

This article is a legal examination of current issues regarding international students studying at diploma mills, and for-profit institutions that take advantage of students in a variety of ways in the United States. The study contains four sections, beginning with a general overview of the regulatory framework governing for-profit institutions. This initial section focuses on legal and regulatory efforts to combat fraud at for-profit colleges and universities and distinguishes between legitimate and illegitimate examples of other for-profit institutions. The second section provides an overview of the student immigration system in the United States, paying particular attention to SEVIS and a practice known as Curricular Practical Training (“CPT”). The third section includes a discussion of the case of TVU. In an effort to highlight current abuses in the student visa system, this section details pending allegations of visa fraud against TVU and its President, Susan Xiao-Ping Su. Additionally, we discuss some of the political fallout from TVU and other instances of student visa fraud. In section four, we explore the implications of the current student visa scheme as applied to for-profit colleges and universities. Finally, we conclude by offering three proposals to improve the current system of admitting foreign students to study at for-profit institutions.