

A photograph of several hands of different skin tones stacked together in a pyramid shape, symbolizing collaboration. The background is a blurred office setting.

THE POWER — OF — COLLABORATION

The Coalition offers private nonprofit colleges opportunities to save money, streamline operations and improve processes through programs designed specifically to meet your needs. These cost-saving and transformative programs have been aggressively negotiated on your behalf and are available to your college/university because they are a member of your state's private college association.

In this newsletter you will find information about just a few of the opportunities available to your school through the Coalition. The Coalition offers programs of interest to Athletics, Facilities, Finance, HR, Title IX / DEI, Student Services, Technology, Legal, Risk Management, and more. Please share this newsletter with others on your campus so they can learn about the benefits of these programs.

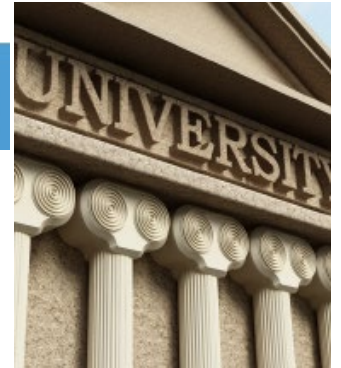
We hope you'll take some time to familiarize yourself with more Coalition programs, many of which offer savings and benefits unavailable elsewhere, and join the hundreds of other private colleges and universities across the nation, along with their employees and students, that benefit from these programs. For a complete list of programs, visit [Coalition Programs](#).

Introductory videos and on demand webinars are available on the [Coalition website](#) and [YouTube Channel](#). [Contact us](#), or speak with your state association to learn more.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



PRIVATE SECTOR NONPROFIT UNIVERSITY CASE STUDY



SEAMLESS TRANSFORMATION FROM LEGACY SYSTEMS TO MICROSOFT TEAMS WITH GRANITE

A prominent private, nonprofit university faced challenges with their existing communication infrastructure, particularly issues arising from their previous SIP provider and the increasing costs associated with Cisco Call Manager maintenance. The University was at a crossroads—whether to continue band-aiding their aging system or embrace the simplicity and efficiency of Microsoft Teams.

Challenges:

- **Billing and Service Issues with Previous SIP Provider:** In December 2020, the University switched from Lumen SIP to Granite SIP due to continuous billing and service issues.
- **Significant Increase in Cisco Call Manager Maintenance Costs:** In August 2022, the annual maintenance renewal for Cisco Call Manager surged by 51% to \$22,500, leading the University to reevaluate their communication strategy.

Granite's Proposed Solutions:

- **Teams DR Implementation:** In September 2022, Granite proposed Microsoft Teams as a Disaster Recovery solution with 16 trunks and 1000 DIDs. Recognizing the University's concern about staffing for the conversion, Granite also suggested engaging SOFTEL professional services for setup, configuration of Teams voice plan, phone system configuration, and user enablement at a one-time cost of \$16,415.
- **Collaborative Engagement:** The Letter of Authorization (LOA) was signed on December 2022, marking the official commencement of the project. A joint Kick-Off call with SOFTEL ensured a smooth transition and alignment of goals.
- **POTS to EPIK Conversion:** In January 2024, Granite successfully converted 46 Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS) lines to EPIK, further enhancing the University's communication infrastructure.

AT A GLANCE

ABOUT GRANITE

- \$1.85B Annual Revenue
- 1.75M Voice and Data Lines
- 700K Locations Served

BENEFITS

- 24/7/365 Customer Service
- Web Portal Monitoring
- All in One Managed Solutions



Implementation Experience:

- **SIP to Teams Conversion (January 2023):** The transition from SIP to Microsoft Teams was executed seamlessly, and the University expressed extreme satisfaction with Granite and SOFTEL. The process not only resolved previous issues but also provided a more robust and modern communication solution.
- **POTS to EPIK Conversion (January 2024):** The conversion of 46 POTS lines to EPIK was completed without any issues. The University emerged as a strong advocate for Granite's services, sharing their positive experience with other local higher education institutions.

Results:

- **Improved Communication Efficiency:** The transition to Microsoft Teams significantly improved communication efficiency, providing a unified platform for voice, video, and messaging.
- **Cost Savings:** The University realized cost savings by eliminating the need for the costly Cisco Call Manager maintenance, thereby achieving a more budget-friendly communication solution.
- **Reliability and Advocacy:** The successful implementation of both SIP to Teams and POTS to EPIK conversions established Granite Telecommunications as a reliable partner, garnering advocacy from the University within the higher education community.

Join GRANITE for this upcoming live webinar to learn how they can help you analyze, consolidate, and reduce the cost of your voice and data solutions:

**Analyze, Consolidate, and Save with Granite Voice/Data/Mobile Solutions**

Thursday, April 18, 2:00 – 3:00 eastern

Granite delivers one-stop voice and data solutions to educational institutions throughout the United States and beyond. Learn how to make sourcing and managing your voice and data systems easier with Granite.

[**REGISTER HERE**](#)

NEWS from PROGRAM PARTNERS



In an effort to find the best national business partners to save your private, nonprofit institution money and time, The Coalition for College Cost Savings, in partnership with the HESS Consortium, has partnered with a leading national company, [INSIGHT](#) for hardware, peripherals, cloud software and services. We have evaluated a broad market basket of pricing against other sources and have been given best-pricing status from INSIGHT.

Use <https://www.insight.com/HESS> to setup your Insight Portal login today.

As a leading national hardware and cloud software reseller, INSIGHT is offering exclusive pricing for Apple, HP, Lenovo, Cisco, Logitech, Epson, Extreme Networks equipment, and many other hardware manufacturers.

Insight provides complete IT solutions including sales, service and distribution of computer hardware, cloud software and peripherals from leading manufacturers, as well as a complete range of technology management services. Dedicated account management teams provide the highest level of personalized service and customer satisfaction to corporations nationwide. INSIGHT is your one-step source for value-added technology services as well as a huge selection, great prices and fast delivery on thousands of computer products for your business.

To learn more about INSIGHT and the cost-savings and outstanding service available through this partnership, please view the recording of this introductory webinar.

[WATCH RECORDING HERE](#)



Brander Group has been established as the global market leader in the IPv4 market. Our research, customer support, proprietary systems, and large client base has established Brander Group as the most trustworthy source available in any market.

Interested in learning about how the Brander team can facilitate IPv4 transfers legally and safely for you and **monetize the value of your unused IPv4 addresses** for important campus projects? Watch the recording of their recent webinar: [WATCH RECORDING HERE](#)

Or call (702) 560-5616 or email at info@brandergroup.net



Masterclass in AP Excellence: The Art of Automation

At many schools, the AP function currently operates at a level considered sub-par - below the ideal expectations of industry best-practice. Limited investment and attention given to this function have resulted in a barrier to advancing beyond the “back office” operation of decades past. The result is wasted time, antiquated processes, damaged vendor relationships, increased risk of fraud and high employee turnover.

Paymerang changes all that. We’ll show you how, in less time than it takes to make a cup of coffee, AP can electronically disburse and reconcile all your weekly payables.

Join Tom Smith, Paymerang’s VP of Education, on **Thursday, March 28 from 3:30 – 4:00 eastern** to learn how you can quickly and inexpensively begin the transformation to a modern finance office.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Rising energy bills? Aging infrastructure? Unsustainable operations?

In just over two minutes, learn how The Coalition’s Energy Sustainability Program (ESP) provides the resources necessary for you to move your campus toward a sustainable energy future.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#), visit the [ESP Program Page](#), or reach out to **Bill Vinnicombe, CEO Solar Financing Solutions**, (650) 823-7247, bill@solarfinancingsolutions.com



Unlock Your Share of \$5.54 Billion!

The clock is ticking towards the May 31, 2024 claim filing deadline for the Visa/Mastercard Settlement. The stakes are high with \$5.54 billion at play, and MCAG is here to ensure you don't miss out!

If you are already an MCAG client, MCAG has been working diligently to streamline the claims filing process on your behalf. In some cases, we may be reaching out to you to ensure we have the most accurate and up-to-date information for your account. The best part? You won't need to lift a finger when you receive your claim form. ***MCAG will handle the submission for you, so you can focus on what you do best.***

If you are NOT yet an MCAG client, now is a good time to take a closer look at the benefits of becoming an MCAG client. The Coalition has partnered with MCAG, a class action settlement expert, to assist eligible private colleges and universities with recovering cash potentially due from class action settlements. You can engage MCAG now to ensure that a proper and timely claim is filed on your behalf for the Visa/MC settlement and beyond to future settlements you qualify for.

Benefits of using MCAG's service.

- Limit your administrative burden – you are not required to gather, analyze, or submit claim forms.
- Avoid searching for data to submit a claim (the Settlement covers transactions from 2004 into 2019). With MCAG, no data is required.
- Eliminate the need to track important dates and claim filing deadlines.
- Ensure claim form compliance -- MCAG's filing processes are verified and proven.
- Enjoy recovery optimization managed by a seasoned industry expert.

This is an optional service, and there are no upfront fees. MCAG charges an all-inclusive contingent fee of 20% of any recoveries that you receive.

Registering for MCAG's Service is easy.

1. [Click here to visit MCAG's website for Coalition members.](#)
2. Enter your business information, and that's it!

[Download
Q1 Report](#)

For additional information, visit www.mcagregister.com, and enter access code CCCS50 or **join us on Thursday, April 25, 2:00 – 3:00 eastern for a live webinar to learn about MCAG's services and ask your questions.** [REGISTER HERE](#)

Payment Card Settlement Disclaimer: Claim forms have been mailed and have been available online since December 2023. No-cost assistance is available from the Class Administrator and Class Counsel during the claims-filing period. No one is required to sign up with any third-party service in order to participate in any monetary relief. For additional information regarding the status of the settlement, visit the Court-approved website at www.paymentcardsettlement.com.

COALITION PROGRAM PARTNERS

The programs listed below have been thoroughly investigated and vetted to provide discounted pricing and/or enhanced terms and conditions unavailable elsewhere.

Athletics	CBIZ Borden Perlman Sports	Intercollegiate Sports Insurance
Energy / Sustainability	Ecosystems, Solar Financing Solutions, First American Education Finance	Energy Sustainability Program
Facilities	Fastenal	MRO and Construction Solutions
	First American Education Finance	Project Financing
Finance	Benerē	Supplemental Benefits
	Campus Travel Management	Hotel Revenue
	EZLease	Lease Accounting Software
	First American Education Finance	Purchasing Card
	First American Education Finance	Project Financing
	IMA	Property/Casualty Risk Management
	Managed Care Advisory Group	Settlement Recovery Services
	Mindstream	Management Consulting
	Paymerang	Procure to Pay Automation
Gender, Safety & Equity	Grand River Solutions	Harassment and Discrimination Solutions
Health / Wellness	United Healthcare	Student Health Insurance
		Tele Health
		Tele Behavioral Health

Human Resources	AffinityLTC	Group Long Term Care Insurance
	Benerē	Supplemental Benefits
Legal	IMA	Risk Management
	Managed Care Advisory Group	Settlement Recovery Services
	Mindstream	Management Consulting
Technology/ Telecom	Brander Group	IPv4 Brokerage Services
	D2L	Learning Management System
	Doctums Global	IT Consulting
	Drivestream	Oracle Cloud Implementation
	Granite Telecommunications	Voice and Data Solutions
	Higher Ed Systems and Services Consortium (HESS)	Administrative Systems
	IMA	Cyber Insurance
	Insight	Hardware / Software/Peripherals
	Moran Technology Consulting	IT Consulting
	Strata Information Group	IT Consulting
Travel	Campus Travel Management	Hotel Revenue



COALITION BUSINESS AFFILIATES



Coalition Business Affiliates are companies that support independent, nonprofit higher education and are committed to providing solutions and discounted pricing to Coalition member colleges and universities. These companies have been referred to The Coalition by at least three private, nonprofit colleges that use their products/services.

Company	Services	Contact
Entrinsik	Informer Reporting Enrole Registration Management, Ecommerce, & Reporting System	Simone McGrath , Sales Director
Everspring	Online course program development	Alicia Jahant , VP University Partnerships
Filewave	Device management MDM Solutions	Willem Boom , VP Sales
Fischer Identity	Identity and Access Management	Chuck Donnelly , VP Field Operations
Higher Digital	Management consulting for ERP transformation projects	Wayne Bovier , CEO
Pathify	Engagement hub and student portal	Loui Atchison , Field Marketing Lead

The Coalition and its Program Partners Who We Are and What We Do



Visit the playlist – [Who We Are and What We Do](#) on our YouTube channel. Learn about the Coalition and the valuable goods and services our program partners offer private colleges under the Coalition umbrella.

Program Overview Videos

(+/- 2 minutes each)

Quickly determine programs of interest to research further:

[THE COALITION – Who We Are and What We Do](#)

[The HESS Consortium \(Higher Education Systems and Services\)](#)

[The Coalition Energy Sustainability Program](#)

[Supplemental Benefits from BENERE](#)

[Hotel Revenue from CAMPUS TRAVEL MANAGEMENT](#)

[ERP and Technology Consulting from MORAN](#)

[Lease Accounting Compliance with EZLEASE](#)

[About GRANITE Telecommunications](#)

[Settlement Recovery Services from MCAG](#)

[Procure to Pay Automation from PAYMERANG](#)

[Maintenance, Repairs, and Operations Management from FASTENAL](#)

Learn more about all the Coalition's cost-saving and transformative programs [HERE](#)

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Recent Events

AI in Higher Education Joint Study Results (Doctums)

[WATCH RECORDING HERE](#)

Insight Introductory Webinar

[WATCH RECORDING HERE](#)

Monetizing IPv4 Addresses to Pay for School Projects (Brander Group)

[WATCH RECORDING HERE](#)

Upcoming Events

Masterclass in AP Excellence: The Art of Automation (Paymerang)

March 28, 2024 at 3:30 Eastern

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Analyze, Consolidate, and Save with Granite Voice/Data/Mobile Solutions

Thursday, April 18, 2:00 – 3:00 eastern

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Settlement Recovery Opportunities with MCAG

Thursday, April 25, 2:00 – 3:00 eastern

[REGISTER HERE](#)

[SACUBO Annual Meeting](#)

Louisville, April 14-16

Come say hello to The Coalition and select program partners: Booth 113

[WACUBO Annual Meeting](#)

Anaheim, April 28 – May 1

Come say hello to The Coalition and select program partners: Booth 107

