issued and paid for in accordance with the applicable Transaction Documents, will be duly and validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable, free and clear of all Liens imposed by the Company other than restrictions on transfer provided for in the Transaction Documents. The Underlying Shares, when issued in accordance with the terms of the Transaction Documents, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable, free and clear of all Liens imposed by the Company other than restrictions on transfer provided for in the Transaction Documents. The Company has reserved from its duly authorized capital stock a number of shares of Common Stock for issuance of the Underlying Shares at least equal to the Maximum Offering on the date hereof.

(g) Capitalization. The capitalization of the Company as of September 30, 2012 is as set forth in the prospectus filed with the SEC on November 29, 2012. Except as set forth on Schedule 3.1(g), the Company has not issued any capital stock since its most recently filed periodic report under the Exchange Act, other than pursuant to the exercise of employee stock options under the Company's stock option plans, the issuance of shares of Common Stock to employees pursuant to the Company's employee stock purchase plans and pursuant to the conversion or exercise of Common Stock Equivalents outstanding as of the date of the most recently filed periodic report under the Exchange Act. No Person has any right of first refusal, preemptive right, right of participation, or any similar right to participate in the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Documents. Except as set forth on Schedule 3.1(g), and as a result of the purchase and sale of the Securities, there are no outstanding options, warrants, scrip rights to subscribe to, calls or commitments of any character whatsoever relating to, or securities, rights or obligations convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for, or giving any Person any right to subscribe for or acquire, any shares of Common Stock, or contracts, commitments, understandings or arrangements by which the Company or any Subsidiary is or may become bound to issue additional shares of Common Stock or Common Stock Equivalents. Except as disclosed on Schedule 3.1(g), the issuance and sale of the Securities will not obligate the Company to issue shares of Common Stock or other securities to any Person (other than the Purchasers) and will not result in a right of any holder of Company securities to adjust the exercise, conversion, exchange or reset price under any of such securities. All of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Company are validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable, have been issued in compliance with all federal and state securities laws, and none of such outstanding shares was issued in violation of any preemptive rights or similar rights to subscribe for or purchase securities. No further approval or authorization of any stockholder, the Board of Directors or others is required for the issuance and sale of the Securities. Except as disclosed on Schedule 3.1(g), there are no stockholders agreements, voting agreements or other similar agreements with respect to the Company's capital stock to which the Company is a party or, to the knowledge of the Company, between or among any of the Company's stockholders.

(h) SEC Reports; Financial Statements. Except as set forth on Schedule 3.1(h) of the Disclosure Schedules, the Company has filed all reports, schedules, forms, statements and other documents required to be filed by the Company under the Securities Act and the Exchange Act, including pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) thereof, for the one year preceding the date hereof (or such shorter period as the Company was required by law or regulation to file such material) (the foregoing materials and any amendments filed through the date hereof, including the exhibits thereto and documents incorporated by reference therein, being collectively referred to herein as the "SEC Reports") on a timely basis or has received a valid extension of such time of filing and has filed any such SEC Reports prior to the expiration of any such extension. Except as disclosed on Schedule 3.1(h) as of their respective dates, the SEC Reports complied in all material respects with the requirements of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act, as applicable, and none of the SEC Reports, when filed, contained any untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. Except as disclosed on Schedule 3.1(h), the financial statements of the Company included in the SEC Reports comply in all material respects with applicable accounting requirements and the rules and regulations of the Commission with respect thereto as in effect at the time of filing. Except as disclosed on Schedule 3.1(h), such financial statements have been prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis during the periods involved ("GAAP"), except as may be otherwise specified in such financial statements or the notes thereto and except that unaudited financial statements may not contain all footnotes required by GAAP, and fairly present in all material respects the financial position of the Company and its consolidated Subsidiaries as of and for the dates thereof and the results of operations and cash flows for the periods then ended, subject, in the case of unaudited statements, to normal, immaterial, year-end audit adjustments.

(i) <u>Material Changes</u>. Since the date of the latest audited financial statements included within the SEC Reports, except as specifically disclosed on <u>Schedule 3.1(i)</u>, (i) there has been no event, occurrence or development that has had or that could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, (ii) the Company has not incurred any liabilities (contingent or otherwise) other than (A) trade payables and accrued expenses incurred in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice and (B) liabilities not required to be reflected in the Company's financial statements pursuant to GAAP or disclosed in filings made with the Commission, (iii) the Company has not altered its method of accounting, (iv) the Company has not declared or made any dividend or distribution of cash or other property to its stockholders or purchased, redeemed or made any agreements to purchase or redeem any shares of its capital stock and (v) the Company has not issued any equity securities to any officer, director or Affiliate, except pursuant to existing Company stock option plans. The Company does not have pending before the Commission any request for confidential treatment of information. Except for the issuance of the Securities contemplated by this Agreement or as set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(i)</u>, no event, liability or development has occurred or exists with respect to the Company or its Subsidiaries or their respective business, properties, operations or financial condition, that would be required to be disclosed by the Company under applicable securities laws at the time this representation is made or deemed made that has not been publicly disclosed at least 1 Trading Day prior to the date that this representation is made.

(j) <u>Litigation</u>. Except as described in the SEC Reports, there is no action, suit, inquiry, notice of violation, proceeding or investigation pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened against or affecting the Company, any Subsidiary or any of their respective properties before or by any court, arbitrator, governmental or administrative agency or regulatory authority (federal, state, county, local or foreign) (collectively, an "<u>Action</u>") which (i) adversely affects or challenges the legality, validity or enforceability of any of the Transaction Documents or the Securities or (ii) could, if there were an unfavorable decision, have or reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary, nor any director or officer thereof, is or has been the subject of any Action involving a claim of violation of or liability under federal or state securities laws or a claim of breach of fiduciary duty. There has not been, and to the knowledge of the Company, there is not pending or contemplated, any investigation by the Commission involving the Company or any current or former director or officer of the Company. The Commission has not issued any stop order or other order suspending the effectiveness of any registration statement filed by the Company or any Subsidiary under the Exchange Act or the Securities Act.

(k) <u>Labor Relations</u>. No material labor dispute exists or, to the knowledge of the Company, is imminent with respect to any of the employees of the Company which could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. Except as disclosed on <u>Schedule 3.1(k)</u>, none of the Company's or its Subsidiaries' employees is a member of a union that relates to such employee's relationship with the Company or such Subsidiary, and neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries is a party to a collective bargaining agreement, and the Company, is, or is now expected to be, in violation of any material term of any employment contract, confidentiality, disclosure or proprietary information agreement or non-competition agreement, or any other contract or agreement or any restrictive covenant in favor of any third party, and the continued employment of each such executive officer does not subject the Company or any of its Subsidiaries to any liability with respect to any of the foregoing matters. The Company and its Subsidiaries are in compliance with all U.S. federal, state, local and foreign laws and regulations relating to employment and employment practices, terms and conditions of employment and wages and hours, except where the failure to be in compliance could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

(1) <u>Compliance</u>. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary (i) is in default under or in violation of (and no event has occurred that has not been waived that, with notice or lapse of time or both, would result in a default by the Company or any Subsidiary under), nor has the Company or any Subsidiary received notice of a claim that it is in default under or that it is in violation of, any indenture, loan or credit agreement or any other agreement or instrument to which it is a party or by which it or any of its properties is bound (whether or not such default or violation has been waived), (ii) is in violation of any order of any court, arbitrator or governmental body, or (iii) is or has been in violation of any statute, rule or regulation of any governmental authority, including without limitation all foreign, federal, state and local laws applicable to its business and all such laws that affect the environment, except in each case as could not have or reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

(m) <u>Regulatory Permits</u>. The Company and the Subsidiaries possess all certificates, authorizations and permits issued by the appropriate federal, state, local or foreign regulatory authorities necessary to conduct their respective businesses as described in the SEC Reports, except where the failure to possess such permits could not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect ("<u>Material Permits</u>"), and neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has received any notice of proceedings relating to the revocation or modification of any Material Permit.

(n) <u>Title to Assets</u>. The Company and the Subsidiaries have good and marketable title in fee simple to all real property owned by them and good and marketable title in all personal property owned by them that is material to the business of the Company and the Subsidiaries, in each case free and clear of all Liens, except for Liens as do not materially affect the value of such property and do not materially interfere with the use made and proposed to be made of such property by the Company and the Subsidiaries and Liens for the payment of federal, state or other taxes, the payment of which is neither delinquent nor subject to penalties. Any real property and facilities held under lease by the Company and the Subsidiaries are held by them under valid, subsisting and enforceable leases with which the Company and the Subsidiaries are in compliance.

(o) <u>Patents and Trademarks</u>. Except as disclosed on <u>Schedule 3.1(o)</u> or the SEC Reports, the Company and the Subsidiaries have, or have rights to use, all patents, patent applications, trademarks, trademark applications, service marks, trade names, trade secrets, inventions, copyrights, licenses and other intellectual property rights and similar rights necessary or material for use in connection with their respective businesses and which the failure to so have could have a Material Adverse Effect (collectively, the <u>"Intellectual Property Rights</u>"). Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has received a notice (written or otherwise) that any of the Intellectual Property Rights used by the Company or any Subsidiary violates or infringes upon the rights of any Person. To the knowledge of the Company, all such Intellectual Property Rights are enforceable and there is no existing infringement by another Person of any of the Intellectual Property Rights. The Company and its Subsidiaries have taken reasonable security measures to protect the secrecy, confidentiality and value of all of their intellectual properties, except where failure to do so could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

(p) <u>Insurance</u>. The Company and the Subsidiaries are insured by insurers of recognized financial responsibility against such losses and risks and in such amounts as are prudent and customary in the businesses in which the Company and the Subsidiaries are engaged, including, but not limited to, directors and officers insurance coverage at least equal to the aggregate Subscription Amount. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has any reason to believe that it will not be able to renew its existing insurance coverage as and when such coverage expires or to obtain similar coverage from similar insurers as may be necessary to continue its business without a significant increase in cost.

(q) <u>Transactions with Affiliates and Employees</u>. Except as set forth in the SEC Reports or <u>Schedule 3.1(q)</u>, none of the officers or directors of the Company and, to the knowledge of the Company, none of the employees of the Company is presently a party to any transaction with the Company or any Subsidiary (other than for services as employees, officers and directors), including any contract, agreement or other arrangement providing for the furnishing of services to or by, providing for rental of real or personal property to or from, or otherwise requiring payments to or from any officer, director or such employee or, to the knowledge of the Company, any entity in which any officer, director, or any such employee has a substantial interest or is an officer, director, trustee or partner, in each case in excess of \$120,000 other than for (i) payment of salary or consulting fees for services rendered, (ii) reimbursement for expenses incurred on behalf of the Company and (iii) other employee benefits, including stock option agreements under any stock option plan of the Company.

(r) Sarbanes Oxley; Internal Accounting Controls. The Company is in material compliance with all provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 which are applicable to it as of the Closing Date. The Company and the Subsidiaries maintain a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurance that (i) transactions are executed in accordance with management's general or specific authorizations, (ii) transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP and to maintain asset accountability, (iii) access to assets is permitted only in accordance with management's general or specific authorization, and (iv) the recorded accountability for assets is compared with the existing assets at reasonable intervals and appropriate action is taken with respect to any differences. The Company has established disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the Company and designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and forms. The Company's certifying officers have evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by the Company's most recently filed periodic report under the Exchange Act (such date, the "Evaluation Date"). The Company presented in its most recently filed periodic report under the Exchange Act the conclusions of the certifying officers about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on their evaluations as of the Evaluation Date. Since the Evaluation Date, there have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as such term is defined in the Exchange Act) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting,

(s) <u>Certain Fees</u>. No brokerage or finder's fees or commissions are or will be payable by the Company to any broker, financial advisor or consultant, finder, placement agent, investment banker, bank or other Person with respect to the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Documents. The Purchasers shall have no obligation with respect to any fees or with respect to any claims made by or on behalf of other Persons for fees of a type contemplated in this Section that may be due in connection with the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Documents.

(t) <u>Private Placement</u>. Assuming the accuracy of the Purchasers' representations and warranties set forth in Section 3.2, no registration under the Securities Act is required for the offer and sale of the Securities to the Purchasers as contemplated hereby. The issuance and sale of the Securities hereunder does not contravene the rules and regulations of the Trading Market.

(u) <u>Investment Company</u>. The Company is not, and is not an Affiliate of, and immediately after receipt of payment for the Securities, will not be or be an Affiliate of, an "investment company" within the meaning of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. The Company shall conduct its business in a manner so that it will not become subject to the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

(v) <u>Registration Rights</u>. Other than each of the Purchasers and as set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(v)</u>, no Person has any right to cause the Company to effect the registration under the Securities Act of any securities of the Company. Except as set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(v)</u>, there are no outstanding registration rights which are superior to the registration rights being provided to the Purchasers under the Registration Rights Agreement.

## (w) Intentionally Omitted.

(x) <u>Application of Takeover Protections</u>. The Company and the Board of Directors have taken all necessary action, if any, in order to render inapplicable any control share acquisition, business combination, poison pill (including any distribution under a rights agreement) or other similar anti-takeover provision under the Company's certificate of incorporation (or similar charter documents) or the laws of its state of incorporation that is or could become applicable to the Purchasers as a result of the Purchasers and the Company fulfilling their obligations or exercising their rights under the Transaction Documents, including without limitation as a result of the Company's issuance of the Securities and the Purchasers' ownership of the Securities.

(y) <u>Disclosure</u>. Except with respect to the material terms and conditions of the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Documents, the Company confirms that neither it nor any other Person acting on its behalf has provided any of the Purchasers or their agents or counsel with any information that it believes constitutes or might constitute material, nonpublic information. The Company understands and confirms that the Purchasers will rely on the foregoing representation in effecting transactions in securities of the Company. All disclosure furnished by or on behalf of the Company to the Purchasers regarding the Company, its business and the transactions contemplated hereby, including the Disclosure Schedules to this Agreement, is true and correct and does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements made therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. The press releases disseminated by the Company during the twelve months preceding the date of this Agreement taken as a whole do not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or ometers to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. The Company agrees that no Purchaser makes or has made any representations or warranties with respect to the transactions contemplated hereby other than those specifically set forth in Section 3.2 hereof.

(z) <u>No Integrated Offering</u>. Assuming the accuracy of the Purchasers' representations and warranties set forth in Section 3.2, neither the Company, nor any of its Affiliates, nor any Person acting on its or their behalf has, directly or indirectly, made any offers or sales of any security or solicited any offers to buy any security, under circumstances that would cause this offering of the Securities to be integrated with prior offerings by the Company for purposes of (i) the Securities Act which would require the registration of any such securities under the Securities Act, or (ii) any applicable shareholder approval provisions of any Trading Market on which any of the securities of the Company are listed or designated.

(aa) <u>Solvency</u>. Based on the consolidated financial condition of the Company as of the Closing after giving effect to the receipt by the Company of the proceeds from the sale of the Maximum Offering hereunder, (i) the fair saleable value of the Company's assets exceeds the amount that will be required to be paid on or in respect of the Company's existing debts and other liabilities (including known contingent liabilities) as they mature, (ii) the Company's assets do not constitute unreasonably small capital to carry on its business as now conducted and as proposed to be conducted including its capital needs taking into account the particular capital requirements of the business conducted by the Company, and projected capital requirements and capital availability thereof, and (iii) the current cash flow of the Company, together with the proceeds the Company would receive, were it to liquidate all of its assets, after taking into account all anticipated uses of the cash, would be sufficient to pay all amounts on or in respect of its liabilities when such amounts are required to be paid. The Company does not intend to incur debts beyond its ability to pay such debts as they mature (taking into account the timing and amounts of cash to be payable on or in respect of its debt). The Company has no knowledge of any facts or circumstances which lead it to believe that it will file for reorganization or liquidation under the bankruptcy or reorganization laws of any jurisdiction within one year from the Final Closing.

(bb) <u>Tax Status</u>. Except for matters that would not, individually or in the aggregate, have or reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, the Company and each Subsidiary has filed all necessary federal, state and foreign income and franchise tax returns and has paid or accrued all taxes shown as due thereon, and the Company has no knowledge of a tax deficiency which has been asserted or threatened against the Company or any Subsidiary.

(cc) <u>No General Solicitation</u>. Neither the Company nor any person acting on behalf of the Company has offered or sold any of the Securities by any form of general solicitation or general advertising. The Company has offered the Securities for sale only to the Purchasers and certain other "accredited investors" within the meaning of Rule 501 under the Securities Act.

(dd) <u>Foreign Corrupt Practices</u>. Neither the Company, nor to the knowledge of the Company, any agent or other person acting on behalf of the Company, has (i) directly or indirectly, used any funds for unlawful contributions, gifts, entertainment or other unlawful expenses related to foreign or domestic political activity, (ii) made any unlawful payment to foreign or domestic government officials or employees or to any foreign or domestic political parties or campaigns from corporate funds, (iii) failed to disclose fully any contribution made by the Company (or made by any person acting on its behalf of which the Company is aware) which is in violation of law, or (iv) violated in any material respect any provision of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, as amended.

(ee) <u>Accountants</u>. The Company's accounting firm is set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(ee)</u> of the Disclosure Schedules. To the knowledge and belief of the Company, such accounting firm (i) is a registered public accounting firm as required by the Exchange Act and (ii) shall express its opinion with respect to the financial statements to be included in the Company's Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2012.

### (ff) Intentionally Omitted.

(gg) <u>No Disagreements with Accountants and Lawyers.</u> There are no disagreements of any kind presently existing, or reasonably anticipated by the Company to arise, between the Company and the accountants and lawyers formerly or presently employed by the Company and the Company is current with respect to any fees owed to its accountants and lawyers which could affect the Company's ability to perform any of its obligations under any of the Transaction Documents.

(hh) <u>Acknowledgment Regarding Purchasers' Purchase of Securities</u>. The Company acknowledges and agrees that each of the Purchasers is acting solely in the capacity of an arm's length purchaser with respect to the Transaction Documents and the transactions contemplated thereby. The Company further acknowledges that no Purchaser is acting as a financial advisor or fiduciary of the Company (or in any similar capacity) with respect to the Transaction Documents and the transactions contemplated thereby and any advice given by any Purchaser or any of their respective representatives or agents in connection with the Transaction Documents and the transactions contemplated thereby is merely incidental to the Purchasers' purchase of the Securities. The Company further represents to each Purchaser that the Company's decision to enter into this Agreement and the other Transaction Documents has been based solely on the independent evaluation of the transactions contemplated hereby by the Company and its representatives.

(ii) <u>Acknowledgement Regarding Purchasers' Trading Activity</u>. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement or elsewhere herein to the contrary (except for Sections 3.2(f) and 4.15 hereof), it is understood and acknowledged by the Company that (i) none of the Purchasers has been asked to agree by the Company, nor has any Purchaser agreed, to desist from purchasing or selling, long and/or short, securities of the Company, or "derivative" securities based on securities issued by the Company or to hold the Securities for any specified term, (ii) past or future open market or other transactions by any Purchaser, specifically including, without limitation, Short Sales or "derivative" transactions, before or after the closing of this or future private placement transactions, may negatively impact the market price of the Company's publicly-traded securities, (iii) any Purchaser, and counter-parties in "derivative" transactions to which any such Purchaser is a party, directly or indirectly, may presently have a "short" position in the Common Stock; and (iv) each Purchaser shall not be deemed to have any affiliation with or control over any arm's length counter-party in any "derivative" transaction. The Company further understands and acknowledges that (a) one or more Purchasers may engage in hedging activities at various times during the period that the Securities are outstanding, including, without limitation, during the periods that the value of the Underlying Shares deliverable with respect to Securities are being determined, and (b) such hedging activities are being conducted. The Company acknowledges that such aforementioned hedging activities do not constitute a breach of any of the Transaction Documents.

(jj) The Company has not, and to its knowledge no one acting on its behalf has, (i) taken, directly or indirectly, any action designed to cause or to result in the stabilization or manipulation of the price of any security of the Company to facilitate the sale or resale of any of the Securities, (ii) sold, bid for, purchased, or paid any compensation for soliciting purchases of, any of the Securities, or (iii) paid or agreed to pay to any Person any compensation for soliciting another to purchase any other securities of the Company.

(kk) <u>Stock Option Plans</u>. Each stock option granted by the Company under the Company's stock option plan was granted (i) in accordance with the terms of the Company's stock option plan and (ii) with an exercise price at least equal to the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date such stock option would be considered granted under GAAP and applicable law. No stock option granted under the Company's stock option plan has been backdated. The Company has not knowingly granted, and there is no and has been no Company policy or practice to knowingly grant, stock options prior to, or otherwise knowingly coordinate the grant of stock options with, the release or other public announcement of material information regarding the Company or its Subsidiaries or their financial results or prospects.

(II) <u>Office of Foreign Assets Control</u>. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary nor, to the Company's knowledge, any director, officer, agent, employee or affiliate of the Company or any Subsidiary is currently subject to any U.S. sanctions administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Treasury Department ("<u>OFAC</u>").

(mm) <u>U.S. Real Property Holding Corporation</u>. The Company is not and has never been a U.S. real property holding corporation within the meaning of Section 897 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the Company shall so certify upon Purchaser's request.

(nn) Neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries or Affiliates is subject to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (the "<u>BHCA</u>") and to regulation by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the "<u>Federal Reserve</u>"). Neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries or Affiliates owns or controls, directly or indirectly, five percent (5%) or more of the outstanding shares of any class of voting securities or twenty-five percent or more of the total equity of a bank or any entity that is subject to the BHCA and to regulation by the Federal Reserve. Neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries or Affiliates exercises a controlling influence over the management or policies of a bank or any entity that is subject to the BHCA and to regulation by the Federal Reserve.

(oo) <u>Money Laundering</u>. The operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries are and have been conducted at all times in compliance with applicable financial record-keeping and reporting requirements of the Currency and Foreign Transactions Reporting Act of 1970, as amended, applicable money laundering statutes and applicable rules and regulations thereunder (collectively, the "<u>Money Laundering Laws</u>"), and no action, suit or proceeding by or before any court or governmental agency, authority or body or any arbitrator involving the Company or any Subsidiary with respect to the Money Laundering Laws is pending or, to the knowledge of the Company or any Subsidiary, threatened.

3.2 <u>Representations and Warranties of the Purchasers</u>. Each Purchaser, for itself and for no other Purchaser hereby, represents and warrants as of the date hereof and as of the Closing Date to the Company as follows:

(a) <u>Organization: Authority</u>. If not a natural person, such Purchaser is an entity duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its organization with full right, corporate or partnership power and authority to enter into and to consummate the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Documents and otherwise to carry out its obligations hereunder and thereunder. The execution and delivery of the Transaction Documents and performance by such Purchaser of the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Documents and performance by such Purchaser of the transactions contemplated by authorized by all necessary corporate or similar action on the part of such Purchaser. Each Transaction Document to which it is a party has been duly executed by such Purchaser, and when delivered by such Purchaser in accordance with the terms hereof, will constitute the valid and legally binding obligation of such Purchaser, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except (i) as limited by general equitable principles and applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other laws of general application affecting enforcement of creditors' rights generally, (ii) as limited by laws relating to the availability of specific performance, injunctive relief or other equitable remedies and (iii) insofar as indemnification and contribution provisions may be limited by applicable law.

(b) <u>Own Account</u>. Such Purchaser understands that the Securities are "restricted securities" and have not been registered under the Securities Act or any applicable state securities law and is acquiring the Securities as principal for its own account and not with a view to or for distributing or reselling such Securities or any part thereof in violation of the Securities Act or any applicable state securities law, has no present intention of distributing any of such Securities in violation of the Securities Act or any applicable state securities law and has no direct or indirect arrangement or understandings with any other persons to distribute or regarding the distribution of such Securities (this representation and warranty not limiting such Purchaser's right to sell the Securities pursuant to the Registration Statement or otherwise in compliance with applicable federal and state securities laws) in violation of the Securities Act or any applicable state securities law. Such Purchaser is acquiring the Securities hereunder in the ordinary course of its business.

(c) <u>Purchaser Status</u>. At the time such Purchaser was offered the Securities, it was, and at the date hereof it is, and on each date on which it exercises any Warrants, it will be either: (i) an "accredited investor" as defined in Rule 501(a) under the Securities Act or (ii) a "qualified institutional buyer" as defined in Rule 144A(a) under the Securities Act. Such Purchaser is not required to be registered as a broker-dealer under Section 15 of the Exchange Act.

(d) <u>Experience of Such Purchaser</u>. Such Purchaser, either alone or together with its representatives, has such knowledge, sophistication and experience in business and financial matters so as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of the prospective investment in the Securities, and has so evaluated the merits and risks of such investment. Such Purchaser is able to bear the economic risk of an investment in the Securities and, at the present time, is able to afford a complete loss of such investment.

(e) <u>General Solicitation</u>. Such Purchaser is not purchasing the Securities as a result of any advertisement, article, notice or other communication regarding the Securities published in any newspaper, magazine or similar media or broadcast over television or radio or presented at any seminar or any other general solicitation or general advertisement.

(f) <u>Short Sales and Confidentiality Prior To The Date Hereof</u>. Other than consummating the transactions contemplated hereunder, such Purchaser has not directly or indirectly, nor has any Person acting on behalf of or pursuant to any understanding with such Purchaser, executed any purchases or sales, including Short Sales, of the securities of the Company during the period commencing from the time that such Purchaser first received a term sheet (written or oral) from the Company or any other Person representing the Company setting forth the material terms of the transactions contemplated hereunder until the date hereof ("Discussion Time"). Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of a Purchaser that is a multi-managed investment vehicle whereby separate portfolio managers manage separate portions of such Purchaser's assets and the portfolio managers have no direct knowledge of the investment decisions made by the portfolio managers managing other portions of such Purchaser's assets, the representation set forth above shall only apply with respect to the portion of assets managed by the portfolio manager that made the investment decision to purchase the Securities covered by this Agreement. Other than to other Persons party to this Agreement, such Purchaser has maintained the confidentiality of all disclosures made to it in connection with this transaction (including the existence and terms of this transaction).

(g) <u>Information</u>. The Purchaser acknowledges it has been furnished with or has had access to the Company's SEC Reports on or prior to Closing. The Purchaser has been given the opportunity to ask questions of, and receive answers from, the Company concerning the terms and conditions of this Offering and to obtain such additional information necessary to verify the accuracy of same as the Purchaser reasonably desires in order to evaluate the investment. The Purchaser acknowledges it does not desire to receive any further information from the Company in order to make an investment in the Securities. The Purchaser has received no representations or warranties from the Company, its employees, agents or attorneys in making this investment decision other than as set forth in this Agreement.

# ARTICLE IV OTHER AGREEMENTS OF THE PARTIES

#### 4.1 <u>Transfer Restrictions</u>.

(a) The Securities may only be disposed of in compliance with state and federal securities laws. In connection with any transfer of Securities other than pursuant to an effective registration statement or Rule 144, to the Company or to an Affiliate of a Purchaser or in connection with a pledge as contemplated in Section 4.1(b), the Company may require the transferor thereof to provide to the Company an opinion of counsel selected by the transferor and reasonably acceptable to the Company, the form and substance of which opinion shall be reasonably satisfactory to the Company, to the effect that such transfer does not require registration of such transferred Securities under the Securities Act. As a condition of transfer, any such transferee shall agree in writing to be bound by the terms of this Agreement and shall have the rights of a Purchaser under this Agreement.

(b) The Purchasers agree to the imprinting, so long as is required by this Section 4.1, of a legend on any of the Securities in the following form:

[NEITHER] THIS SECURITY [NOR THE SECURITIES INTO WHICH THIS SECURITY IS EXERCISABLE] HAS [NOT] BEEN REGISTERED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR THE SECURITIES COMMISSION OF ANY STATE IN RELIANCE UPON AN EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "SECURITIES ACT"), AND, ACCORDINGLY, MAY NOT BE OFFERED OR SOLD EXCEPT PURSUANT TO AN EFFECTIVE REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OR PURSUANT TO AN AVAILABLE EXEMPTION FROM, OR IN A TRANSACTION NOT SUBJECT TO, THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE SECURITIES ACT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE STATE SECURITIES LAWS AS EVIDENCED BY A LEGAL OPINION OF COUNSEL TO THE TRANSFEROR TO SUCH EFFECT, THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH SHALL BE REASONABLY ACCEPTABLE TO THE COMPANY. THIS SECURITY [AND THE SECURITIES ISSUABLE UPON EXERCISE OF THIS SECURITY] MAY BE PLEDGED IN CONNECTION WITH A BONA FIDE MARGIN ACCOUNT OR OTHER LOAN SECURED BY SUCH SECURITIES.

The Company acknowledges and agrees that a Purchaser may from time to time pledge pursuant to a bona fide margin agreement with a registered broker-dealer or grant a security interest in some or all of the Securities to a financial institution that is an "accredited investor" as defined in Rule 501(a) under the Securities Act and who agrees to be bound by the provisions of this Agreement and the Registration Rights Agreement and, if required under the terms of such arrangement, such Purchaser may transfer pledged or secured Securities to the pledgees or secured parties. Such a pledge or transfer would not be subject to approval of the Company and no legal opinion of legal counsel of the pledgee, secured party or pledgor shall be required in connection therewith. Further, no notice shall be required of such pledge. At the appropriate Purchaser's expense, the Company will execute and deliver such reasonable documentation as a pledge or secured party of Securities may reasonably request in connection with a pledge or transfer of the Securities, including, if the Securities are subject to registration pursuant to the Registration Rights Agreement, the preparation and filing of any required prospectus supplement under Rule 424(b)(3) under the Securities Act or other applicable provision of the Securities Act to appropriately amend the list of Selling Stockholders thereunder.

(c) Certificates evidencing the Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares shall not contain any legend (including the legend set forth in Section 4.1(b) hereof): (i) while a registration statement covering the resale of such security is effective under the Securities Act, or (ii) following any sale of such shares of Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares pursuant to Rule 144, or (iii) if such shares of Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares are eligible for sale under Rule 144, without the requirement for the Company to be in compliance with the current public information required under Rule 144 as to such shares of Common Stock Underlying Shares and without volume or manner-of-sale restrictions or (iv) if such legend is not required under applicable requirements of the Securities Act (including judicial interpretations and pronouncements issued by the staff of the Commission). If all or any portion of the shares of Common Stock are sold or any portion of the Warrant is exercised at a time when there is an effective registration statement to cover the resale of the Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares, or if such shares of Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares may be sold under Rule 144 and the Company is then in compliance with the current public information required under Rule 144, or if such shares of Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares may be sold under Rule 144 without the requirement for the Company to be in compliance with the current public information required under Rule 144 as to such shares of Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares and without volume or manner-of-sale restrictions or if such legend is not otherwise required under applicable requirements of the Securities Act (including judicial interpretations and pronouncements issued by the staff of the Commission) then such shares of Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares shall be issued free of all legends. The Company agrees that at such time as such legend is no longer required under this Section 4.1(c), it will, no later than five Trading Days following the delivery by a Purchaser to the Company or the Transfer Agent of a certificate representing the shares of Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares, as applicable, issued with a restrictive legend (such fifth Trading Day, the "Legend Removal Date"), deliver or cause to be delivered to such Purchaser a certificate representing such shares that is free from all restrictive and other legends. The Company may not make any notation on its records or give instructions to the Transfer Agent that enlarge the restrictions on transfer set forth in this Section. Certificates for shares of Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares subject to legend removal hereunder shall be transmitted by the Transfer Agent to the Purchaser by crediting the account of the Purchaser's prime broker with the Depository Trust Company System as directed by such Purchaser.

(d) In addition to such Purchaser's other available remedies, the Company shall pay to a Purchaser, in cash, as partial liquidated damages and not as a penalty, for each \$1,000 of Common Stock and/ or Underlying Shares (based on the VWAP of the Common Stock on the date such Securities are submitted to the Transfer Agent) delivered for removal of the restrictive legend and subject to Section 4.1(c), \$10 per Trading Day (increasing to \$20 per Trading Day five (5) Trading Days after such damages have begun to accrue) for each Trading Day after the Legend Removal Date until such certificate is delivered without a legend. Nothing herein shall limit such Purchaser's right to pursue actual damages for the Company's failure to deliver certificates representing any Securities as required by the Transaction Documents, and such Purchaser shall have the right to pursue all remedies available to it at law or in equity including, without limitation, a decree of specific performance and/or injunctive relief.

(e) Each Purchaser, severally and not jointly with the other Purchasers, agrees that such Purchaser will sell any Securities pursuant to either the registration requirements of the Securities Act, including any applicable prospectus delivery requirements, or an exemption therefrom, and that if Securities are sold pursuant to a Registration Statement, they will be sold in compliance with the plan of distribution set forth therein, and acknowledges that the removal of the restrictive legend from certificates representing Securities as set forth in this Section 4.1 is predicated upon the Company's reliance upon this understanding.

4.2 <u>Acknowledgment of Dilution</u>. The Company acknowledges that the issuance of the Securities may result in dilution of the outstanding shares of Common Stock, which dilution may be substantial under certain market conditions. The Company further acknowledges that its obligations under the Transaction Documents, including, without limitation, its obligation to issue the Securities, including the Underlying Shares pursuant to the Transaction Documents, are unconditional and absolute and not subject to any right of set off, counterclaim, delay or reduction, regardless of the effect of any such dilution or any claim the Company may have against any Purchaser and regardless of the dilutive effect that such issuance may have on the ownership of the other stockholders of the Company.

4.3 <u>Furnishing of Information</u>. Until the time that no Purchaser owns Securities, the Company covenants to timely file (or obtain extensions in respect thereof and file within the applicable grace period) all reports that are required to be filed by the Company pursuant to Section 15(d) the Exchange Act, even if the Company is not then otherwise subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. As long as any Purchaser owns Securities, if the Company is not required to file reports pursuant to the Exchange Act, it will prepare and furnish to the Purchasers and make publicly available in accordance with Rule 144(c) such information as is required for the Purchasers to sell the Securities under Rule 144. The Company further covenants that it will take such further action as any holder of Securities may reasonably request, to the extent required from time to time to enable such Person to sell such Securities without registration under the Securities Act within the requirements of the exemption provided by Rule 144.

4.4 <u>Integration</u>. The Company shall not sell, offer for sale or solicit offers to buy or otherwise negotiate in respect of any security (as defined in Section 2 of the Securities Act) that would be integrated with the offer or sale of the Securities to the Purchasers in a manner that would require the registration under the Securities Act of the sale of the Securities to the Purchasers or that would be integrated with the offer or sale of the Securities for purposes of the rules and regulations of any Trading Market.

4.5 <u>Exercise Procedures</u>. The form of Notice of Exercise included in the Warrants sets forth the totality of the procedures required of the Purchasers in order to exercise the Warrants. No additional legal opinion or other information or instructions shall be required of the Purchasers to exercise their Warrants. The Company shall honor exercises of the Warrants and shall deliver Underlying Shares in accordance with the terms, conditions and time periods set forth in the Transaction Documents.

4.6 Securities Laws Disclosure; Publicity. At any time when in connection with a Closing the Company has received at least 1 million from any Purchaser, the Company shall, by 8:30 a.m. (New York City time) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Trading Day immediately following the Closing, issue a Current Report on Form 8-K, disclosing the material terms of the transactions contemplated hereby and including the Transaction Documents as exhibits thereto. The Company and each Purchaser shall consult with each other in issuing any other press releases with respect to the transactions contemplated hereby, and neither the Company nor any Purchaser shall issue any such press release or otherwise make any such public statement without the prior consent of the Company, with respect to any press release of any Purchaser, or without the prior consent of each Purchaser, with respect to any press release of the Company, which consent shall not unreasonably be withheld or delayed, except if such disclosure is required by law, in which case the disclosing party shall promptly provide the other party with prior notice of such public statement or communication. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company shall not publicly disclose the name of any Purchaser, or include the name of any Purchaser in any filing with the Commission or any regulatory agency or Trading Market, without the prior written consent of such Purchaser, except (i) as required by federal securities law in connection with (A) any registration statement contemplated by the Registration Rights Agreement and (B) the filing of final Transaction Documents (including signature pages thereto) with the Commission and (ii) to the extent such disclosure is required by law or Trading Market regulations, in which case the Company shall provide the Purchasers with prior notice of such disclosure permitted under this clause (ii).

4.7 <u>Shareholder Rights Plan</u>. No claim will be made or enforced by the Company or, with the consent of the Company, any other Person, that any Purchaser is an "Acquiring Person" under any control share acquisition, business combination, poison pill (including any distribution under a rights agreement) or similar anti-takeover plan or arrangement in effect or hereafter adopted by the Company, or that any Purchaser could be deemed to trigger the provisions of any such plan or arrangement, by virtue of receiving Securities under the Transaction Documents or under any other agreement between the Company and the Purchasers.

4.8 <u>Non-Public Information</u>. Except with respect to the material terms and conditions of the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Documents, the Company covenants and agrees that neither it nor any other Person acting on its behalf, will provide any Purchaser or its agents or counsel with any information that the Company believes constitutes material non-public information, unless prior thereto such Purchaser shall have executed a written agreement regarding the confidentiality and use of such information. The Company understands and confirms that each Purchaser shall be relying on the foregoing covenant in effecting transactions in securities of the Company.

4.9 <u>Use of Proceeds</u>. The Company shall use the net proceeds from the sale of the Units hereunder for working capital purposes and the Company shall not use such proceeds for (a) the satisfaction of any portion of the Company's debt (other than payment of trade payables in the ordinary course of the Company's business and consistent with prior practices), (b) the redemption of any Common Stock, preferred stock or Common Stock Equivalents, or (c) the settlement of any outstanding litigation.

4 10 Indemnification of Purchasers. Subject to the provisions of this Section 4.10, the Company will indemnify and hold each Purchaser and its directors, officers, shareholders, members, partners, employees and agents (and any other Persons with a functionally equivalent role of a Person holding such titles notwithstanding a lack of such title or any other title), each Person who controls such Purchaser (within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act and Section 20 of the Exchange Act), and the directors, officers, shareholders, agents, members, partners or employees (and any other Persons with a functionally equivalent role of a Person holding such titles notwithstanding a lack of such title or any other title) of such controlling person (each, a "Purchaser Party") harmless from any and all losses, liabilities, obligations, claims, contingencies, damages, costs and expenses, including all judgments, amounts paid in settlements, court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of investigation that any such Purchaser Party may suffer or incur as a result of or relating to (a) any breach of any of the representations, warranties, covenants or agreements made by the Company in this Agreement or in the other Transaction Documents or (b) any action instituted against a Purchaser in any capacity, or any of them or their respective Affiliates, by any stockholder of the Company who is not an Affiliate of such Purchaser, with respect to any of the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Documents (unless such action is based upon a breach of such Purchaser's representations, warranties or covenants under the Transaction Documents or any agreements or understandings such Purchaser may have with any such stockholder or any violations by the Purchaser of state or federal securities laws or any conduct by such Purchaser which constitutes fraud, gross negligence, willful misconduct or malfeasance). If any action shall be brought against any Purchaser Party in respect of which indemnity may be sought pursuant to this Agreement, such Purchaser Party shall promptly notify the Company in writing, and the Company shall have the right to assume the defense thereof with coursel of its own choosing reasonably acceptable to the Purchaser Party. Any Purchaser Party shall have the right to employ separate counsel in any such action and participate in the defense thereof, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the expense of such Purchaser Party except to the extent that (i) the employment thereof has been specifically authorized by the Company in writing, (ii) the Company has failed after a reasonable period of time to assume such defense and to employ counsel or (iii) in such action there is, in the reasonable opinion of such separate counsel, a material conflict on any material issue between the position of the Company and the position of such Purchaser Party, in which case the Company shall be responsible for the reasonable fees and expenses of no more than one such separate counsel. The Company will not be liable to any Purchaser Party under this Agreement (i) for any settlement by a Purchaser Party effected without the Company's prior written consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed; or (ii) to the extent, but only to the extent that a loss, claim, damage or liability is attributable to any Purchaser Party's breach of any of the representations, warranties, covenants or agreements made by such Purchaser Party in this Agreement or in the other Transaction Documents.

## 4.11 <u>Reservation and Listing of Securities</u>.

(a) The Company shall maintain a reserve from its duly authorized shares of Common Stock for issuance pursuant to the Transaction Documents in such amount as may be required to fulfill its obligations in full under the Transaction Documents.

(b) If, on any date, the number of authorized but unissued (and otherwise unreserved) shares of Common Stock is less than 100% of (i) the Required Minimum on such date, minus (ii) the number of shares of Common Stock previously issued pursuant to the Transaction Documents, then the Board of Directors shall use commercially reasonable efforts to amend the Company's certificate or articles of incorporation to increase the number of authorized but unissued shares of Common Stock to at least the Required Minimum at such time (minus the number of shares of Common Stock previously issued pursuant to the Transaction Documents), as soon as possible and in any event not later than the 75th day after such date; provided that the Company will not be required at any time to authorize a number of shares of Common Stock greater than the maximum remaining number of shares of Common Stock that could possibly be issued after such time pursuant to the Transaction Documents.

(c) The Company shall, if applicable: (i) in the time and manner required by the principal Trading Market, prepare and file with such Trading Market an additional shares listing application covering a number of shares of Common Stock at least equal to the Required Minimum on the date of such application, (ii) take all steps necessary to cause such shares of Common Stock to be approved for listing on such Trading Market as soon as possible thereafter, (iii) provide to the Purchasers evidence of such listing, and (iv) maintain the listing of such Common Stock on any date at least equal to the Required Minimum on such date on such Trading Market or another Trading Market.

4.12 <u>Subsequent Equity Sales</u>. From the date hereof until such time as the Purchasers hold in the aggregate less than 10% of the Common Stock purchased under this Agreement, the Company shall be prohibited from effecting or entering into an agreement to effect any Subsequent Financing involving a Variable Rate Transaction. "<u>Variable Rate Transaction</u>" means a transaction in which the Company issues or sells (i) any debt or equity securities that are convertible into, exchangeable or exercisable for, or include the right to receive additional shares of Common Stock either (A) at a conversion, exercise or exchange rate or other price that is based upon and/or varies with the trading prices of or quotations for the shares of Common Stock at any time after the initial issuance of such debt or equity security or upon the occurrence of specified or contingent events directly or indirectly related to the business of the Company or the market for the Common Stock or (ii) enters into any agreement, including, but not limited to, an equity line of credit, whereby the Company may sell securities at a future determined price.

4.13 <u>Equal Treatment of Purchasers</u>. No consideration shall be offered or paid to any Person to amend or consent to a waiver or modification of any provision of any of the Transaction Documents unless the same consideration is also offered to all of the parties to the Transaction Documents. For clarification purposes, this provision constitutes a separate right granted to each Purchaser by the Company and negotiated separately by each Purchaser, and is intended for the Company to treat the Purchasers as a class and shall not in any way be construed as the Purchasers acting in concert or as a group with respect to the purchase, disposition or voting of Securities or otherwise.

4.14 <u>Short Sales and Confidentiality After The Date Hereof.</u> Each Purchaser, severally and not jointly with the other Purchasers, covenants that neither it, nor any Affiliate acting on its behalf or pursuant to any understanding with it, will execute any Short Sales during the period commencing with the Discussion Time and ending at such time the transactions contemplated by this Agreement are first publicly announced as described in Section 4.6. Each Purchaser, severally and not jointly with the other Purchasers, covenants that until such time as the transactions contemplated by this Agreement are publicly disclosed by the Company as described in Section 4.6, such Purchaser will maintain the confidentiality of the existence and terms of this transaction and the information included in the Transaction Documents and the Disclosure Schedules. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Purchaser makes any representation, warranty or covenant hereby that it will not engage in Short Sales in the securities of the Company after the time that the transactions contemplated by this Agreement are first publicly announced as described in Section 4.6. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of a Purchaser that is a multi-managed investment vehicle whereby separate portfolio managers manage separate portions of such Purchaser's assets and the portfolio managers have no direct knowledge of the investment decisions made by the portfolio managers managing other portions of such Purchaser's assets, the covenant set forth above shall only apply with respect to the portion of assets managed by the portfolio manager that made the investment decision to purchase the Securities covered by this Agreement.

4.15 Form D; Blue Sky Filings. The Company agrees to timely file a Form D with respect to the Securities as required under Regulation D and to provide a copy thereof, promptly upon request of any Purchaser. The Company shall take such action as the Company shall reasonably determine is necessary in order to obtain an exemption for, or to qualify the Securities for, sale to the Purchasers at the Closing under applicable securities or "Blue Sky" laws of the states of the United States, and shall provide evidence of such actions promptly upon request of any Purchaser.

# 4.16 <u>Participation in Future Financing</u>.

(a) From the date hereof until the date that is six months from the Effective Date, except as disclosed on <u>Schedule 4.16(a)</u>, upon any issuance by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries of Common Stock, Common Stock Equivalents for cash consideration, Indebtedness or a combination of units hereof (a "<u>Subsequent Financing</u>"), each Purchaser who purchases at least \$500,000 of Units (a "Large Purchaser") shall have the right to participate in up to an amount of the Subsequent Financing equal to 100% of the Subsequent Financing (the "<u>Participation Maximum</u>") on the same terms, conditions and price provided for in the Subsequent Financing.

(b) At least five (5) Trading Days prior to the closing of the Subsequent Financing, the Company shall deliver to each Large Purchaser a written notice of its intention to effect a Subsequent Financing ("<u>Pre-Notice</u>"), which Pre-Notice shall ask such Large Purchaser if it wants to review the details of such financing (such additional notice, a "<u>Subsequent Financing Notice</u>"). Upon the request of a Large Purchaser, and only upon a request by such Large Purchaser, for a Subsequent Financing Notice, the Company shall promptly, but no later than one (1) Trading Day after such request, deliver a Subsequent Financing Notice to such Large Purchaser. The Subsequent Financing Notice shall describe in reasonable detail the proposed terms of such Subsequent Financing, the amount of proceeds intended to be raised thereunder and the Person or Persons through or with whom such Subsequent Financing is proposed to be effected and shall include a term sheet or similar document relating thereto as an attachment.

(c) Any Large Purchaser desiring to participate in such Subsequent Financing must provide written notice to the Company by not later than 5:30 p.m. (New York City time) on the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Trading Day after all of the Large Purchasers have received the Pre-Notice that such Large Purchaser is willing to participate in the Subsequent Financing, the amount of such Large Purchaser's participation, and representing and warranting that such Purchaser has such funds ready, willing, and available for investment on the terms set forth in the Subsequent Financing Notice. If the Company receives no such notice from a Large Purchaser as of such fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Trading Day, such Large Purchaser shall be deemed to have notified the Company that it does not elect to participate.

(d) If by 5:30 p.m. (New York City time) on the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Trading Day after all of the Large Purchasers have received the Pre-Notice, notifications by the Large Purchasers of their willingness to participate in the Subsequent Financing (or to cause their designees to participate) is, in the aggregate, less than the total amount of the Subsequent Financing, then the Company may effect the remaining portion of such Subsequent Financing on the terms and with the Persons set forth in the Subsequent Financing Notice.

(e) If by 5:30 p.m. (New York City time) on the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Trading Day after all of the Large Purchasers have received the Pre-Notice, the Company receives responses to a Subsequent Financing Notice from Large Purchasers seeking to purchase more than the aggregate amount of the Participation Maximum, each such Large Purchaser shall have the right to purchase its Pro Rata Portion (as defined below) of the Participation Maximum. "<u>Pro Rata Portion</u>" means the ratio of (x) the Subscription Amount of Securities purchaser participating under this Section 4.12 and (y) the sum of the aggregate Subscription Amounts of Securities purchased on the Closing Date by all Large Purchasers participating under this Section 4.12.

(f) The Company must provide the Large Purchasers with a second Subsequent Financing Notice, and the Large Purchasers will again have the right of participation set forth above in this Section 4.12, if the Subsequent Financing subject to the initial Subsequent Financing Notice is not consummated for any reason on the terms set forth in such Subsequent Financing Notice within thirty (30) Trading Days after the date of the initial Subsequent Financing Notice.

(g) The Company and each Large Purchaser agree that if any Large Purchaser elects to participate in the Subsequent Financing, the transaction documents related to the Subsequent Financing shall not include any term or provision whereby such Large Purchaser shall be required to agree to any restrictions on trading as to any of the Securities purchased hereunder or be required to consent to any amendment to or termination of, or grant any waiver, release or the like under or in connection with, this Agreement, without the prior written consent of such Large Purchaser.

(h) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 4.12 and unless otherwise agreed to by such Large Purchaser, the Company shall either confirm in writing to such Large Purchaser that the transaction with respect to the Subsequent Financing has been abandoned or shall publicly disclose its intention to issue the securities in the Subsequent Financing, in either case in such a manner such that such Large Purchaser will not be in possession of any material, non-public information, by the tenth (10th) Business Day following delivery of the Subsequent Financing has been made, and no notice regarding the abandonment of such transaction has been received by such Large Purchaser, such transaction shall be deemed to have been abandoned and such Large Purchaser shall not be deemed to be in possession of any material, non-public information with respect to the Company or any of its Subsidiaries.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Section 4.16 shall not apply in respect of (i) an Exempt Issuance, or (ii) an underwritten public offering of Common Stock.

Public Information. At any time during the period commencing from the six (6) month anniversary of the Closing Date and 4.17 ending at such time that all of the Securities, may be sold without the requirement for the Company to be in compliance with Rule 144(c)(1) and otherwise without restriction or limitation pursuant to Rule 144, if the Company shall fail for any reason to satisfy the current public information requirement under Rule 144(c) (a "Public Information Failure") then, in addition to such Purchaser's other available remedies, the Company shall pay to a Purchaser, in cash, as partial liquidated damages and not as a penalty, by reason of any such delay in or reduction of its ability to sell the Securities, an amount in cash equal to two percent (2.0%) of the aggregate Subscription Amount of such Purchaser's Securities on the day of a Public Information Failure and on every thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) day (pro rated for periods totaling less than thirty days) thereafter until the earlier of (a) the date such Public Information Failure is cured and (b) such time that such public information is no longer required for the Purchasers to transfer the Common Stock and/or Underlying Shares pursuant to Rule 144. The payments to which a Purchaser shall be entitled pursuant to this Section 4.17 are referred to herein as "Public Information Failure Payments." Public Information Failure Payments shall be paid on the earlier of (i) the last day of the calendar month during which such Public Information Failure Payments are incurred and (ii) the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Business Day after the event or failure giving rise to the Public Information Failure Payments is cured. In the event the Company fails to make Public Information Failure Payments in a timely manner, such Public Information Failure Payments shall bear interest at the rate of 1.5% per month (prorated for partial months) until paid in full. Nothing herein shall limit such Purchaser's right to pursue actual damages for the Public Information Failure. and such Purchaser shall have the right to pursue all remedies available to it at law or in equity including, without limitation, a decree of specific performance and/or injunctive relief.

4.18 <u>Capital Changes</u>. Until the one year anniversary of the Effective Date, the Company shall not undertake a reverse or forward stock split or reclassification of the Common Stock without the prior written consent of the Purchasers unless the purpose of the reverse split is to meet the initial listing requirements of the Nasdaq or New York Stock Exchanges (including the NYSEMKT).

4.19 <u>DTC Eligible</u>. By the effective date of the Registration Statement, the Company through its transfer agent, will be a participant in the Depository Trust Company Fast Automated Securities Transfer Program or other system which provides for the Company's Common Stock to be transferred electronically. Any failure will be treated as an Event under the Registration Rights Agreement by and among the Company and the Purchasers, and the penalties in Section 2(b) of the Registration Rights Agreement shall apply.

#### ARTICLE V MISCELLANEOUS

5.1 <u>Entire Agreement</u>. The Transaction Documents, together with the exhibits and schedules thereto, contain the entire understanding of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersede all prior agreements and understandings, oral or written, with respect to such matters, which the parties acknowledge have been merged into such documents, exhibits and schedules.

5.2 <u>Notices</u>. Any and all notices or other communications or deliveries required or permitted to be provided hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed given and effective on the earliest of (a) the date of transmission, if such notice or communication is delivered via facsimile at the facsimile number set forth on the signature pages attached hereto prior to 5:30 p.m. (New York City time) on a Trading Day, (b) the next Trading Day after the date of transmission, if such notice or communication is delivered via facsimile at the facsimile number set forth on the signature pages attached hereto prior to 5:30 p.m. (New York City time) on any Trading Day, (b) the signature pages attached hereto on a day that is not a Trading Day or later than 5:30 p.m. (New York City time) on any Trading Day, (c) the second Trading Day following the date of mailing, if sent by U.S. nationally recognized overnight courier service, or (d) upon actual receipt by the party to whom such notice is required to be given. The address for such notices and communications shall be as set forth on the signature pages attached hereto.

5.3 <u>Amendments: Waivers</u>. No provision of this Agreement may be waived, modified, supplemented or amended except in a written instrument signed, in the case of an amendment, by the Company and the Purchasers holding at least 51% in interest of the Common Stock then outstanding or, in the case of a waiver, by the party against whom enforcement of any such waived provision is sought. No waiver of any default with respect to any provision, condition or requirement of this Agreement shall be deemed to be a continuing waiver in the future or a waiver of any subsequent default or a waiver of any other provision, condition or requirement hereof, nor shall any delay or omission of any party to exercise any right hereunder in any manner impair the exercise of any such right.

5.4 <u>Headings</u>. The headings herein are for convenience only, do not constitute a part of this Agreement and shall not be deemed to limit or affect any of the provisions hereof.

5.5 <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties and their successors and permitted assigns. The Company may not assign this Agreement or any rights or obligations hereunder without the prior written consent of each Purchaser (other than by merger). Any Purchaser may assign any or all of its rights under this Agreement to any Person to whom such Purchaser assigns or transfers any Securities, provided that such transferee agrees in writing to be bound, with respect to the transferred Securities, by the provisions of the Transaction Documents that apply to the "Purchasers."

5.6 <u>No Third-Party Beneficiaries</u>. This Agreement is intended for the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns and is not for the benefit of, nor may any provision hereof be enforced by, any other Person, except as otherwise set forth in Section 4.10.

5.7 Governing Law. All questions concerning the construction, validity, enforcement and interpretation of the Transaction Documents shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the internal laws of the State of New York, without regard to the principles of conflicts of law thereof. Each party agrees that all legal proceedings concerning the interpretations, enforcement and defense of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and any other Transaction Documents (whether brought against a party hereto or its respective affiliates, directors, officers, shareholders, employees or agents) shall be commenced exclusively in the state and federal courts sitting in the City of New York. Each party hereby irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the state and federal courts sitting in the City of New York, borough of Manhattan for the adjudication of any dispute hereunder or in connection herewith or with any transaction contemplated hereby or discussed herein (including with respect to the enforcement of any of the Transaction Documents), and hereby irrevocably waives, and agrees not to assert in any suit, action or proceeding, any claim that it is not personally subject to the jurisdiction of any such court, that such suit, action or proceeding is improper or is an inconvenient venue for such proceeding. Each party hereby irrevocably waives personal service of process and consents to process being served in any such suit, action or proceeding by mailing a copy thereof via registered or certified mail or overnight delivery (with evidence of delivery) to such party at the address in effect for notices to it under this Agreement and agrees that such service shall constitute good and sufficient service of process and notice thereof. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to limit in any way any right to serve process in any other manner permitted by law. If either party shall commence an action or proceeding to enforce any provisions of the Transaction Documents, then the prevailing party in such action or proceeding shall be reimbursed by the other party for its reasonable attorneys' fees and other costs and expenses incurred with the investigation, preparation and prosecution of such action or proceeding.

5.8 <u>Expenses</u>. The Company and each Purchaser shall pay their own expenses in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

5.9 <u>Survival</u>. The representations and warranties shall survive the Closing and the delivery of the Securities for the applicable statute of limitations.

5.10 Execution. This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, all of which when taken together shall be considered one and the same agreement and shall become effective when counterparts have been signed by each party and delivered to the other party, it being understood that both parties need not sign the same counterpart. In the event that any signature is delivered by facsimile transmission or by e-mail delivery of a ".pdf" format data file, such signature shall create a valid and binding obligation of the party executing (or on whose behalf such signature is executed) with the same force and effect as if such facsimile or ".pdf" signature page were an original thereof.

5.11 Severability. If any term, provision, covenant or restriction of this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal, void or unenforceable, the remainder of the terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions set forth herein shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired or invalidated, and the parties hereto shall use their commercially reasonable efforts to find and employ an alternative means to achieve the same or substantially the same result as that contemplated by such term, provision, covenant or restriction. It is hereby stipulated and declared to be the intention of the parties that they would have executed the remaining terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions without including any of such that may be hereafter declared invalid, illegal, void or unenforceable.

5.12 <u>Rescission and Withdrawal Right</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in (and without limiting any similar provisions of) any of the other Transaction Documents, whenever any Purchaser exercises a right, election, demand or option under a Transaction Document and the Company does not timely perform its related obligations within the periods therein provided, then such Purchaser may rescind or withdraw, in its sole discretion from time to time upon written notice to the Company, any relevant notice, demand or election in whole or in part without prejudice to its future actions and rights; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that in the case of a rescission of an exercise of a Warrant, the Purchaser shall be required to return any shares of Common Stock subject to any such rescinded conversion or exercise notice.

5.13 <u>Replacement of Securities</u>. If any certificate or instrument evidencing any Securities is mutilated, lost, stolen or destroyed, the Company shall issue or cause to be issued in exchange and substitution for and upon cancellation thereof (in the case of mutilation), or in lieu of and substitution therefor, a new certificate or instrument, but only upon receipt of evidence reasonably satisfactory to the Company of such loss, theft or destruction. The applicant for a new certificate or instrument under such circumstances shall also pay any reasonable third-party costs (including customary indemnity) associated with the issuance of such replacement Securities.

5.14 <u>Remedies</u>. In addition to being entitled to exercise all rights provided herein or granted by law, including recovery of damages, each of the Purchasers and the Company will be entitled to specific performance under the Transaction Documents. The parties agree that monetary damages may not be adequate compensation for any loss incurred by reason of any breach of obligations contained in the Transaction Documents and hereby agrees to waive and not to assert in any action for specific performance of any such obligation the defense that a remedy at law would be adequate.

5.15 <u>Payment Set Aside</u>. To the extent that the Company makes a payment or payments to any Purchaser pursuant to any Transaction Document or a Purchaser enforces or exercises its rights thereunder, and such payment or payments or the proceeds of such enforcement or exercise or any part thereof are subsequently invalidated, declared to be fraudulent or preferential, set aside, recovered from, disgorged by or are required to be refunded, repaid or otherwise restored to the Company, a trustee, receiver or any other person under any law (including, without limitation, any bankruptcy law, state or federal law, common law or equitable cause of action), then to the extent of any such restoration the obligation or part thereof originally intended to be satisfied shall be revived and continued in full force and effect as if such payment had not been made or such enforcement or setoff had not occurred.

5.16 Independent Nature of Purchasers' Obligations and Rights. The obligations of each Purchaser under any Transaction Document are several and not joint with the obligations of any other Purchaser, and no Purchaser shall be responsible in any way for the performance or non-performance of the obligations of any other Purchaser under any Transaction Document. Nothing contained herein or in any other Transaction Document, and no action taken by any Purchaser pursuant thereto, shall be deemed to constitute the Purchasers as a partnership, an association, a joint venture or any other kind of entity, or create a presumption that the Purchasers are in any way acting in concert or as a group with respect to such obligations or the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Documents. Each Purchaser shall be entitled to independently protect and enforce its rights, including without limitation, the rights arising out of this Agreement or out of the other Transaction Documents, and it shall not be necessary for any other Purchaser to be joined as an additional party in any proceeding for such purpose. Each Purchaser has been represented by its own separate legal counsel in their review and negotiation of the Transaction Documents.

5.17 <u>Liquidated Damages</u>. The Company's obligations to pay any partial liquidated damages or other amounts owing under the Transaction Documents is a continuing obligation of the Company and shall not terminate until all unpaid partial liquidated damages and other amounts have been paid notwithstanding the fact that the instrument or security pursuant to which such partial liquidated damages or other amounts are due and payable shall have been canceled.

5.18 <u>Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays, etc.</u> If the last or appointed day for the taking of any action or the expiration of any right required or granted herein shall not be a Business Day, then such action may be taken or such right may be exercised on the next succeeding Business Day.

5.19 <u>Construction</u>. The parties agree that each of them and/or their respective counsel has reviewed and had an opportunity to revise the Transaction Documents and, therefore, the normal rule of construction to the effect that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not be employed in the interpretation of the Transaction Documents or any amendments hereto.

5.20 <u>Waiver of Jury Trial</u>. In any action, suit or proceeding in any jurisdiction brought by any party against any other party, the parties each knowingly and intentionally, to the greatest extent permitted by applicable law, hereby absolutely, unconditionally, irrevocably and expressly waives forever trial by jury.

[Signature Page Follows]



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Securities Purchase Agreement to be duly executed by their respective authorized signatories as of the date first indicated above.

# ASPEN GROUP, INC.

<u>224 W 30<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 206</u> <u>New York, NY 10001</u> <u>Fax (347) 868-6229</u>

By:\_\_\_\_\_ Name: Michael D. Mathews Title: Chief Executive Officer

With a copy to (which shall not constitute notice):

Nason, Yeager, Gerson, White & Lioce, P.A. 1645 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd. 12<sup>th</sup> Floor West Palm Beach, FL 33401 Fax: (561) 686-5442

## [REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK SIGNATURE PAGE FOR PURCHASER FOLLOWS]

# [PURCHASER SIGNATURE PAGES TO ASPEN GROUP, INC. SECURITIES PURCHASE AGREEMENT]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have caused this Securities Purchase Agreement to be duly executed by their respective authorized signatories as of the date first indicated above.

Address for Notice of Purchaser:

Addres for Delivery of Securities for Purchaser (if not same as address for notice):

Subscription Amount:\_\_\_\_\_ Shares of Common Stock:\_\_\_\_\_ Warrant Shares: \_\_\_\_\_\_

EIN Number: [PROVIDE THIS UNDER SEPARATE COVER]

## **REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT**

This Registration Rights Agreement (this "<u>Agreement</u>") is made and entered into as of February \_\_\_, 2013, between Aspen Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "<u>Company</u>") and each of the several purchasers signatory hereto (each such purchaser, a "<u>Purchaser</u>" and, collectively, the "<u>Purchasers</u>").

This Agreement is made pursuant to the Subscription Agreement, dated as of the date hereof, between the Company and each Purchaser (the "Purchase Agreement").

The Company and each Purchaser hereby agrees as follows:

1. Definitions

# Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined herein that are defined in the Purchase Agreement shall have the meanings given such terms in the Purchase Agreement.

As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

"<u>Advice</u>" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 6(d).

"Commission" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"<u>Effectiveness Date</u>" means, with respect to the Initial Registration Statement required to be filed hereunder, April 30, 2013; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that in the event the Company is notified by the Commission that one or more of the Registration Statements will not be reviewed or is no longer subject to further review and comments, the Effectiveness Date as to such Registration Statement shall be the fifth Trading Day following the date on which the Company is so notified if such date precedes the date otherwise required above.

"Effectiveness Period" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2(a).

"Event" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2(b).

"Event Date" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2(b).

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

"<u>Filing Date</u>" means, with respect to the Initial Registration Statement required hereunder, no later then 60 days following the last Closing and, with respect to any additional Registration Statements which may be required pursuant to Section 3(c), the earliest practical date on which the Company is permitted by SEC Guidance to file such additional Registration Statement related to the Registrable Securities.

"Holder" or "Holders" means the holder or holders, as the case may be, from time to time of Registrable Securities.

"Indemnified Party" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5(c).

"Indemnifying Party" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5(c).

"Initial Registration Statement" means the initial Registration Statement filed pursuant to this Agreement.

"Losses" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5(a).

"Plan of Distribution" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2(a).

"<u>Prospectus</u>" means the prospectus included in a Registration Statement (including, without limitation, a prospectus that includes any information previously omitted from a prospectus filed as part of an effective registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A promulgated by the Commission pursuant to the Securities Act), as amended or supplemented by any prospectus supplement, with respect to the terms of the offering of any portion of the Registrable Securities covered by a Registration Statement, and all other amendments and supplements to the Prospectus, including post-effective amendments, and all material incorporated by reference or deemed to be incorporated by reference in such Prospectus.

"<u>Registrable Securities</u>" means (a) all of the shares of Common Stock issued pursuant to the Purchase Agreement (b) all Warrant Shares (assuming on the date of determination the Warrants are exercised in full without regard to any exercise limitations therein), (c) any additional shares of Common Stock issuable in connection with any anti-dilution provisions in the Purchase Agreement and/or the Warrants (without giving effect to any limitations on exercise set forth in the Purchase Agreement and Warrants) and (d) any securities issued or issuable upon any stock split, dividend or other distribution, recapitalization or similar event with respect to the foregoing; <u>provided, however</u>, that the Company shall not be required to maintain the effectiveness, or file another Registration Statement hereunder with respect to any Registrable Securities that are not subject to the current public information requirement under Rule 144 and that are eligible for resale without volume or manner-of-sale restrictions without current public information pursuant to Rule 144 promulgated by the Commission pursuant to a written opinion letter to such effect, addressed, delivered and acceptable to the affected Holders.

"<u>Registration Statement</u>" means any registration statement required to be filed hereunder pursuant to Section 2(a) and any additional registration statements contemplated by Section 3(c), including (in each case) the Prospectus, amendments and supplements to any such registration statement or Prospectus, including pre- and post-effective amendments, all exhibits thereto, and all material incorporated by reference or deemed to be incorporated by reference in any such registration statement.

"<u>Rule 415</u>" means Rule 415 promulgated by the Commission pursuant to the Securities Act, as such Rule may be amended or interpreted from time to time, or any similar rule or regulation hereafter adopted by the Commission having substantially the same purpose and effect as such Rule.

"<u>Rule 424</u>" means Rule 424 promulgated by the Commission pursuant to the Securities Act, as such Rule may be amended or interpreted from time to time, or any similar rule or regulation hereafter adopted by the Commission having substantially the same purpose and effect as such Rule.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

"Selling Stockholder Questionnaire" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3(a).

"SEC Guidance" means (i) any publicly-available written or oral guidance, comments, requirements or requests of the Commission staff and (ii) the Securities Act.

#### 2. Shelf Registration

(a) On or prior to each Filing Date, the Company shall prepare and file with the Commission a Registration Statement covering the resale of all of the Registrable Securities that are not then registered on an effective Registration Statement for an offering to be made on a continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415. Each Registration Statement filed hereunder shall be on Form S-3 (except if the Company is not then eligible to register for resale the Registrable Securities on Form S-3, in which case such registration shall be on another appropriate form in accordance herewith) and shall contain (unless otherwise directed by at least an 85% majority in interest of the Holders) substantially the "Plan of Distribution" attached hereto as Annex A. The Company shall respond to any comments from the staff of the Commission within 15 days of the receipt of such comments. In the event the amount of Registrable Securities which may be included in the Registration Statement is limited due to SEC Guidance (provided that, the Company shall use diligent efforts to advocate with the Commission for the registration of all of the Registrable Securities in accordance with the SEC Guidance, including without limitation, the Section 612.09 of the Compliance and Disclosure Interpretations) the Company shall use its best efforts to register such maximum portion of the Registrable Securities as permitted by SEC Guidance. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Company shall use its best efforts to cause a Registration Statement to be declared effective under the Securities Act as promptly as possible after the filing thereof, but in any event prior to the applicable Effectiveness Date, and shall use its best efforts to keep such Registration Statement continuously effective under the Securities Act until all Registrable Securities covered by such Registration Statement have been sold, or may be sold without volume or manner-of-sale restrictions pursuant to Rule 144, without the requirement for the Company to be in compliance with the current public information requirement under Rule 144, or not required to be registered in reliance upon the exemption in Section 4(a)(1) under the Securities Act, in either case as determined by the counsel to the Company pursuant to a written opinion letter to such effect, addressed and acceptable to the Transfer Agent and the affected Holders (the "Effectiveness Period"). The Company shall telephonically request effectiveness of a Registration Statement as of 5:00 p.m. New York City time on a Trading Day. The Company shall immediately notify the Holders via facsimile or by e-mail of the effectiveness of a Registration Statement on the same Trading Day that the Company telephonically confirms effectiveness with the Commission, which shall be the date requested for effectiveness of such Registration Statement. The Company shall, by 9:30 a.m. New York City time on the Trading Day after the effective date of such Registration Statement, file a final Prospectus with the Commission as required by Rule 424. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, if any SEC Guidance sets forth a limitation on the number of Registrable Securities permitted to be registered on a particular Registration Statement (and notwithstanding that the Company used diligent efforts to advocate with the Commission for the registration of all or a greater portion of Registrable Securities), unless otherwise directed in writing by a Holder as to its Registrable Securities, the number of Registrable Securities to be registered on such Registration Statement will first be reduced by Registrable Securities represented by Warrant Shares (applied, in the case that some Warrant Shares may be registered, to the Holders on a pro rata basis based on the total number of unregistered Warrant Shares held by such Holders), and second by Registrable Securities represented by the Common Shares purchased by the Purchasers pursuant to the Purchase Agreement. In the event of a cutback hereunder, the Company shall give the Holder at least five (5) Trading Days prior written notice along with the calculations as to such Holder's allotment.



(b) If a Registration Statement registering for resale all of the Registrable Securities is not declared effective by the Commission by the Effectiveness Date of the Initial Registration Statement (unless the sole reason for such non-registration of all or any portion of the Registrable Securities is solely as a result of SEC Guidance under Rule 415 or similar rule which limits the number of Registrable Securities which may be included in a registration statement with respect to the Holders), or (ii) after the effective date of a Registration Statement, such Registration Statement ceases for any reason to remain continuously effective as to all Registrable Securities included in such Registration Statement, or the Holders are otherwise not permitted to utilize the Prospectus therein to resell such Registrable Securities, for more than 30 calendar days during any 12-month period, (any such failure or breach being referred to as an "Event", and the date on which such Event occurs, being referred to as "Event Date"), then, in addition to any other rights the Holders may have hereunder or under applicable law, on each such Event Date and on each monthly anniversary of each such Event Date (if the applicable Event shall not have been cured by such date) until the applicable Event is cured, the Company shall pay to each Holder an amount in cash, as partial liquidated damages and not as a penalty, equal to 1% of the purchase price paid by such Holder pursuant to the Purchase Agreement up to a maximum of 6%, during which such Event continues uncured. If the Company fails to pay any partial liquidated damages pursuant to this Section in full within seven days after the date payable, the Company will pay interest thereon at a rate of 18% per annum (or such lesser maximum amount that is permitted to be paid by applicable law) to the Holder, accruing daily from the date such partial liquidated damages are due until such amounts, plus all such interest thereon, are paid in full. The partial liquidated damages pursuant to the terms hereof shall apply on a daily pro rata basis for any portion of a month prior to the cure of an Event. Provided, however, the foregoing liquidated damages shall not accrue or be otherwise charged during any period in which the Investor may sell all Shares on any given day under Rule 144, or in reliance upon the exemption in Section 4(1) under the Securities Act, or after such Investor has publicly sold its Registrable Securities. Provided, further, no penalty shall accrue under this Section 2(b) in the event that the Company elects to suspend the use of the Prospectus or Registration Statement under Section 3(c)(vi) for up to 30 days in any 365 day period.

#### 3. Registration Procedures.

In connection with the Company's registration obligations hereunder, the Company shall:

(a) Not less than five (5) Trading Days prior to the filing of each Registration Statement and not less than one (1) Trading Day prior to the filing of any related Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto (including any document that would be incorporated or deemed to be incorporated therein by reference), the Company shall (i) furnish to the Purchasers copies of all such documents proposed to be filed, which documents (other than those incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference) will be subject to the review of the Purchasers, and (ii) cause its officers and directors, counsel and independent registered public accountants to respond to reasonable inquiries as shall be necessary, in the reasonable opinion of Legal Counsel, to conduct a reasonable investigation within the meaning of the Securities Act. The Company shall not file a Registration Statement or any such Prospectus or any amendments or supplements thereto to which the Holders of a majority of the Registrable Securities shall reasonably object in good faith, provided that, the Company is notified of such objection in writing no later than five (5) Trading Days after Purchasers have been furnished copies of a Registration Statement or one (1) Trading Day after Purchasers have been furnished copies of any related Prospectus or amendments or supplements thereto. Each Holder agrees to furnish to the Company a completed questionnaire in the form attached to this Agreement as <u>Annex B</u> (a "Selling Stockholder Questionnaire") on a date that is not less than two (2) Trading Days prior to the Filing Date or by the end of the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Trading Day following the date on which such Holder receives draft materials in accordance with this Section.

(b) (i) prepare and file with the Commission such amendments, including post-effective amendments, to a Registration Statement and the Prospectus used in connection therewith as may be necessary to keep a Registration Statement continuously effective as to the applicable Registrable Securities for the Effectiveness Period and prepare and file with the Commission such additional Registration Statements in order to register for resale under the Securities Act all of the Registrable Securities, (ii) cause the related Prospectus to be amended or supplemented by any required Prospectus supplement (subject to the terms of this Agreement), and, as so supplemented or amended, to be filed pursuant to Rule 424, (iii) respond as promptly as reasonably possible to any comments received from the Commission with respect to a Registration Statement or any amendment thereto and provide as promptly as reasonably possible to the Holders true and complete copies of all correspondence from and to the Commission relating to a Registration Statement (provided that, the Company may excise any information contained therein which would constitute material non-public information as to any Holder which has not executed a confidentiality agreement with the Company), and (iv) comply in all material respects with the provisions of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act with respect to the terms of this Agreement) with the intended methods of disposition by the Holders thereof set forth in such Registration Statement as so amended or in such Prospectus as so supplemented.

(c) Notify the Holders of Registrable Securities to be sold (which notice shall, pursuant to clauses (iii) through (vi) hereof, be accompanied by an instruction to suspend the use of the Prospectus until the requisite changes have been made) as promptly as reasonably possible (and, in the case of (i)(A) below, not less than one Trading Day prior to such filing) and (if requested by any such Person) confirm such notice in writing no later than one Trading Day following the day (i)(A) when a Prospectus or any Prospectus supplement or post-effective amendment to a Registration Statement is proposed to be filed, (B) when the Commission notifies the Company whether there will be a "review" of such Registration Statement and whenever the Commission comments in writing on such Registration Statement, and (C) with respect to a Registration Statement or any post-effective amendment, when the same has become effective, (ii) of any request by the Commission or any other federal or state governmental authority for amendments or supplements to a Registration Statement or Prospectus or for additional information, (iii) of the issuance by the Commission or any other federal or state governmental authority of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of a Registration Statement covering any or all of the Registrable Securities or the initiation of any Proceedings for that purpose; (iv) of the receipt by the Company of any notification with respect to the suspension of the qualification or exemption from qualification of any of the Registrable Securities for sale in any jurisdiction, or the initiation or threatening of any Proceeding for such purpose, (v) of the occurrence of any event or passage of time that makes the financial statements included in a Registration Statement ineligible for inclusion therein or any statement made in a Registration Statement or Prospectus or any document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated therein by reference untrue in any material respect or that requires any revisions to a Registration Statement, Prospectus or other documents so that, in the case of a Registration Statement or the Prospectus, as the case may be, it will not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading and (vi) of the occurrence or existence of any pending corporate development with respect to the Company that the Company believes may be material and that, in the determination of the Company, makes it not in the best interest of the Company to allow continued availability of a Registration Statement or Prospectus, provided that, any and all of such information shall remain confidential to each Holder until such information otherwise becomes public, unless disclosure by a Holder is required by law; provided, further, that notwithstanding each Holder's agreement to keep such information confidential, each such Holder makes no acknowledgement that any such information is material, non-public information.

(d) Use its best efforts to avoid the issuance of, or, if issued, obtain the withdrawal of (i) any order stopping or suspending the effectiveness of a Registration Statement, or (ii) any suspension of the qualification (or exemption from qualification) of any of the Registrable Securities for sale in any jurisdiction, at the earliest practicable moment.

(e) Furnish to each Holder, without charge, at least one conformed copy of each such Registration Statement and each amendment thereto, including financial statements and schedules, all documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated therein by reference to the extent requested by such Person, and all exhibits to the extent requested by such Person (including those previously furnished or incorporated by reference) promptly after the filing of such documents with the Commission; provided, that any such item which is available on the EDGAR system need not be furnished in physical form.

(f) Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Company hereby consents to the use of such Prospectus and each amendment or supplement thereto by each of the selling Holders in connection with the offering and sale of the Registrable Securities covered by such Prospectus and any amendment or supplement thereto, except after the giving of any notice pursuant to Section 3(c).

(g) The Company shall cooperate with any broker-dealer through which a Holder proposes to resell its Registrable Securities in effecting a filing with the FINRA Corporate Financing Department pursuant to NASD Rule 2710, as requested by any such Holder, and the Company shall pay the filing fee required by such filing within two (2) Business Days of request therefor.

(h) Prior to any resale of Registrable Securities by a Holder, use its commercially reasonable efforts to register or qualify or cooperate with the selling Holders in connection with the registration or qualification (or exemption from the Registration or qualification) of such Registrable Securities for the resale by the Holder under the securities or Blue Sky laws of such jurisdictions within the United States as any Holder reasonably requests in writing, to keep each registration or qualification (or exemption therefrom) effective during the Effectiveness Period and to do any and all other acts or things reasonably necessary to enable the disposition in such jurisdictions of the Registrable Securities covered by each Registration Statement; provided, that, the Company shall not be required to qualify generally to do business in any jurisdiction where it is not then so qualified, subject the Company to any material tax in any such jurisdiction where it is not then so subject or file a general consent to service of process in any such jurisdiction.

(i) If requested by a Holder, cooperate with such Holders to facilitate the timely preparation and delivery of certificates representing Registrable Securities to be delivered to a transferee pursuant to a Registration Statement, which certificates shall be free, to the extent permitted by the Purchase Agreement, of all restrictive legends, and to enable such Registrable Securities to be in such denominations and registered in such names as any such Holder may request.

(j) If the Company notifies the Holders in accordance with clauses (iii) through (vi) of Section 3(c) above to suspend the use of any Prospectus until the requisite changes to such Prospectus have been made, then the Holders shall suspend use of such Prospectus. The Company will use its best efforts to ensure that the use of the Prospectus may be resumed as promptly as is practicable.

(k) Comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Commission.

(1) The Company may require each selling Holder to furnish to the Company a certified statement as to the number of shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by such Holder and, if required by the Commission, the natural persons thereof that have voting and dispositive control over the shares. The Company shall not be liable for any damages during any periods that the Company is unable to meet its obligations hereunder with respect to the registration of the Registrable Securities solely because any Holder fails to furnish such information within three Trading Days of the Company's request.

4. Registration Expenses. All fees and expenses incident to the performance of or compliance with this Agreement by the Company shall be borne by the Company whether or not any Registrable Securities are sold pursuant to a Registration Statement. The fees and expenses referred to in the foregoing sentence shall include, without limitation, (i) all registration and filing fees (including, without limitation, fees and expenses of the Company's counsel and independent registered public accountants) (A) with respect to filings made with the Commission, (B) with respect to filings required to be made with any Trading Market on which the Common Stock is then listed for trading, (C) in compliance with applicable state securities or Blue Sky laws reasonably agreed to by the Company in writing (including, without limitation, fees and disbursements of counsel for the Company in connection with Blue Sky qualifications or exemptions of the Registrable Securities) and (D) if not previously paid by the Company in connection with an Issuer Filing, with respect to any filing that may be required to be made by any broker through which a Holder intends to make sales of Registrable Securities with the FINRA pursuant to NASD Rule 2710, so long as the broker is receiving no more than a customary brokerage commission in connection with such sale, (ii) printing expenses (including, without limitation, expenses of printing certificates for Registrable Securities), (iii) messenger, telephone and delivery expenses, (iv) fees and disbursements of counsel for the Company, (v) Securities Act liability insurance, if the Company so desires such insurance, and (vi) fees and expenses of all other Persons retained by the Company in connection with the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. In addition, the Company shall be responsible for all of its internal expenses incurred in connection with the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement (including, without limitation, all salaries and expenses of its officers and employees performing legal or accounting duties), the expense of any annual audit and the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the listing of the Registrable Securities on any securities exchange as required hereunder. In no event shall the Company be responsible for any broker or similar commissions of any Holder or, except to the extent provided for in the Transaction Documents, any legal fees or other costs of the Holders.

## 5. Indemnification.

(a) Indemnification by the Company. The Company shall, notwithstanding any termination of this Agreement, indemnify and hold harmless each Holder, the officers, directors, members, partners, agents, brokers (including brokers who offer and sell Registrable Securities as principal as a result of a pledge or any failure to perform under a margin call of Common Stock), investment advisors and employees (and any other Persons with a functionally equivalent role of a Person holding such titles, notwithstanding a lack of such title or any other title) of each of them, each Person who controls any such Holder (within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act or Section 20 of the Exchange Act) and the officers, directors, members, stockholders, partners, agents and employees (and any other Persons with a functionally equivalent role of a Person holding such titles, notwithstanding a lack of such title or any other title) of each such controlling Person, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, from and against any and all losses, claims, damages, liabilities, costs (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees) and expenses (collectively, "Losses"), as incurred, arising out of or relating to (1) any untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in a Registration Statement, any Prospectus or any form of prospectus or in any amendment or supplement thereto or in any preliminary prospectus, or arising out of or relating to any omission or alleged omission of a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein (in the case of any Prospectus or supplement thereto, in light of the circumstances under which they were made) not misleading or (2) any violation or alleged violation by the Company of the Securities Act, the Exchange Act or any state securities law, or any rule or regulation thereunder, in connection with the performance of its obligations under this Agreement, except to the extent, but only to the extent, that (i) such untrue statements or omissions are based solely upon information regarding such Holder furnished in writing to the Company by such Holder expressly for use therein, or to the extent that such information relates to such Holder or such Holder's proposed method of distribution of Registrable Securities and was reviewed and expressly approved in writing by such Holder expressly for use in a Registration Statement, such Prospectus or in any amendment or supplement thereto (it being understood that the Holder has approved Annex A hereto for this purpose) or (ii) in the case of an occurrence of an event of the type specified in Section 3(c)(iii)-(vi), the use by such Holder of an outdated or defective Prospectus after the Company has notified such Holder in writing that the Prospectus is outdated or defective and prior to the receipt by such Holder of the Advice contemplated in Section 6(d). The Company shall notify the Holders promptly of the institution, threat or assertion of any Proceeding arising from or in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement of which the Company is aware.

(b) Indemnification by Holders. Each Holder shall, severally and not jointly, indemnify and hold harmless the Company, its directors, officers, agents and employees, each Person who controls the Company (within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act and Section 20 of the Exchange Act), and the directors, officers, agents or employees of such controlling Persons, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, from and against all Losses, as incurred, to the extent arising out of or based solely upon: (x) such Holder's failure to comply with the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act or (y) any untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Registration Statement, any Prospectus, or in any amendment or supplement thereto or in any preliminary prospectus, or arising out of or relating to any omission or alleged omission of a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading (i) to the extent, but only to the extent, that such untrue statement or omission is contained in any information so furnished in writing by such Holder to the Company specifically for inclusion in such Registration Statement or such Prospectus or (ii) to the extent that such information relates to such Holder's proposed method of distribution of Registrable Securities and was reviewed and expressly approved in writing by such Holder expressly for use in a Registration Statement (it being understood that the Holder has approved Annex A hereto for this purpose), such Prospectus or in any amendment or supplement thereto or (ii) in the case of an occurrence of an event of the type specified in Section 3(c)(iii)-(vi), the use by such Holder of an outdated or defective Prospectus after the Company has notified such Holder in writing that the Prospectus is outdated or defective and prior to the receipt by such Holder of the Advice contemplated in Section 6(d). In no event shall the liability of any selling Holder hereunder be greater in amount than the dollar amount of the net proceeds (after underwriting fees, commissions, or discounts) actually received by such Holder upon the sale of the Registrable Securities giving rise to such indemnification obligation.

(c) <u>Conduct of Indemnification Proceedings</u>. If any Proceeding shall be brought or asserted against any Person entitled to indemnity hereunder (an <u>"Indemnified Party</u>"), such Indemnified Party shall promptly notify the Person from whom indemnity is sought (the <u>"Indemnifying Party</u>") in writing, and the Indemnifying Party shall have the right to assume the defense thereof, including the employment of counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Indemnified Party and the payment of all fees and expenses incurred in connection with defense thereof but solely for one law firm except as otherwise provided in this Section 5.5(c); provided, that, the failure of any Indemnified Party to give such notice shall not relieve the Indemnifying Party of its obligations or liabilities pursuant to this Agreement, except (and only) to the extent that it shall be finally determined by a court of competent jurisdiction (which determination is not subject to appeal or further review) that such failure shall have prejudiced the Indemnifying Party.

An Indemnified Party shall have the right to employ separate counsel in any such Proceeding and to participate in the defense thereof, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the expense of such Indemnified Party or Parties unless: (1) the Indemnifying Party has agreed in writing to pay such fees and expenses, (2) the Indemnifying Party shall have failed promptly to assume the defense of such Proceeding and to employ counsel reasonably satisfactory to such Indemnified Party in any such Proceeding, or (3) the named parties to any such Proceeding (including any impleaded parties) include both such Indemnified Party and the Indemnifying Party, and counsel to the Indemnified Party shall reasonably believe that a material conflict of interest is likely to exist if the same counsel were to represent such Indemnified Party and the Indemnifying Party (in which case, if such Indemnified Party notifies the Indemnifying Party in writing that it elects to employ separate counsel at the expense of no more than one separate counsel shall be at the expense of the Indemnifying Party). The Indemnifying Party shall not be liable for any settlement of any such Proceeding effected without its written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. No Indemnifying Party shall, without the prior written consent of the Indemnified Party, effect any settlement of any pending Proceeding in respect of which any Indemnified Party is a party, unless such settlement includes an unconditional release of such Indemnified Party from all liability on claims that are the subject matter of such Proceeding.

Subject to the terms of this Agreement, all reasonable fees and expenses of the Indemnified Party (including reasonable fees and expenses to the extent incurred in connection with investigating or preparing to defend such Proceeding in a manner not inconsistent with this Section) shall be paid to the Indemnified Party, as incurred, within ten Trading Days of written notice thereof to the Indemnifying Party; provided, that, the Indemnified Party shall promptly reimburse the Indemnifying Party for that portion of such fees and expenses applicable to such actions for which such Indemnified Party is judicially determined not to be entitled to indemnification hereunder.

(d) <u>Contribution</u>. If the indemnification under Section 5(a) or 5(b) is unavailable to an Indemnified Party or insufficient to hold an Indemnified Party harmless for any Losses, then each Indemnifying Party shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such Indemnified Party, in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative fault of the Indemnifying Party and Indemnified Party in connection with the actions, statements or omissions that resulted in such Losses as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative fault of such Indemnifying Party and Indemnified Party shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether any action in question, including any untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or omission or alleged omission of a material fact, has been taken or made by, or relates to information supplied by, such Indemnifying Party or Indemnified Party, and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such action, statement or omission. The amount paid or payable by a party as a result of any Losses shall be deemed to include, subject to the limitations set forth in this Agreement, any reasonable attorneys' or other fees or expenses incurred by such party in connection with any Proceeding to the extent such party would have been indemnified for such fees or expenses if the indemnification provided for in this Section was available to such party in accordance with its terms.

The parties hereto agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution pursuant to this Section 5(d) were determined by pro rata allocation or by any other method of allocation that does not take into account the equitable considerations referred to in the immediately preceding paragraph. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 5(d), no Holder shall be required to contribute, in the aggregate, any amount in excess of the amount by which the net proceeds actually received by such Holder from the sale of the Registrable Securities subject to the Proceeding exceeds the amount of any damages that such Holder has otherwise been required to pay by reason of such untrue or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission.

The indemnity and contribution agreements contained in this Section are in addition to any liability that the Indemnifying Parties may have to the Indemnified Parties.

## 6. Miscellaneous.

(a) <u>Remedies</u>. In the event of a breach by the Company or by a Holder of any of their respective obligations under this Agreement, each Holder or the Company, as the case may be, in addition to being entitled to exercise all rights granted by law and under this Agreement, including recovery of damages, shall be entitled to specific performance of its rights under this Agreement. The Company and each Holder agree that monetary damages would not provide adequate compensation for any losses incurred by reason of a breach by it of any of the provisions of this Agreement and hereby further agrees that, in the event of any action for specific performance in respect of such breach, it shall not assert or shall waive the defense that a remedy at law would be adequate.

(b) <u>No Piggyback on Registrations; Prohibition on Filing Other Registration Statements</u>. Except as set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(v)</u> of the Purchase Agreement, neither the Company nor any of its security holders (other than the Holders in such capacity pursuant hereto) may include securities of the Company in any Registration Statements other than the Registrable Securities. The Company shall not file any other registration statements until all Registrable Securities are registered pursuant to a Registration Statement that is declared effective by the Commission, provided that this Section 6(b) shall not prohibit the Company from filing amendments to registration statements filed prior to the date of this Agreement.

(c) <u>Compliance</u>. Each Holder covenants and agrees that it will comply with the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act as applicable to it in connection with sales of Registrable Securities pursuant to a Registration Statement.

(d) <u>Discontinued Disposition</u>. By its acquisition of Registrable Securities, each Holder agrees that, upon receipt of a notice from the Company of the occurrence of any event of the kind described in Section 3(c)(iii) through (vi), such Holder will forthwith discontinue disposition of such Registrable Securities under a Registration Statement until it is advised in writing (the "<u>Advice</u>") by the Company that the use of the applicable Prospectus (as it may have been supplemented or amended) may be resumed. The Company will use its best efforts to ensure that the use of the Prospectus may be resumed as promptly as is practicable.

(e) <u>Piggy-Back Registrations</u>. If, at any time during the Effectiveness Period, there is not an effective Registration Statement covering all of the Registrable Securities and the Company shall determine to prepare and file with the Commission a registration statement relating to an offering for its own account or the account of others under the Securities Act of any of its equity securities, other than on Form S-4 or Form S-8 (each as promulgated under the Securities Act) or their then equivalents relating to equity securities to be issued solely in connection with any acquisition of any entity or business or equity securities issuable in connection with the Company's stock option or other employee benefit plans, then the Company shall deliver to each Holder a written notice of such determination and, if within fifteen days after the date of the delivery of such notice, any such Holder shall so request in writing, the Company shall include in such registration statement all or any part of such Registrable Securities pursuant to this Section 6(e) that are not subject to the current public information pursuant to Rule 144 and that are eligible for resale without volume or manner-of-sale restrictions without current public information pursuant to Rule 144 promulgated by the Commission pursuant to a written opinion letter to such effect, addressed, delivered and acceptable to the affected Holders or that are the subject of a then effective Registration Statement.

(f) <u>Amendments and Waivers</u>. The provisions of this Agreement, including the provisions of this sentence, may not be amended, modified or supplemented, and waivers or consents to departures from the provisions hereof may not be given, unless the same shall be in writing and signed by the Company and the Holders of 67% or more of the then outstanding Registrable Securities (including, for this purpose any Registrable Securities issuable upon exercise or conversion of any Security). If a Registration Statement does not register all of the Registrable Securities to be registered for each Holder shall be reduced pro rata among all Holders and each Holder shall have the right to designate which of its Registrable Securities shall be omitted from such Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a waiver or consent to depart from the provisions hereof with respect to a matter that relates exclusively to the rights of a Holder or some Holders and that does not directly or indirectly affect the rights of other Holders may be given by such Holder or Holders of all of the Registrable Securities to which such waiver or consent relates; provided, however, that the provisions of this sentence may not be amended, modified, or supplemented except in accordance with the provisions of the first sentence of this Section 6(f).

(g) <u>Notices</u>. Any and all notices or other communications or deliveries required or permitted to be provided hereunder shall be delivered as set forth in the Purchase Agreement.

(h) <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the successors and permitted assigns of each of the parties and shall inure to the benefit of each Holder. The Company may not assign (except by merger) its rights or obligations hereunder without the prior written consent of all of the Holders of the then outstanding Registrable Securities. Each Holder may assign their respective rights hereunder in the manner and to the Persons as permitted under the Purchase Agreement.

(i) <u>No Inconsistent Agreements</u>. Neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries has entered, as of the date hereof, nor shall the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, on or after the date of this Agreement, enter into any agreement with respect to its securities, that would have the effect of impairing the rights granted to the Holders in this Agreement or otherwise conflicts with the provisions hereof. Except as set forth on <u>Schedule 3.1(v) of the Purchase Agreement</u>, neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries has previously entered into any agreement granting any registration rights with respect to any of its securities to any Person that have not been satisfied in full.

(j) Execution and Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, all of which when taken together shall be considered one and the same agreement and shall become effective when counterparts have been signed by each party and delivered to the other party, it being understood that both parties need not sign the same counterpart. In the event that any signature is delivered by facsimile transmission or by e-mail delivery of a ".pdf" format data file, such signature shall create a valid and binding obligation of the party executing (or on whose behalf such signature is executed) with the same force and effect as if such facsimile or ".pdf" signature page were an original thereof.

(k) <u>Governing Law</u>. All questions concerning the construction, validity, enforcement and interpretation of this Agreement shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the Purchase Agreement.

(1) <u>Cumulative Remedies</u>. The remedies provided herein are cumulative and not exclusive of any other remedies provided by law.

(m) <u>Severability</u>. If any term, provision, covenant or restriction of this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal, void or unenforceable, the remainder of the terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions set forth herein shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired or invalidated, and the parties hereto shall use their commercially reasonable efforts to find and employ an alternative means to achieve the same or substantially the same result as that contemplated by such term, provision, covenant or restriction. It is hereby stipulated and declared to be the intention of the parties that they would have executed the remaining terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions without including any of such that may be hereafter declared invalid, illegal, void or unenforceable.

(n) <u>Headings</u>. The headings in this Agreement are for convenience only, do not constitute a part of the Agreement and shall not be deemed to limit or affect any of the provisions hereof.

(o) Independent Nature of Holders' Obligations and Rights. The obligations of each Holder hereunder are several and not joint with the obligations of any other Holder hereunder, and no Holder shall be responsible in any way for the performance of the obligations of any other Holder hereunder. Nothing contained herein or in any other agreement or document delivered at any closing, and no action taken by any Holder pursuant hereto or thereto, shall be deemed to constitute the Holders as a partnership, an association, a joint venture or any other kind of entity, or create a presumption that the Holders are in any way acting in concert with respect to such obligations or the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. Each Holder shall be necessary for any other Holder to be joined as an additional party in any proceeding for such purpose.

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(Signature Pages Follow)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Registration Rights Agreement as of the date first written above.

# ASPEN GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ Michael D. Mathews

Michael D. Mathews, Chief Executive Officer

# [SIGNATURE PAGE OF HOLDERS FOLLOWS]

# [SIGNATURE PAGE OF HOLDERS TO ASPEN GROUP, INC. RRA]

Name of Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Authorized Signatory of Holder:

Name of Authorized Signatory:

Title of Authorized Signatory: \_\_\_\_\_

# [SIGNATURE PAGES CONTINUE]

#### Plan of Distribution

Each Selling Stockholder (the "<u>Selling Stockholders</u>") of the common stock and any of their pledgees, assignees and successors-ininterest may, from time to time, sell any or all of their shares of common stock on the OTC Bulletin Board or any other stock exchange, market or trading facility on which the shares are traded or in private transactions. These sales may be at fixed or negotiated prices. A Selling Stockholder may use any one or more of the following methods when selling shares:

- ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker-dealer solicits purchasers;
- block trades in which the broker-dealer will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;
- purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;
- an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of the applicable exchange;
- privately negotiated transactions;
- settlement of short sales entered into after the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part;
- broker-dealers may agree with the Selling Stockholders to sell a specified number of such shares at a stipulated price per share;
- through the writing or settlement of options or other hedging transactions, whether through an options exchange or otherwise;
- a combination of any such methods of sale; or
- any other method permitted pursuant to applicable law.

The Selling Stockholders may also sell shares under Rule 144 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), if available, rather than under this prospectus.

Broker-dealers engaged by the Selling Stockholders may arrange for other brokers-dealers to participate in sales. Broker-dealers may receive commissions or discounts from the Selling Stockholders (or, if any broker-dealer acts as agent for the purchaser of shares, from the purchaser) in amounts to be negotiated, but, except as set forth in a supplement to this Prospectus, in the case of an agency transaction not in excess of a customary brokerage commission in compliance with FINRA NASD Rule 2440; and in the case of a principal transaction a markup or markdown in compliance with NASD IM-2440.

In connection with the sale of the common stock or interests therein, the Selling Stockholders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions, which may in turn engage in short sales of the common stock in the course of hedging the positions they assume. The Selling Stockholders may also sell shares of the common stock short and deliver these securities to close out their short positions, or loan or pledge the common stock to broker-dealers that in turn may sell these securities. The Selling Stockholders may also enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions or the creation of one or more derivative securities which require the delivery to such broker-dealer or other financial institution of shares offered by this prospectus, which shares such broker-dealer or other financial institution or amended to reflect such transaction).

The Selling Stockholders and any broker-dealers or agents that are involved in selling the shares may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. In such event, any commissions received by such broker-dealers or agents and any profit on the resale of the shares purchased by them may be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts under the Securities Act. Each Selling Stockholder has informed the Company that it does not have any written or oral agreement or understanding, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the Common Stock. In no event shall any broker-dealer receive fees, commissions and markups which, in the aggregate, would exceed eight percent (8%).

The Company is required to pay certain fees and expenses incurred by the Company incident to the registration of the shares. The Company has agreed to indemnify the Selling Stockholders against certain losses, claims, damages and liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Because Selling Stockholders may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act, they will be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act including Rule 172 thereunder. In addition, any securities covered by this prospectus which qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act may be sold under Rule 144 rather than under this prospectus. There is no underwriter or coordinating broker acting in connection with the proposed sale of the resale shares by the Selling Stockholders.

We agreed to keep this prospectus effective until the earlier of (i) the date on which the shares may be resold by the Selling Stockholders without registration and without regard to any volume or manner-of-sale limitations by reason of Rule 144, without the requirement for the Company to be in compliance with the current public information under Rule 144 under the Securities Act or any other rule of similar effect or (ii) all of the shares have been sold pursuant to this prospectus or Rule 144 under the Securities Act or any other rule of similar effect. The resale shares will be sold only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers if required under applicable state securities laws. In addition, in certain states, the resale shares may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with.

Under applicable rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, any person engaged in the distribution of the resale shares may not simultaneously engage in market making activities with respect to the common stock for the applicable restricted period, as defined in Regulation M, prior to the commencement of the distribution. In addition, the Selling Stockholders will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including Regulation M, which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of shares of the common stock by the Selling Stockholders or any other person. We will make copies of this prospectus available to the Selling Stockholders and have informed them of the need to deliver a copy of this prospectus to each purchaser at or prior to the time of the sale (including by compliance with Rule 172 under the Securities Act).

## ASPEN GROUP, INC.

#### Selling Stockholder Notice and Questionnaire

The undersigned beneficial owner of common stock (the "<u>Registrable Securities</u>") of Aspen Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "<u>Company</u>"), understands that the Company has filed or intends to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "<u>Commission</u>") a registration statement (the "<u>Registration Statement</u>") for the registration and resale under Rule 415 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "<u>Securities Act</u>"), of the Registrable Securities, in accordance with the terms of the Registration Rights Agreement (the "<u>Registration Rights Agreement</u>") to which this document is annexed. A copy of the Registration Rights Agreement is available from the Company upon request at the address set forth below. All capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed thereto in the Registration Rights Agreement.

Certain legal consequences arise from being named as a selling stockholder in the Registration Statement and the related prospectus. Accordingly, holders and beneficial owners of Registrable Securities are advised to consult their own securities law counsel regarding the consequences of being named or not being named as a selling stockholder in the Registration Statement and the related prospectus.

## NOTICE

The undersigned beneficial owner (the "Selling Stockholder") of Registrable Securities hereby elects to include the Registrable Securities owned by it in the Registration Statement.

The undersigned hereby provides the following information to the Company and represents and warrants that such information is accurate:

# QUESTIONNAIRE

## 1. Name.

- (a) Full Legal Name of Selling Stockholder
- (b) Full Legal Name of Registered Holder (if not the same as (a) above) through which Registrable Securities are held:
- (c) Full Legal Name of Natural Control Person (which means a natural person who directly or indirectly alone or with others has power to vote or dispose of the securities covered by this Questionnaire):

## 2. Address for Notices to Selling Stockholder:

Telephone:	
Fax:	
Contact Person:	
Person:	

### 3. Broker-Dealer Status:

(a) Are you a broker-dealer?

Yes 🗆 No 🗆

(b) If "yes" to Section 3(a), did you receive your Registrable Securities as compensation for investment banking services to the Company?

Yes 🗆 No 🗖

Note: If "no" to Section 3(b), the Commission's staff has indicated that you should be identified as an underwriter in the Registration Statement.

(c) Are you an affiliate of a broker-dealer?

Yes 🗆 No 🗖

(d) If you are an affiliate of a broker-dealer, do you certify that you purchased the Registrable Securities in the ordinary course of business, and at the time of the purchase of the Registrable Securities to be resold, you had no agreements or understandings, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the Registrable Securities?

Yes 🗆 No 🗖

Note: If "no" to Section 3(d), the Commission's staff has indicated that you should be identified as an underwriter in the Registration Statement.

## 4. Beneficial Ownership of Securities of the Company Owned by the Selling Stockholder.

Except as set forth below in this Item 4, the undersigned is not the beneficial or registered owner of any securities of the Company other than the securities issuable pursuant to the Purchase Agreement.

(a) Type and Amount of other securities beneficially owned by the Selling Stockholder:



## 5. Relationships with the Company:

Except as set forth below, neither the undersigned nor any of its affiliates, officers, directors or principal equity holders (owners of 5% of more of the equity securities of the undersigned) has held any position or office or has had any other material relationship with the Company (or its predecessors or affiliates) during the past three years.

State any exceptions here:

The undersigned agrees to promptly notify the Company of any inaccuracies or changes in the information provided herein that may occur subsequent to the date hereof at any time while the Registration Statement remains effective.

By signing below, the undersigned consents to the disclosure of the information contained herein in its answers to Items 1 through 5 and the inclusion of such information in the Registration Statement and the related prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto. The undersigned understands that such information will be relied upon by the Company in connection with the preparation or amendment of the Registration Statement and the related prospectus.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, by authority duly given, has caused this Notice and Questionnaire to be executed and delivered either in person or by its duly authorized agent.

Date:

Beneficial Owner:

By:

Name: Title:

# PLEASE FAX A COPY OF THE COMPLETED AND EXECUTED NOTICE AND QUESTIONNAIRE, AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL BY OVERNIGHT MAIL, TO:

H:\9540\Private Placements 21822\Exhibit A - Form of Registration Rights Agreement - Clean.doc/ldm

## Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

We hereby consent to the use of our report dated March 18, 2013 on the consolidated financial statements of Aspen Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, included herein on the registration statement of Aspen Group, Inc. on Form S-1, and to the reference to our firm under the heading "Experts" in the prospectus.

/s/ Salberg & Company, P.A.

SALBERG & COMPANY, P.A. Boca Raton, Florida April 8, 2013