



FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT Salon Professional Education Company, LLC (A North Dakota Limited Liability Company) 4377 15th Avenue South, Fargo, ND 58103

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Salon Professional Education Company, LLC, doing business as SPEC, offers franchisees the right to establish and operate a distinctive beauty school for training students in hairstyling, cosmetology, esthetics, barbering, nails and/or massage under one of the following school brands that you select: *The Salon Professional Academy ("TSPA")* or *Elevate Salon Institute* ("*ESI*") or *Spa Pro Academy ("SPA")*. All brands are operated under our service mark *SPEC*. The Franchise System's distinguishing characteristics include: uniform standards and procedures for business operations; ongoing training in the operation, management, and promotion of the franchised business; advertising and promotional programs; quality education facilities; customer development and service techniques; student recruiting and development; and other technical assistance.

The total investment necessary to begin operation of a new TSPA, ESI or SPA beauty school franchised business is \$668,000 to \$1,111,000 for our model that includes hairstyling and \$448,000 to \$838,000 for our model that does not include hairstyling. This includes \$45,000 that must be paid to the franchisor or its affiliates. This applies regardless of the service mark you may choose for operating your franchise. The total investment necessary to convert an existing beauty school is \$145,500 to \$628,500. This also includes the \$45,000 that must be paid to the franchisor or its affiliates, and applies regardless of the service mark you may choose for operating your franchise.

This disclosure document summarizes certain provisions of your franchise agreement and other information in plain English. Read this disclosure document and all accompanying agreements carefully. You must receive this disclosure document at least 14 calendar-days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make any payment to, the franchisor or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale. Note, however, that no governmental agency has verified the information contained in this document.

You may wish to receive your disclosure document in another format that is more convenient for you. To discuss the availability of disclosures in different formats, contact Jill Krahn at SPEC, 4377 15th Avenue South, Fargo, ND 58103, 888-478-6856, or JKrahn@SPECfranchise.com.

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Do not rely on the disclosure document alone to understand your contract. Read all of your contracts carefully. Show your contracts and this disclosure document to an advisor, like a lawyer or an accountant.

Buying a franchise is a complex investment. The information in this disclosure document can help you make up your mind. More information on franchising, such as "A Consumer's Guide to Buying a



<u>Franchise</u>," which can help you understand how to use this disclosure document, is available from the Federal Trade Commission. You can contact the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580. You can also visit the FTC's home page at <u>www.ftc.gov</u> for additional information. Call your state agency or visit your public library for other sources of information on franchising.

There may also be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

The date of issuance of this disclosure document is: April 28, 2020.



How to Use This Franchise Disclosure Document

Here are some questions you may be asking about buying a franchise and tips on how to find more information.

QUESTION	WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION
How much can I earn?	Item 19 may give you information about outlet sales, costs, profits or losses. You should also try to obtain this information from others, like current and former franchisees. You can find their names and contact information in Item 20 or Exhibits E and F.
How much will I need to invest?	Items 5 and 6 list fees you will be paying to the franchisor or at the franchisor's direction. Item 7 lists the initial investment to open. Item 8 describes the suppliers you must use.
Does the franchisor have the financial ability to provide support to my business?	Item 21 or Exhibit C includes financial statements. Review these statements carefully.
Is the franchise system sta- ble, growing or shrinking?	Item 20 summarizes the recent history of the number of company-owned and franchised outlets.
Will my business be the only SPEC business in my area?	Item 12 and the "territory" provisions in the franchise agreement describe whether the franchisor and other franchisees can compete with you.
Does the franchisor have a troubled legal history?	Items 3 and 4 tell you whether the franchisor or its management have been involved in material litigation or bankruptcy proceedings.
What's it like to be a SPEC franchisee?	Item 20 or Exhibit E lists current and former franchisees. You can contact them to ask about their experiences.
What else should I know?	These questions are only a few things you should look for. Review all 23 Items and all Exhibits in this disclo- sure document to better understand this franchise opportunity. See the table of contents.

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