SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) October 3, 2000

USA EDUCATION, INC. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE File No. 001-13251 52-2013874 (State or other (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer Identification Number)

jurisdiction of incorporation)

> 11600 Sallie Mae Drive, Reston, Virginia 20153 -----(Address of principal executive offices) (zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (703) 810-3000 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Not Applicable

··· (former name or former address, if changed since last report)

## ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

On October 3, 2000, USA Education, Inc. consummated the issuance of \$500,000,000 of Senior Notes due September 16, 2002.

- ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS
  - (a) Financial Statements of Businesses Acquired: Not applicable.
  - (b) Pro Form Financial Information:

Not applicable.

- (c) Exhibits:
  - 1.1 Underwriting Agreement, dated as of September 28, 2000, between USA Education, Inc. and Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Salomon Smith Barney Inc., as representatives of the underwriters;
  - 1.4 Pricing Agreement, dated September 28, 2000, between USA Education, Inc. and Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Salomon Smith Barney Inc., as representatives of the underwriters;
  - 4.1 Indenture, dated as of October 1, 2000, between USA Education, Inc. and The Chase Manhattan Bank, as trustee;
  - 4.1.1 First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of October 3, 2000, between USA Education, Inc. and The Chase Manhattan Bank, as trustee; and
  - 4.1.2 Global Certificates for \$500,000,000 of Senior Notes Due 2002.

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### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

USA Education, INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Name: John F. Remondi Title: Senior Vice President & Treasurer

Dated: October 5, 2000

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### USA EDUCATION, INC.

## Form 8-K

# CURRENT REPORT

# EXHIBIT INDEX

## EXHIBIT NO. DESCRIPTION

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#### USA EDUCATION, INC. (formerly known as SLM Holding Corporation)

# DEBT SECURITIES

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### UNDERWRITING AGREEMENT

September 28, 2000

Goldman, Sachs & Co. Salomon Smith Barney Inc. c/o Goldman, Sachs & Co. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004

Banc of America Securities LLC Banc One Capital Markets, Inc. Credit Suisse First Boston First Union National Bank c/o Goldman, Sachs & Co. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004

#### Ladies and Gentlemen:

From time to time USA Education, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), proposes to enter into one or more Pricing Agreements (each a "Pricing Agreement") in the form of Annex I hereto, with such additions and deletions as the parties thereto may determine, and, subject to the terms and conditions stated herein and therein, to issue and sell to the firms named in Schedule I to the applicable Pricing Agreement (such firms constituting the "Underwriters" with respect to such Pricing Agreement and the securities specified therein) certain of its debt securities (the "Securities") specified in Schedule II to such Pricing Agreement (with respect to such Pricing Agreement, the "Designated Securities").

The terms and rights of any particular issuance of Designated Securities shall be as specified in the Pricing Agreement relating thereto and in or pursuant to the indenture (the "Indenture") identified in such Pricing Agreement.

1. Particular sales of Designated Securities may be made from time to time to the Underwriters of such Securities, for whom the firms designated as representatives of the Underwriters of such Securities in the Pricing Agreement relating thereto will act as representatives (the "Representatives"). The term "Representatives" also refers to a single firm acting as sole representative of the Underwriters and to an Underwriter or Underwriters who act without any firm being designated as its or their representatives. This Underwriting Agreement shall not be construed as an obligation of the Company to sell any of the Securities or as an obligation of any of the Underwriters to purchase the Securities. The obligation of any of the Underwriters to purchase any of the Securities and the obligation of any of the Underwriters to purchase any of the Securities shall be evidenced by the Pricing Agreement with respect to the Designated Securities specified therein. Each Pricing Agreement shall specify the aggregate principal amount of such Designated Securities, the initial public offering price of such Designated Securities, the purchase price to the Underwriters of such Designated Securities, the names of the Underwriters of such Designated Securities, the names of the Representatives of such Underwriters and the principal amount of such Designated Securities to be purchased by each Underwriter and shall set forth the date, time and manner of delivery of such Designated Securities and payment therefor. The Pricing Agreement shall also specify (to the extent not set forth in the Indenture and the registration statement and prospectus with respect thereto) the terms of such Designated Securities. A Pricing Agreement shall be in the form of an executed writing (which may be in counterparts), and may be evidenced by an exchange of telegraphic communications or any other rapid transmission device designed to produce a written record of communications transmitted. The obligations of the Underwriters under this Agreement and each Pricing Agreement shall be several and not joint.

2. The Company represents and warrants to, and agrees with, each of the Underwriters that:

(a) A registration statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-46056) (the "Initial Registration Statement") in respect of the Securities has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"); the Initial Registration Statement and any post-effective amendment thereto, each in the form heretofore delivered or to be delivered to the Representatives and, excluding exhibits to the Initial Registration Statement, but including all documents incorporated by reference in the prospectus contained therein, to the Representatives for each of the other Underwriters, have been declared effective by the Commission in such form; other than a registration statement, if any, increasing the size of the offering (a "Rule 462(b) Registration Statement"), filed pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), which became effective upon filing, no other document with respect to the Initial Registration Statement or document incorporated by reference therein has heretofore been filed or transmitted for filing with the Commission (other than prospectuses filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) of the rules and regulations of the Commission under the Act, each in the form heretofore delivered to the Representatives); and no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Initial Registration Statement, any post-effective amendment thereto or the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement, if any, has been issued and no proceeding for that purpose has been initiated or threatened by the Commission (any preliminary prospectus included in the Initial Registration Statement or filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(a) under the Act, is hereinafter called a "Preliminary Prospectus"; the various parts of the Initial Registration Statement, any post-effective amendment thereto and the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement, if any, including all exhibits thereto and the documents incorporated by reference in the prospectus contained in the Initial Registration Statement at the time such part of the Initial Registration Statement became effective but excluding Form T-1, each as amended at the time such part of the Initial Registration Statement became effective or such part of the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement, if any, became or hereafter becomes effective, are hereinafter collectively called the "Registration Statement"; the prospectus relating to the Securities, in the form in which it has most recently been filed, or transmitted for filing, with the Commission on or prior to the date of this Agreement, being hereinafter called the "Prospectus"; any reference herein to any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus shall be deemed to refer to and

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include the documents incorporated by reference therein pursuant to the applicable form under the Act, as of the date of such Preliminary Prospectus or Prospectus, as the case may be; any reference to any amendment or supplement to any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus shall be deemed to refer to and include any documents filed after the date of such Preliminary Prospectus or Prospectus, as the case may be, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and incorporated by reference in such Preliminary Prospectus or Prospectus, as the case may be; any reference to any amendment to the Initial Registration Statement shall be deemed to refer to and include any annual report of the Company filed pursuant to Sections 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the effective date of the Initial Registration Statement that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement; and any reference to the Prospectus as amended or supplemented shall be deemed to refer to the Prospectus as amended or supplemented in relation to the applicable Designated Securities in the form in which it is filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Act in accordance with Section 5(a) hereof, including any documents incorporated by reference therein as of the date of such filing);

The documents incorporated by reference in the Prospectus, (b) when they became effective or were filed with the Commission, as the case may be, conformed in all material respects to the requirements of the Act or the Exchange Act, as applicable, and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder, and none of such documents contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; and any further documents so filed and incorporated by reference in the Prospectus or any further amendment or supplement thereto, when such documents become effective or are filed with the Commission, as the case may be, will conform in all material respects to the requirements of the Act or the Exchange Act, as applicable, and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder and will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that this representation and warranty shall not apply to any statements or omissions made in reliance upon and in conformity with information furnished in writing to the Company by an Underwriter of Designated Securities through the Representatives expressly for use in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented relating to such Securities;

The Registration Statement and the Prospectus conform, and (C) any further amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus will conform, in all material respects to the requirements of the Act and the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the "Trust Indenture Act") and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder and do not and will not, as of the applicable effective date as to the Registration Statement and any amendment thereto and as of the applicable filing date as to the Prospectus and any amendment or supplement thereto, contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that this representation and warranty shall not apply to any statements or omissions made in reliance upon and in conformity with information furnished in writing to the Company by an Underwriter of Designated Securities through the Representatives expressly for use in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented relating to such Securities;

(d) Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has sustained since the date of the latest audited financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus any material loss or interference with its business from fire, explosion, flood or other calamity, whether or not covered by insurance, or from any labor dispute or court or governmental action, order or decree, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus; and, since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, there has not been any change in the capital stock or long-term debt of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (except as described in the Pricing Agreement) or any material adverse change, or any development involving a prospective material adverse change, in or affecting the general affairs, management, financial position, stockholders' equity or results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus;

(e) The Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws Delaware, with power and authority (corporate and other) to own its properties and conduct its business as described in the Prospectus;

(f) The Company has an authorized capitalization as set forth in the Prospectus, and all of the issued shares of capital stock of the Company have been duly and validly authorized and issued and are fully paid and non-assessable;

The Securities have been duly authorized, and, when (q) Designated Securities are issued and delivered pursuant to this Agreement and the Pricing Agreement with respect to such Designated Securities, such Designated Securities will have been duly executed, authenticated, issued and delivered and will constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the Company entitled to the benefits provided by the Indenture, which will be substantially in the form filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement; the Indenture has been duly authorized and duly qualified under the Trust Indenture Act and, at the Time of Delivery for such Designated Securities (as defined in Section 4 hereof), the Indenture will constitute a valid and legally binding instrument, enforceable in accordance with its terms, subject, as to enforcement, to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization and other laws of general applicability relating to or affecting creditors' rights and to general equity principles; and the Indenture conforms, and the Designated Securities will conform, to the descriptions thereof contained in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented with respect to such Designated Securities;

(h) The issue and sale of the Securities and the compliance by the Company with all of the provisions of the Securities, the Indenture, this Agreement and any Pricing Agreement, and the consummation of the transactions herein and therein contemplated will not conflict with or result in a breach or violation of any of the terms or provisions of, or constitute a default under, any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement or other material agreement or instrument to which the Company is a party or by which the Company is bound or to which any of the property or assets of the Company is subject, nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation or By-laws of the Company or any statute or any order, rule or regulation of any court or governmental agency or body having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its properties; and no consent, approval, authorization, order, registration or qualification of or with any such court or governmental agency or body is required for the issue and sale of the Securities or the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or any Pricing Agreement or the Indenture, except such as have been, or will have been prior to the Time of Delivery (as defined in Section 4 hereof), obtained under the  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Act}}$  and the  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Trust}}$ Indenture Act and such consents, approvals, authorizations, registrations or qualifications as may be required under state securities or Blue Sky laws in connection with the purchase and distribution of the Securities by the Underwriters;

(i) The statements set forth in the Prospectus as supplemented under the caption "Description of Senior Notes", insofar as they purport to constitute a summary of the terms of the Securities, and under the caption "Underwriting", insofar as they purport to describe the provisions of the laws and documents referred to therein, are accurate, complete in all material respects and fair;

(j) Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is in violation of its Certificate of Incorporation or By-laws or in default in the performance or observance of any material obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement, lease or other agreement or instrument to which it is a party or by which it or any of its properties may be bound;

(k) Other than as set forth in the Prospectus, there are no legal or governmental proceedings pending to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or of which any property of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is the subject which, if determined adversely to the Company or any of its subsidiaries, would individually or in the aggregate have a material adverse effect on the current or future consolidated financial position, stockholders' equity or results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries; and, to the best of the Company's knowledge, no such proceedings are threatened or contemplated by governmental authorities or threatened by others;

(1) The Company is not and, after giving effect to the offering and sale of the Securities, will not be an "investment company", as such term is defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act");

(m) Neither the Company nor any of its affiliates does business with the government of Cuba or with any person or affiliate located in Cuba within the meaning of Section 517.075, Florida Statutes;

(n) Arthur Anderson LLP, who have certified certain financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries, are independent public accountants as required by the Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder.

3. Upon the execution of the Pricing Agreement applicable to any Designated Securities and authorization by the Representatives of the release of such Designated Securities, the several Underwriters propose to offer such Designated Securities for sale upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented.

4. Designated Securities to be purchased by each Underwriter pursuant to the Pricing Agreement relating thereto, in the form specified in such Pricing Agreement, and in such authorized denominations and registered in such names as the Representatives may request upon at least forty-eight hours' prior notice to the Company, shall be delivered by or on behalf of the Company to the Representatives for the account of such Underwriter, against payment by such Underwriter or on its behalf of the purchase price therefor by wire transfer of Federal (same-day) funds to the account specified by the Company to the Representatives at least forty-eight hours in advance or at such other place and time and date as the Representatives and the Company may agree upon in writing, such time and date being herein called the "Time of Delivery" for such Securities.

5. The Company agrees with each of the Underwriters of any Designated Securities:

(a) To prepare the Prospectus as amended or supplemented in relation to the applicable Designated Securities in a form approved by the Representatives and to file such Prospectus pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Act not later than the Commission's close of business on the second business day following the execution and delivery of the Pricing Agreement relating to

the applicable Designated Securities or, if applicable, such earlier time as may be required by Rule 424(b); to make no further amendment or any supplement to the Registration Statement or Prospectus as amended or supplemented after the date of the Pricing Agreement relating to such Securities and prior to the Time of Delivery for such Securities which shall be disapproved by the Representatives for such Securities promptly after reasonable notice thereof; to advise the Representatives promptly of any such amendment or supplement after such Time of Delivery and furnish the Representatives with copies thereof; to file promptly all reports and any definitive proxy or information statements required to be filed by the Company with the Commission pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act for so long as the delivery of a prospectus is required in connection with the offering or sale of such Securities, and during such same period to advise the Representatives, promptly after it receives notice thereof, of the time when any amendment to the Registration Statement has been filed or becomes effective or any supplement to the Prospectus or any amended Prospectus has been filed with the Commission, of the issuance by the Commission of any stop order or of any order preventing or suspending the use of any prospectus relating to the Securities, of the suspension of the qualification of such Securities for offering or sale in any jurisdiction, of the initiation or threatening of any proceeding for any such purpose, or of any request by the Commission for the amending or supplementing of the Registration Statement or Prospectus or for additional information; and, in the event of the issuance of any such stop order or of any such order preventing or suspending the use of any prospectus relating to the Securities or suspending any such qualification, to promptly use its best efforts to obtain the withdrawal of such order;

(b) Promptly from time to time to take such action as the Representatives may reasonably request to qualify such Securities for offering and sale under the securities laws of such jurisdictions as the Representatives may request and to comply with such laws so as to permit the continuance of sales and dealings therein in such jurisdictions for as long as may be necessary to complete the distribution of such Securities, provided that in connection therewith the Company shall not be required to qualify as a foreign corporation or to file a general consent to service of process in any jurisdiction;

Prior to 10:00 a.m., New York City time, on the Business (c)Day (defined in Section 14 hereof) next succeeding the date of this Agreement and from time to time, to furnish the Underwriters with copies of the Prospectus in New York City as amended or supplemented in such quantities as the Representatives may reasonably request, and, if the delivery of a prospectus is required at any time in connection with the offering or sale of the Securities and if at such time any event shall have occurred as a result of which the Prospectus as then amended or supplemented would include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made when such Prospectus is delivered, not misleading, or, if for any other reason it shall be necessary during such same period to amend or supplement the Prospectus or to file under the Exchange Act any document incorporated by reference in the Prospectus in order to comply with the Act, the Exchange Act or the Trust Indenture Act, to notify the Representatives and upon their request to file such document and to prepare and furnish without charge to each Underwriter and to any dealer in securities as many copies as the Representatives may from time to time reasonably request of an amended Prospectus or a supplement to the Prospectus which will correct such statement or omission or effect such compliance;

(d) To make generally available to its securityholders as soon as practicable, but in any event not later than eighteen months after the effective date of the Registration Statement (as defined in Rule 158(c) under the Act), an earnings statement of the Company and its subsidiaries (which need not be audited) complying with Section 11(a) of the Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder (including, at the option of the Company, Rule 158);

(e) During the period beginning from the date of the Pricing Agreement for such Designated Securities and continuing to and including the later of (i) the termination of trading restrictions for such Designated Securities, as notified to the Company by the Representatives and (ii) the Time of Delivery for such Designated Securities, not to offer, sell, contract to sell or otherwise dispose of any debt securities of the Company which mature more than one year after such Time of Delivery and which are substantially similar to such Designated Securities, without the prior written consent of the Representatives; and

(f) If the Company elects to rely upon Rule 462(b), the Company shall file a Rule 462(b) Registration Statement with the Commission in compliance with Rule 462(b) by 10:00 p.m., Washington, D.C. time, on the date of this Agreement, and the Company shall at the time of filing either pay to the Commission the filing fee for the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement or give irrevocable instructions for the payment of such fee pursuant to Rule 111(b) under the Act.

6. The Company covenants and agrees with the several Underwriters that the Company will pay or cause to be paid the following: (i) the fees, disbursements and expenses of the Company's counsel and accountants in connection with the registration of the Securities under the Act and all other expenses in connection with the preparation, printing and filing of the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus and the Prospectus and amendments and supplements thereto and the mailing and delivering of copies thereof to the Underwriters and dealers; (ii) the cost of printing or producing any Agreement among Underwriters, this Agreement, any Pricing Agreement, any Indenture, any Blue Sky and Legal Investment Memoranda, closing documents (including any compilations thereof) and any other documents in connection with the offering, purchase, sale and delivery of the Securities; (iii) all expenses in connection with the qualification of the Securities for offering and sale under state securities laws as provided in Section 5(b) hereof, including the fees and disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters in connection with such qualification and in connection with the Blue Sky and Legal Investment Surveys; (iv) any fees charged by securities rating services for rating the Securities; (v) any filing fees incident to, and the fees and disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters in connection with, any required review by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. of the terms of the sale of the Securities; (vi) the cost of preparing the Securities; (vii) the fees and expenses of any trustee and any agent of any trustee and the fees and disbursements of counsel for any trustee in connection with any Indenture and the Securities; and (viii) all other costs and expenses incident to the performance of its obligations hereunder which are not otherwise specifically provided for in this Section. It is understood, however, that, except as provided in this Section, and Sections 8 and 11 hereof, the Underwriters will pay all of their own costs and expenses, including the fees of their counsel, transfer taxes on resale of any of the Securities by them, and any advertising expenses connected with any offers they may make.

7. The obligations of the Underwriters of any Designated Securities under the Pricing Agreement relating to such Designated Securities shall be subject, in the discretion of the Representatives, to the condition that all representations and warranties and other statements of the Company in or incorporated by reference in the Pricing Agreement relating to such Designated Securities are, at and as of the Time of Delivery for such Designated Securities, true and correct, the condition that the Company shall have performed all of its obligations hereunder theretofore to be performed, and the following additional conditions:

(a) The Prospectus as amended or supplemented in relation to the applicable Designated Securities shall have been filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) within the applicable time period prescribed for such filing by the rules and regulations under the Act and in accordance with Section 5(a) hereof; if the Company has elected to rely upon Rule 462(b), the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement shall have become effective by 10:00 p.m., Washington, D.C. time, on the date of this Agreement; no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or any part thereof shall have been issued and no proceeding for that purpose shall have been initiated or threatened by the Commission; and all requests for additional information on the part of the Commission shall have been complied with to the Representatives' reasonable satisfaction;

(b) Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, counsel for the Underwriters, shall have furnished to the Representatives such written opinion or opinions (a draft of each such opinion is attached as Annex II(a) hereto), dated the Time of Delivery for such Designated Securities, with respect to the matters covered in paragraphs (i), (ii), (iv), (v), (vi), (x), (xii) and (xiii) of subsection (c) below as well as such other related matters as the Representatives may reasonably request, and such counsel shall have received such papers and information as they may reasonably request to enable them to pass upon such matters;

(c) The general counsel of or other counsel employed by the Company, or outside counsel for the Company satisfactory to the Representatives shall have furnished to the Representatives their written opinion (a draft of such opinion is attached as Annex II(b) hereto), dated the Time of Delivery for such Designated Securities, in form and substance satisfactory to the Representatives, to the effect that:

(i) The Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation, with power and authority (corporate and other) to own its properties and conduct its business as described in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented;

(ii) The Company has an authorized capitalization as set forth in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented and all of the issued shares of capital stock of the Company have been duly and validly authorized and issued and are fully paid and non-assessable;

(iii) To the best of such counsel's knowledge and other than as set forth in the Prospectus, there are no legal or governmental proceedings pending to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or of which any property of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is the subject which, if determined adversely to the Company or any of its subsidiaries, would individually or in the aggregate have a material adverse effect on the current or future consolidated financial position, stockholders' equity or results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries; and, to the best of such counsel's knowledge, no such proceedings are threatened or contemplated by governmental authorities or threatened by others;

(iv) This Agreement and the Pricing Agreement with respect to the Designated Securities have been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company;

(v) The Designated Securities have been duly authorized, executed, authenticated, issued and delivered and constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the Company entitled to the benefits provided by the Indenture; and the Designated Securities and the Indenture conform to the descriptions thereof in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented;

(vi) The Indenture has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the parties thereto and constitutes a valid and legally binding instrument, enforceable in accordance with its terms, subject, as to enforcement, to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization and other laws of general applicability relating to or affecting creditors' rights and to general equity principles; and the Indenture has been duly qualified under the Trust Indenture Act;

The issue and sale of the Designated Securities being (vii) delivered at such Time of Delivery and the compliance by the Company with all of the provisions of the Designated Securities, the Indenture, this Agreement and the Pricing Agreement with respect to the Designated Securities and the consummation of the transactions herein and therein contemplated will not conflict with or result in a breach or violation of any of the terms or provisions of, or constitute a default under, any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement or other material agreement or instrument known to such counsel to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or by which the Company is bound or to which any of the property or assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is subject, nor will such actions result in any violation of the provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation or By-laws of the Company or any statute or any order, rule or regulation known to such counsel of any court or governmental agency or body having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any of its properties;

(viii) No consent, approval, authorization, order, registration or qualification of or with any such court or governmental agency or body is required for the issue and sale of the Designated Securities being delivered at such Time of Delivery or the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or such Pricing Agreement or the Indenture, except such as have been obtained under the Act and the Trust Indenture Act and such consents, approvals, authorizations, orders, registrations or qualifications as may be required under state securities or Blue Sky laws in connection with the purchase and distribution of the Designated Securities by the Underwriters;

(ix) Neither the Company nor any of its material subsidiaries is in violation of its By-laws or Certificate of Incorporation or in default in the performance or observance of any material obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any contract, indenture, mortgage, loan agreement, note, lease or other instrument to which it is a party or by which it or any of its properties may be bound;

(x) The statements set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "Description of Senior Notes", insofar as they purport to constitute a summary of the terms of the Designated Securities, and under the caption "Underwriting", insofar as they purport to describe the provisions of the laws and documents referred to therein, constitute a fair summary of such terms, laws and documents;

(xi) The Company is not an "investment company", as such term is defined in the Investment Company Act;

 $({\tt xii})$  The documents incorporated by reference in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented (other than the financial statements, related schedules and other financial

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information therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion), when they became effective or were filed with the Commission, as the case may be, complied as to form in all material respects with the requirements of the Act or the Exchange Act, as applicable, and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder; and they have no reason to believe that any of such documents, when they became effective or were so filed, as the case may be, contained, in the case of a registration statement which became effective under the Act, an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, or, in the case of other documents which were filed under the Act or the Exchange Act with the Commission, an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made when such documents were so filed, not misleading; and

(xiii) The Registration Statement and the Prospectus as amended or supplemented, and any further amendments and supplements thereto made by the Company prior to the Time of Delivery for the Designated Securities (other than the financial statements, related schedules and other financial information therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion), comply as to form in all material respects with the requirements of the Act and the Trust Indenture Act and the rules and regulations thereunder; although such counsel does not assume any responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the statements contained in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, except for those referred to in the opinion in subsection (x) of this Section 7(c), such counsel has no reason to believe that, as of its effective date, the Registration Statement or any further amendment thereto made by the Company prior to the Time of Delivery (other than the financial statements and related schedules therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion) contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading or that, as of its date, the Prospectus as amended or supplemented or any further amendment or supplement thereto made by the Company prior to the Time of Delivery (other than the financial statements and related schedules therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion) contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading or that, as of the Time of Delivery, either the Registration Statement or the Prospectus as amended or supplemented or any further amendment or supplement thereto made by the Company prior to such Time of Delivery (other than the financial statements, related schedules and other financial information therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion) contains an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and such counsel does not know of any amendment to the Registration Statement required to be filed or any contracts or other documents of a character required to be filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement or required to be incorporated by reference into the Prospectus as amended or supplemented or required to be described in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus as amended or supplemented which are not filed or incorporated by reference or described as required;

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Such counsel may rely on the opinion of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft as to matters of New York law.

On the date of the Pricing Agreement for such Designated (d) Securities at a time prior to the execution of the Pricing Agreement with respect to such Designated Securities and at the Time of Delivery for such Designated Securities, the independent accountants of the Company who have certified the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall have furnished to the Representatives a letter, dated the date of the Pricing Agreement or the date of the most recent report filed with the Commission containing financial statements and incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, if the date of such report is later than such date, and a letter dated such Time of Delivery, respectively, to the effect set forth in Annex II hereto, and with respect to such letter dated such Time of Delivery, as to such other matters as the Representatives may reasonably request and in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Representatives (the executed copy of the letter delivered prior to the execution of this Agreement is attached as Annex I(a) hereto and a draft of the form of letter to be delivered on the effective date of any post-effective amendment to the Registration Statement and as of each Time of Delivery is attached as Annex I(b) hereto);

(i) Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries shall have (e) sustained since the date of the latest audited financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus as amended prior to the date of the Pricing Agreement relating to the Designated Securities any loss or interference with its business from fire, explosion, flood or other calamity, whether or not covered by insurance, or from any labor dispute or court or governmental action, order or decree, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus as amended prior to the date of the Pricing Agreement relating to the Designated Securities, and (ii) since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Prospectus as amended prior to the date of the Pricing Agreement relating to the Designated Securities there shall not have been any change in the capital stock or long-term debt of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any change, or any development involving a prospective change, in or affecting the general affairs, management, financial position, stockholders' equity or results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus as amended prior to the date of the Pricing Agreement relating to the Designated Securities, the effect of which, in any such case described in clause (i) or (ii), is in the judgment of the Representatives so material and adverse as to make it impracticable or inadvisable to proceed with the public offering or the delivery of the Designated Securities on the terms and in the manner contemplated in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented relating to the Designated Securities;

(f) On or after the date of the Pricing Agreement relating to the Designated Securities (i) no downgrading shall have occurred in the rating accorded the Company's debt securities or preferred stock by any "nationally recognized statistical rating organization", as that term is defined by the Commission for purposes of Rule 436(g)(2) under the Act, and (ii) no such organization shall have publicly announced that it has under surveillance or review, with possible negative implications, its rating of any of the Company's debt securities or preferred stock;

(g) On or after the date of the Pricing Agreement relating to the Designated Securities there shall not have occurred any of the following: (i) a suspension or material limitation in trading in securities generally on the New York Stock Exchange (the "Exchange"); (ii) a suspension or material limitation in trading in the Company's securities on the Exchange; (iii) a general moratorium on commercial banking activities declared by either Federal or New York State authorities, or a general moratorium on commercial banking activities in the District of Columbia declared by either Federal or District of Columbia authorities; or (iv) the outbreak or escalation of hostilities involving the United States or the declaration by the United States of a national emergency or war, if the effect of any such event specified in this clause (iv) in the judgment of the Representatives makes it impracticable or inadvisable to proceed with the public offering or the delivery of the Designated Securities on the terms and in the manner contemplated in the Prospectus as first amended or supplemented relating to the Designated Securities;

(h) The Company shall have complied with the provisions of
 Section 5(c) hereof with respect to the furnishing of prospectuses on the
 Business Day next succeeding the date of this Agreement; and

(i) The Company shall have furnished or caused to be furnished to the Representatives at the Time of Delivery for the Designated Securities a certificate or certificates of officers of the Company satisfactory to the Representatives as to the accuracy of the representations and warranties of the Company herein at and as of such Time of Delivery, as to the performance by the Company of all of its obligations hereunder to be performed at or prior to such Time of Delivery, as to the matters set forth in subsections (a) and (e) of this Section and as to such other matters as the Representatives may reasonably request.

(a) The Company will indemnify and hold harmless each Underwriter 8. against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities, joint or several, to which such Underwriter may become subject, under the Act or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon an untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Preliminary Prospectus, any preliminary prospectus supplement, the Registration Statement, the Prospectus as amended or supplemented and any other prospectus relating to the Securities, or any amendment or supplement thereto, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, and will reimburse each Underwriter for any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such Underwriter in connection with investigating or defending any such action or claim as such expenses are incurred; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Company shall not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such loss, claim, damage or liability arises out of or is based upon an untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission made in any Preliminary Prospectus, any preliminary prospectus supplement, the Registration Statement, the Prospectus as amended or supplemented and any other prospectus relating to the Securities, or any such amendment or supplement in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by any Underwriter of Designated Securities through the Representatives expressly for use in the Prospectus as amended or supplemented relating to such Securities.

(b) Each Underwriter will indemnify and hold harmless the Company against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities to which the Company may become subject, under the Act or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon an untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Preliminary Prospectus, any preliminary prospectus supplement, the Registration Statement, the Prospectus as amended or supplemented and any other prospectus relating to the Securities, or any amendment or supplement thereto, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, in each case to the extent, but only to the extent, that such untrue statement or alleged untrue

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statement or omission or alleged omission was made in any Preliminary Prospectus, any preliminary prospectus supplement, the Registration Statement, the Prospectus as amended or supplemented and any other prospectus relating to the Securities, or any such amendment or supplement in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by such Underwriter through the Representatives expressly for use therein; and will reimburse the Company for any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by the Company in connection with investigating or defending any such action or claim as such expenses are incurred.

Promptly after receipt by an indemnified party under (C) subsection (a) or (b) above of notice of the commencement of any action, such indemnified party shall, if a claim in respect thereof is to be made against the indemnifying party under such subsection, notify the indemnifying party in writing of the commencement thereof; but the omission so to notify the indemnifying party shall not relieve it from any liability which it may have to any indemnified party otherwise than under such subsection. In case any such action shall be brought against any indemnified party and it shall notify the indemnifying party of the commencement thereof, the indemnifying party shall be entitled to participate therein and, to the extent that it shall wish, jointly with any other indemnifying party similarly notified, to assume the defense thereof, with counsel reasonably satisfactory to such indemnified party (who shall not, except with the consent of the indemnified party (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed), be counsel to the indemnifying party), and, after notice from the indemnifying party to such indemnified party of its election so to assume the defense thereof, the indemnifying party shall not be liable to such indemnified party under such subsection for any legal expenses of other counsel or any other expenses, in each case subsequently incurred by such indemnified party, in connection with the defense thereof other than reasonable costs of investigation. No indemnifying party shall, without the written consent of the indemnified party, effect the settlement or compromise of, or consent to the entry of any judgment with respect to, any pending or threatened action or claim in respect of which indemnification or contribution may be sought hereunder (whether or not the indemnified party is an actual or potential party to such action or claim) unless such settlement, compromise or judgment (i) includes an unconditional release of the indemnified party from all liability arising out of such action or claim and (ii) does not include any statement as to, or an admission of, fault, culpability or a failure to act, by or on behalf of any indemnified party. The consent in this last sentence shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed and the indemnifying party agrees that the indemnified party shall in all cases be justified in withholding consent unless such settlement, compromise or judgment (i) includes an unconditional release of the indemnified party from all liability arising out of such action or claim and (ii) does not include a statement as to, or an admission of, fault, culpability or a failure to act, by or on behalf of any indemnified party.

If the indemnification provided for in this Section 8 is (d) unavailable to or insufficient to hold harmless an indemnified party under subsection (a) or (b) above in respect of any losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) referred to therein, then each indemnifying party shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such indemnified party as a result of such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters of the Designated Securities on the other from the offering of the Designated Securities to which such loss, claim, damage or liability (or action in respect thereof) relates. If, however, the allocation provided by the immediately preceding sentence is not permitted by applicable law or if the indemnified party failed to give the notice required under subsection (c) above, then each indemnifying party shall contribute to such amount paid or payable by such indemnified party in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only such relative

benefits but also the relative fault of the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters of the Designated Securities on the other in connection with the statements or omissions which resulted in such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof), as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and such Underwriters on the other shall be deemed to be in the same proportion as the total net proceeds from such offering (before deducting expenses) received by the Company bear to the total underwriting discounts and commissions received by such Underwriters. The relative fault shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or the omission or alleged omission to state a material fact relates to information supplied by the Company on the one hand or such Underwriters on the other and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such statement or omission. The Company and the Underwriters agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution pursuant to this subsection (d) were determined by PRO RATA allocation (even if the Underwriters were treated as one entity for such purpose) or by any other method of allocation which does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to above in this subsection (d). The amount paid or payable by an indemnified party as a result of the losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) referred to above in this subsection (d) shall be deemed to include any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such indemnified party in connection with investigating or defending any such action or claim. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection (d), no Underwriter shall be required to contribute any amount in excess of the amount by which the total price at which the applicable Designated Securities underwritten by it and distributed to the public were offered to the public exceeds the amount of any damages which such Underwriter has otherwise been required to pay by reason of such untrue or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission. No person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. The obligations of the Underwriters of Designated Securities in this subsection (d) to contribute are several in proportion to their respective underwriting obligations with respect to such Securities and not joint.

(e) The obligations of the Company under this Section 8 shall be in addition to any liability which the Company may otherwise have and shall extend, upon the same terms and conditions, to each person, if any, who controls any Underwriter within the meaning of the Act; and the obligations of the Underwriters under this Section 8 shall be in addition to any liability which the respective Underwriters may otherwise have and shall extend, upon the same terms and conditions, to each officer and director of the Company and to each person, if any, who controls the Company within the meaning of the Act.

9. (a) If any Underwriter shall default in its obligation to purchase the Designated Securities which it has agreed to purchase under the Pricing Agreement relating to such Designated Securities, the Representatives may in their discretion arrange for themselves or another party or other parties to purchase such Designated Securities on the terms contained herein. If within thirty-six hours after such default by any Underwriter the Representatives do not arrange for the purchase of such Designated Securities, then the Company shall be entitled to a further period of thirty-six hours within which to procure another party or other parties satisfactory to the Representatives to purchase such Designated Securities on such terms. In the event that, within the respective prescribed period, the Representatives notify the Company that they have so arranged for the purchase of such Designated Securities, or the Company notifies the Representatives that it has so arranged for the purchase of such Designated Securities, the Representatives or the Company shall have the right to postpone a Time of Delivery for such Designated Securities for a period of not more than seven days, in order to effect whatever changes may thereby be made necessary in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus as amended or supplemented, or in any other documents or arrangements, and the Company agrees to file promptly any amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus which in the opinion of the Representatives may thereby be made necessary. The term "Underwriter" as used in this Agreement shall include any person substituted under this Section with like effect as if such person had originally been a party to the Pricing Agreement with respect to such Designated Securities.

If, after giving effect to any arrangements for the purchase of (b) the Designated Securities of a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters by the Representatives and the Company as provided in subsection (a) above, the aggregate principal amount of such Designated Securities which remains unpurchased does not exceed one-eleventh of the aggregate principal amount of the Designated Securities, to be purchased at the Time of Delivery, then the Company shall have the right to require each non-defaulting Underwriter to purchase the principal amount of Designated Securities which such Underwriter agreed to purchase under the Pricing Agreement relating to such Designated Securities and, in addition, to require each non-defaulting Underwriter to purchase its pro rata share (based on the principal amount of Designated Securities which such Underwriter agreed to purchase under such Pricing Agreement) of the Designated Securities of such defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters for which such arrangements have not been made; but nothing herein shall relieve a defaulting Underwriter from liability for its default.

If, after giving effect to any arrangements for the purchase of (C) the Designated Securities of a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters by the Representatives and the Company as provided in subsection (a) above, the aggregate principal amount of Designated Securities which remains unpurchased exceeds one-eleventh of the aggregate principal amount of the Designated Securities, to be purchased at the Time of Delivery, as referred to in subsection (b) above, or if the Company shall not exercise the right described in subsection (b) above to require non-defaulting Underwriters to purchase Designated Securities of a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters, then the Pricing Agreement relating to such Designated Securities shall thereupon terminate, without liability on the part of any non-defaulting Underwriter or the Company, except for the expenses to be borne by the Company and the Underwriters as provided in Section 6 hereof and the indemnity and contribution agreements in Section 8 hereof; but nothing herein shall relieve a defaulting Underwriter from liability for its default.

10. The respective indemnities, agreements, representations, warranties and other statements of the Company and the several Underwriters, as set forth in this Agreement or made by or on behalf of them, respectively, pursuant to this Agreement, shall remain in full force and effect, regardless of any investigation (or any statement as to the results thereof) made by or on behalf of any Underwriter or any controlling person of any Underwriter, or the Company, or any officer or director or controlling person of the Company, and shall survive delivery of and payment for the Securities.

11. If any Pricing Agreement shall be terminated pursuant to Section 9 hereof, the Company shall not then be under any liability to any Underwriter with respect to the Designated Securities with respect to which such Pricing Agreement shall have been terminated except as provided in Sections 6 and 8 hereof; but, if for any other reason Designated Securities are not delivered by or on behalf of the Company as provided herein, the Company will reimburse the Underwriters through the Representatives for all out-of-pocket expenses approved in writing by the Representatives, including fees and disbursements of counsel, reasonably incurred by the Underwriters in making preparations for the purchase, sale and delivery of such Designated Securities, but the Company shall then be under no further liability to any Underwriter with respect to such Designated Securities except as provided in Sections 6 and 8 hereof.

12. In all dealings hereunder, the Representatives of the Underwriters of Designated Securities shall act on behalf of each of such Underwriters, and the parties hereto shall be entitled to act and rely upon any statement, request, notice or agreement on behalf of any Underwriter made or given by such Representatives jointly or by such of the Representatives, if any, as may be designated for such purpose in the Pricing Agreement.

All statements, requests, notices and agreements hereunder shall be in writing, and if to the Underwriters shall be delivered or sent by mail, telex or facsimile transmission to the address of the Representatives as set forth in the Pricing Agreement; and if to the Company shall be delivered or sent by facsimile transmission or registered mail to USA Education, Inc., 11600 Sallie Mae Drive, Reston, Virginia 20193, facsimile transmission number (703) 810-7586, Attention: General Counsel's office; provided, however, that any notice to an Underwriter pursuant to Section 8(c) hereof shall be delivered or sent by mail, telex or facsimile transmission to such Underwriter at its address set forth in its Underwriters' Questionnaire, or telex constituting such Questionnaire, which address will be supplied to the Company by the Representatives upon request. Any such statements, requests, notices or agreements shall take effect upon receipt thereof.

13. This Agreement and each Pricing Agreement shall be binding upon, and inure solely to the benefit of, the Underwriters, the Company and, to the extent provided in Sections 8 and 10 hereof, the officers and directors of the Company and each person who controls the Company or any Underwriter, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, and no other person shall acquire or have any right under or by virtue of this Agreement or any such Pricing Agreement. No purchaser of any of the Securities from any Underwriter shall be deemed a successor or assign by reason merely of such purchase.

14. Time shall be of the essence of each Pricing Agreement. As used herein, "Business Day" shall mean any day when the Commission's office in Washington, D.C. is open for business.

15. THIS AGREEMENT AND EACH PRICING AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

16. This Agreement and each Pricing Agreement may be executed by any one or more of the parties hereto and thereto in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all such respective counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

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If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding, please sign and return counterparts to us, one for the Company and for each of the Representatives plus one for each counsel.

> Very truly yours, USA EDUCATION, INC. By: /s/ John F. Remondi ..... Name: John F. Remondi Title: Senior Vice President & Treasurer

Accepted as of the date hereof:

GOLDMAN, SACHS & CO.

By: /s/ Goldman, Sachs & Co.

As Representative of the Underwriters

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As Representatives of the several Underwriters named in Schedule I hereto

Ladies and Gentlemen:

USA Education, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), proposes, subject to the terms and conditions stated herein and in the Underwriting \_, 2000 (the "Underwriting Agreement"), between the Agreement, dated \_ Company on the one hand and Goldman, Sachs & Co. Salomon Smith Barney Inc. on the other hand, to issue and sell to the Underwriters named in Schedule I hereto (the "Underwriters") the Securities specified in Schedule II hereto (the "Designated Securities"). Each of the provisions of the Underwriting Agreement is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and shall be deemed to be a part of this Agreement to the same extent as if such provisions had been set forth in full herein; and each of the representations and warranties set forth therein shall be deemed to have been made at and as of the date of this Pricing Agreement, except that each representation and warranty which refers to the Prospectus in Section 2 of the Underwriting Agreement shall be deemed to be a representation or warranty as of the date of the Underwriting Agreement in relation to the Prospectus (as therein defined), and also a representation and warranty as of the date of this Pricing Agreement in relation to the Prospectus as amended or supplemented relating to the Designated Securities which are the subject of this Pricing Agreement. Each reference to the Representatives herein and in the provisions of the Underwriting Agreement so incorporated by reference shall be deemed to refer to you. Unless otherwise defined herein, terms defined in the Underwriting Agreement are used herein as therein defined. The Representatives designated to act on behalf of the Representatives and on behalf of each of the Underwriters of the Designated Securities pursuant to Section 12 of the Underwriting Agreement and the address of the Representatives referred to in such Section 12 are set forth at the end of Schedule II hereto.

An amendment to the Registration Statement, or a supplement to the Prospectus, as the case may be, relating to the Designated Securities, in the form heretofore delivered to you is now proposed to be filed with the Commission.

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and in the Underwriting Agreement incorporated herein by reference, the Company agrees to issue and sell to each of the Underwriters, and each of the Underwriters agrees, severally and not jointly, to purchase from the Company, at the time and place and at the purchase price to the Underwriters set forth in Schedule II hereto, the principal amount of Designated Securities set forth opposite the name of such Underwriter in Schedule I hereto.

If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding, please sign and return to us one for the Company and each of the Representatives plus one for each counsel counterparts hereof, and upon acceptance hereof by you, on behalf of each of the Underwriters, this letter and such acceptance hereof, including the provisions of the Underwriting Agreement incorporated herein by reference, shall constitute a binding agreement between each of the Underwriters and the Company. It is understood that your acceptance of this letter on behalf of each of the Underwriters is or will be pursuant to the authority set forth in a form of Agreement among Underwriters, the form of which shall be submitted to the Company for examination upon request, but without warranty on the part of the Representatives as to the authority of the signers thereof.

Very truly yours,

USA EDUCATION, INC.

By:

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Name: Title:

Accepted as of the date hereof:

[Name(s) of Co-Representative(s)]

By:

On behalf of each of the Underwriters

UNDERWRITER	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF DESIGNATED SECURITIES TO BE PURCHASED
	\$
Total	\$ =======

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SCHEDULE II

TITLE OF DESIGNATED SECURITIES:

[ %] [Floating Rate] [Zero Coupon] [Notes] [Debentures] due ,

AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT:

[\$]

PRICE TO PUBLIC:

% of the principal amount of the Designated Securities, plus accrued interest[, if any,] from to [and accrued amortization[, if any,] from to ]

PURCHASE PRICE BY UNDERWRITERS:

% of the principal amount of the Designated Securities, plus accrued interest from to [and accrued amortization[, if any,] from to ]

FORM OF DESIGNATED SECURITIES:

[Definitive form to be made available for checking and packaging at least twenty-four hours prior to the Time of Delivery at the office of [The Depository Trust Company or its designated custodian] [the Representatives]](13)

[Book-entry only form represented by one or more global securities deposited with The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or its designated custodian, to be made available for checking by the Representatives at least twenty-four hours prior to the Time of Delivery at the office of DTC.](14)

SPECIFIED FUNDS FOR PAYMENT OF PURCHASE PRICE:

Federal (same day) funds(15)

TIME OF DELIVERY:

a.m. (New York City time),

INDENTURE:

Indenture dated , 2000 , between the Company and , as trustee

, 2000

MATURITY:

INTEREST RATE:

[ %] [Zero Coupon] [See Floating Rate Provisions]

INTEREST PAYMENT DATES:

[months and dates, commencing ....., 2000]

**REDEMPTION PROVISIONS:** 

[No provisions for redemption]

[The Designated Securities may be redeemed, otherwise than through the sinking fund, in whole or in part at the option of the Company, in the amount of [\$ ] or an integral multiple thereof,

[on or after , at the following redemption prices (expressed in percentages of principal amount). If [redeemed on or before , %, and if] redeemed during the 12-month period beginning ,

	REDEMPTION
YEAR	PRICE

and thereafter at 100% of their principal amount, together in each case with accrued interest to the redemption date.]

[on any interest payment date falling on or after ,
 , at the election of the Company, at a redemption price equal
to the principal amount thereof, plus accrued interest to the date
of redemption.]]

[Other possible redemption provisions, such as mandatory redemption upon occurrence of certain events or redemption for changes in tax law]

[Restriction on refunding]

### SINKING FUND PROVISIONS:

[No sinking fund provisions]

[The Designated Securities are entitled to the benefit of a sinking fund to retire [\$ ] principal amount of Designated Securities on in each of the years through at 100% of their principal amount plus accrued interest[, together with [cumulative] [noncumulative] redemptions at the option of the Company to retire an additional [\$ ] principal amount of Designated Securities in the years through at 100% of their principal amount plus accrued interest.]

[IF DESIGNATED SECURITIES ARE EXTENDABLE DEBT SECURITIES, INSERT--

### EXTENDABLE PROVISIONS:

Designated Securities are repayable on , [insert date and years], at the option of the holder, at their principal amount with accrued interest. The initial annual interest rate will be %, and thereafter the annual interest rate will be adjusted on , and to a rate not less than % of the effective annual interest rate on U.S. Treasury obligations with -year maturities as of the [insert date 15 days prior to maturity date] prior to such [insert maturity date].]

[IF DESIGNATED SECURITIES ARE FLOATING RATE DEBT SECURITIES, INSERT--

## FLOATING RATE PROVISIONS:

Initial annual interest rate will be % through [and thereafter will be adjusted [monthly] [on each , , and ] [to an annual rate of % above the average rate for -year

[month][securities][certificates of deposit] issued by [insert names of banks].] [and the annual interest rate and [thereafter] [from ] will be the interest yield through equivalent of the weekly average per annum market discount rate for -month Treasury bills plus % of Interest Differential (the excess, if any, of (i) the then current weekly average per annum secondary market yield for -month certificates of deposit over (ii) the then current interest yield equivalent of the weekly average per annum market discount rate for -month Treasury bills); [from and thereafter the rate will be the then current interest yield equivalent plus % of Interest Differential].]

# DEFEASANCE PROVISIONS:

CLOSING LOCATION FOR DELIVERY OF DESIGNATED SECURITIES:

ADDITIONAL CLOSING CONDITIONS:

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Designated Representatives:

Address for Notices, etc.:

[OTHER TERMS]:

Pursuant to Section 7(d) of the Underwriting Agreement, the accountants shall furnish letters to the Underwriters to the effect that:

(i) They are independent certified public accountants with respect to the Company and its subsidiaries within the meaning of the Act and the applicable rules and regulations adopted by the Commission;

(ii) In their opinion, the financial statements and any supplementary financial information and schedules audited (and, if applicable, financial forecasts and/or pro forma financial information) examined by them and included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus comply as to form in all material respects with the applicable accounting requirements of the Act or the Exchange Act, as applicable, and the related rules and regulations; and, if applicable, they have made a review in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants of the consolidated interim financial statements, selected financial data, pro forma financial information, financial forecasts and/or condensed financial statements derived from audited financial statements of the Company for the periods specified in such letter, as indicated in their reports thereon, copies of which have been [SEPARATELY] furnished to the representative or representatives of the Underwriters (the "Representatives") such term to include an Underwriter or Underwriters who act without any firm being designated as its or their representatives [AND ARE ATTACHED TO SUCH LETTERS];

They have made a review in accordance with standards (iii) established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants of the unaudited condensed consolidated statements of income, consolidated balance sheets and consolidated statements of cash flows included in the Prospectus and/or included in the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q incorporated by reference into the Prospectus as indicated in their reports thereon copies of which [HAVE BEEN SEPARATELY FURNISHED TO THE REPRESENTATIVES][ARE ATTACHED TO SUCH LETTERS]; and on the basis of specified procedures including inquiries of officials of the Company who have responsibility for financial and accounting matters regarding whether the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements referred to in paragraph (vi)(A)(i) below comply as to form in all material respects with the applicable accounting requirements of the [ACT AND THE EXCHANGE] Act and the related rules and regulations, nothing came to their attention that caused them to believe that the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements do not comply as to form in all material respects with the applicable accounting requirements of the [ACT AND THE EXCHANGE] Act and the related rules and regulations adopted by the Commission;

(iv) The unaudited selected financial information with respect to the consolidated results of operations and financial position of the Company for the five most recent fiscal years included in the Prospectus and included or incorporated by reference in Item 6 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the most recent fiscal year agrees with the corresponding amounts (after restatement where applicable) in the audited consolidated financial statements for five such fiscal years included or incorporated by reference in the Company's Annual Reports on Form 10-K for such fiscal years;

(v) They have compared the information in the Prospectus under selected captions with the disclosure requirements of Regulation S-K and on the basis of limited procedures specified in such letter nothing came to their attention as a result of the foregoing procedures that caused them to believe that this information does not conform in all material respects with the disclosure requirements of Items 301, 302, 402 and 503(d), respectively, of Regulation S-K; (vi) On the basis of limited procedures, not constituting an examination in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, consisting of a reading of the unaudited financial statements and other information referred to below, a reading of the latest available interim financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries, inspection of the minute books of the Company and its subsidiaries since the date of the latest audited financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus, inquiries of officials of the Company and its subsidiaries responsible for financial and accounting matters and such other inquiries and procedures as may be specified in such letter, nothing came to their attention that caused them to believe that:

(A) (i) the unaudited condensed consolidated statements of income, consolidated balance sheets and consolidated statements of cash flows included in the Prospectus and/or included or incorporated by reference in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q incorporated by reference in the Prospectus do not comply as to form in all material respects with the applicable accounting requirements of the Exchange Act and the published rules and regulations adopted by the Commission, or (ii) any material modifications should be made to the unaudited condensed consolidated statements of income, consolidated balance sheets and consolidated statements of cash flows included in the Prospectus or included in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q incorporated by reference in the Prospectus for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles;

(B) any other unaudited income statement data and balance sheet items included in the Prospectus do not agree with the corresponding items in the unaudited consolidated financial statements from which such data and items were derived, and any such unaudited data and items were not determined on a basis substantially consistent with the basis for the corresponding amounts in the audited consolidated financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the most recent fiscal year;

(C) the unaudited financial statements which were not included in the Prospectus but from which were derived the unaudited condensed financial statements referred to in clause (A) and any unaudited income statement data and balance sheet items included in the Prospectus and referred to in clause (B) were not determined on a basis substantially consistent with the basis for the audited financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the most recent fiscal year;

(D) any unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus do not comply as to form in all material respects with the applicable accounting requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations adopted by the Commission thereunder or the pro forma adjustments have not been properly applied to the historical amounts in the compilation of those statements;

(E) as of a specified date not more than five days prior to the date of such letter, there have been any changes in the consolidated capital stock (other than issuances of capital stock upon exercise of options and stock appreciation rights, upon earn-outs of performance shares and upon conversions of convertible securities, in each case which were outstanding on the date of the latest balance sheet included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus) or any increase in the consolidated long-term debt of the Company and its subsidiaries, or any decreases in consolidated net current assets or stockholders' equity or other items specified by the Representatives, or any increases in any items specified by the Representatives, in each case as compared with amounts shown in the latest balance sheet included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus, except in each case for changes, increases or decreases which the Prospectus discloses have occurred or may occur or which are described in such letter; and

(F) for the period from the date of the latest financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus to the specified date referred to in clause (E) there were any decreases in consolidated net revenues or operating profit or the total or per share amounts of consolidated net income or other items specified by the Representatives, or any increases in any items specified by the Representatives, in each case as compared with the comparable period of the preceding year and with any other period of corresponding length specified by the Representatives, except in each case for increases or decreases which the Prospectus discloses have occurred or may occur or which are described in such letter; and

In addition to the audit referred to in their report(s) (vii) included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus and the limited procedures, inspection of minute books, inquiries and other procedures referred to in paragraphs (iii) and (vi) above, they have carried out certain specified procedures, not constituting an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, with respect to certain amounts, percentages and financial information specified by the Representatives which are derived from the general accounting records of the Company and its subsidiaries, which appear in the Prospectus (excluding documents incorporated by reference), or in Part II of, or in exhibits and schedules to, the Registration Statement specified by the Representatives or in documents incorporated by reference in the Prospectus specified by the Representatives, and have compared certain of such amounts, percentages and financial information with the accounting records of the Company and its subsidiaries and have found them to be in agreement.

All references in this Annex II to the Prospectus shall be deemed to refer to the Prospectus (including the documents incorporated by reference therein) as defined in the Underwriting Agreement as of the date of the letter delivered on the date of the Pricing Agreement for purposes of such letter and to the Prospectus as amended or supplemented (including the documents incorporated by reference therein) in relation to the applicable Designated Securities for purposes of the letter delivered at the Time of Delivery for such Designated Securities.

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Goldman, Sachs & Co. Salomon Smith Barney Inc., As Representatives of the several Underwriters named in Schedule I hereto c/o Goldman, Sachs & Co. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004

September 28, 2000

### Ladies and Gentlemen:

USA Education, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "COMPANY"), proposes, subject to the terms and conditions stated herein and in the Underwriting Agreement, dated as of September 28, 2000 (the "UNDERWRITING AGREEMENT"), between the Company on the one hand and Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Salomon Smith Barney Inc. on the other hand, to issue and sell to the Underwriters named in Schedule I hereto (the "UNDERWRITERS") the Securities specified in Schedule II hereto (the "DESIGNATED SECURITIES"). Each of the provisions of the Underwriting Agreement is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and shall be deemed to be a part of this Agreement to the same extent as if such provisions had been set forth in full herein; and each of the representations and warranties set forth therein shall be deemed to have been made at and as of the date of this Pricing Agreement, except that each representation and warranty which refers to the Prospectus in Section 2 of the Underwriting Agreement shall be deemed to be a representation or warranty as of the date of the Underwriting Agreement in relation to the Prospectus (as therein defined), and also a representation and warranty as of the date of this Pricing Agreement in relation to the Prospectus as amended or supplemented relating to the Designated Securities which are the subject of this Pricing Agreement. Each reference to the Representatives herein and in the provisions of the Underwriting Agreement so incorporated by reference shall be deemed to refer to you. Unless otherwise defined herein, terms defined in the Underwriting Agreement are used herein as therein defined. The Representatives designated to act on behalf of the Representatives and on behalf of each of the Underwriters of the Designated Securities pursuant to Section 12 of the Underwriting Agreement and the address of the Representatives referred to in such Section 12 are set forth at the end of Schedule II hereto.

An amendment to the Registration Statement, or a supplement to the Prospectus, as the case may be, relating to the Designated Securities, in the form heretofore delivered to you is now proposed to be filed with the Commission.

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and in the Underwriting Agreement incorporated herein by reference, the Company agrees to issue and sell to each of the Underwriters, and each of the Underwriters agrees, severally and not jointly, to purchase from the Company, at the time and place and at the purchase price to the Underwriters set forth in Schedule II hereto, the principal amount of Designated Securities set forth opposite the name of such Underwriter in Schedule I hereto.

If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding, please sign and return to us one for the Company and each of the Representatives plus one for each counsel counterparts hereof, and upon acceptance hereof by you, on behalf of each of the Underwriters, this letter and such acceptance hereof, including the provisions of the Underwriting Agreement incorporated herein by reference, shall constitute a binding agreement between each of the Underwriters and the Company. It is understood that your acceptance of this letter on behalf of each of the Underwriters is or will be pursuant to the authority set forth in a form of Agreement among Underwriters, the form of which shall be submitted to the Company for examination upon request, but without warranty on the part of the Representatives as to the authority of the signers thereof. Very truly yours, USA EDUCATION, INC. By: /s/ John F. Remondi Name: John F. Remondi Title: Senior Vice President & Treasurer

Accepted as of the date hereof:

GOLDMAN, SACHS & CO.

By: /s/ Goldman, Sachs & Co.

On behalf of each of the Underwriters

UNDERWRITER	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF DESIGNATED SECURITIES TO BE PURCHASED
Goldman, Sachs & Co	\$ 220,000,000
Salomon Smith Barney Inc	\$ 220,000,000
Banc of America Securities LLC	\$ 15,000,000
Banc One Capital Markets, Inc	\$ 15,000,000
Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation	\$ 15,000,000
First Union National Bank	\$ 15,000,000

Total ..... \$ 500,000,000

TITLE OF DESIGNATED SECURITIES: Senior Notes due September 16, 2002

AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT: \$ 500,000,000

PRICE TO PUBLIC:

100 % of the principal amount of the Designated Securities

#### PURCHASE PRICE BY UNDERWRITERS:

99.750 % of the principal amount of the Designated Securities

FORM OF DESIGNATED SECURITIES:

Book-entry only form represented by two global securities deposited with The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or its designated custodian, to be made available for checking by the Representatives at least twenty-four hours prior to the Time of Delivery.

SPECIFIED FUNDS FOR PAYMENT OF PURCHASE PRICE:

Federal (same day) funds

### TIME OF DELIVERY:

11:00 a.m. (New York City time), October 3, 2000

#### INDENTURE:

Indenture, dated as of October 1, 2000, between USA Education, Inc. and The Chase Manhattan Bank, as trustee, and Supplemental Indenture, dated October 3, 2000, between USA Education, Inc. and The Chase Manhattan Bank, as trustee

#### MATURITY:

September 16, 2002

## INTEREST RATE:

Three-month LIBOR, as determined on the second business day before the applicable accrual period, plus 0.22%.

Interest will accrue from the date of original issuance, October 3, 2000.

INTEREST PAYMENT DATES:

Quarterly on March 16, June 16, September 16 and December 16 of each year, except that first payment of interest will be made on January 3, 2001.

### **REDEMPTION PROVISIONS:**

No provisions for redemption.

#### SINKING FUND PROVISIONS:

No sinking fund provisions.

Annual interest rate will be 0.22% over three-month LIBOR, as determined on the second business day before the applicable accrual period.

#### DEFEASANCE PROVISIONS:

No defeasance provisions.

CLOSING LOCATION FOR DELIVERY OF DESIGNATED SECURITIES:

Offices of USA Education, Inc. 11600 Sallie Mae Drive Reston, Virginia 20193

ADDITIONAL CLOSING CONDITIONS:

None.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Goldman, Sachs & Co. 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004

Salomon Smith Barney Inc. 388 Greenwich Street 34th Floor New York, New York 10013

Goldman, Sachs & Co. shall be entitled to execute documents and instruments on behalf of the Representatives and the Underwriters

OTHER TERMS:

The representation set forth in Section 2(d) of the Underwriting Agreement is modified to read as follows:

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has (d) sustained since the date of the latest audited financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus any material loss or interference with its business from fire, explosion, flood or other calamity, whether or not covered by insurance, or from any labor dispute or court or governmental action, order or decree, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus; and, since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, there has not been any change in the capital stock or long-term debt of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (except for the transactions relating to the acquisition of USA Group, described in the Prospectus under "Recent Developments") or any material adverse change, or any development involving a prospective material adverse change, in or affecting the general affairs, management, financial position, stockholders' equity or results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus.

\_\_\_\_\_

USA EDUCATION, INC.

Issuer

and

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK

Trustee

INDENTURE

DATED AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2000

Providing for the Issuance of Debt Securities in Series

# TIE-SHEET

Reconciliation and tie between Indenture dated as of October 1, 2000 and the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. This reconciliation section does not constitute part of the Indenture.

TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939 Section	INDENTURE SECTION
310(a)(1)	 . 7.10
(a)(2)	 . 7.10
(a)(3)	 . Inapplicable
(b)	 . 7.08, 7.10
(c)	 . Inapplicable
311(a)	 . 7.11
(b)	 . 7.11
(C)	 . Inapplicable
312(a)	
(c)	
	 - / -
(-)	 
	 ,
	 ( )
	 ,
318(a)	 . 11.01

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INDENTURE dated as of October 1, 2000 between USA EDUCATION, INC., a Delaware corporation (the "COMPANY"), and THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, not in its individual capacity, but solely as trustee (the "TRUSTEE").

### RECITALS

The Company has duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Indenture to provide for the issuance from time to time of its debentures, notes or other evidences of indebtedness ("SECURITIES").

All things necessary to make this Indenture a valid agreement of the Company, in accordance with its terms, have been done.

In consideration of the premises and the purchase of the Securities by the holders of the Securities, it is mutually covenanted and agreed as follows for the equal and ratable benefit of the holders of the Securities:

# ARTICLE 1

### DEFINITIONS AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

#### Section 1.01 DEFINITIONS.

"AFFILIATE" means any Person directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by, or under direct or indirect common control with, the Company.

"AGENT" means any Paying Agent, Registrar or transfer agent as may be appointed by the Company from time to time.

"AUTHORIZED NEWSPAPER" means a newspaper of general circulation, in the official language of the country of publication or in the English language, customarily published on each business day. Whenever successive weekly publications in an Authorized Newspaper are required hereunder, they may be made (unless otherwise expressly provided) on the same or different days of the week and in the same or different Authorized Newspapers.

"BANKRUPTCY LAW" means Title 11, U.S. Code, or any similar federal or state law for the relief of debtors.

"BOARD OF DIRECTORS" mean the Board of Directors of the Company or any duly authorized committee thereof.

"BOARD RESOLUTION" means a copy of a resolution of the Board of Directors, certified by the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of the Company to have been adopted by the Board of Directors and to be in full force and effect on the date of the certificate.

"COMPANY" means the party named as such in this Indenture until a successor replaces it, and thereafter means the successor.

"COMPANY ORDER" means an order signed by two Officers of the

Company.

"CUSTODIAN" means any receiver, trustee, assignee, liquidator, or similar official under any Bankruptcy Law.

"DEFAULT" means any event which is, or after notice or passage of time would be, an Event of Default.

"DEPOSITARY" means, with respect to Securities of any Series for which the Company shall determine that such Securities will be issued as a Global Security, The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, another clearing agency or any successor registered as a clearing agency under the Exchange Act, or other applicable statute or regulation, which, in each case, shall be designated by the Company pursuant to either Section 2.02 or 2.15.

"ELIGIBLE INSTRUMENTS" is defined in Section 8.01.

"EVENT OF DEFAULT" is defined in Section 6.01.

"EXCHANGE ACT" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as

amended.

"GLOBAL SECURITY" means, with respect to any Series of Securities, a Security executed by the Company and delivered by the Trustee to the Depositary or pursuant to the Depositary's instruction, all in accordance with the Indenture, which shall be registered in the name of the Depositary or its nominee.

"HOLDER" or "SECURITYHOLDER" means a bearer of an Unregistered Security or of a coupon appertaining thereto or a Person in whose name a Registered Security is registered on the Registrar's books.

"INDENTURE" means this instrument as amended or supplemented from time to time and shall include any such supplemental indenture, the forms and terms of particular Series of Securities established as contemplated hereunder and the provisions of the TIA that are deemed to be a part of and govern this instrument and any such supplemental indenture.

"INTEREST" when used with respect to an Original Issue Discount Security which by its terms bears interest only after maturity, means interest payable after maturity.

"LEGAL HOLIDAY" is defined in Section 11.07.

"OFFICER" means the President, any Executive Vice-President, Vice President, the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Secretary, any Assistant Secretary or the Comptroller or any Assistant Comptroller of the Company.

"OFFICERS' CERTIFICATE" means a certificate signed by two Officers of the Company.

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"OPINION OF COUNSEL" means a written opinion of legal counsel who is acceptable to the Company and the Trustee. The counsel may be an employee of or counsel to the Company or the Trustee.

"ORIGINAL ISSUE DISCOUNT SECURITY" means any Security which provides for an amount less than the stated Principal amount thereof to be due and payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof pursuant to Section 6.02.

"PAYING AGENT" is defined in Section 2.04.

"PERSON" means any individual, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, association, trust, other entity, unincorporated organization or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof.

"PRINCIPAL" of a Security means the principal amount of the Security plus, when appropriate, the premium, if any, on the Security.

"REGISTERED SECURITY" means any Security issued hereunder and registered as to Principal and interest by the Registrar.

"REGISTRAR" is defined in Section 2.04.

"RESPONSIBLE OFFICER" when used with respect to the Trustee, means the chairman or any vice-chairman of the board of directors or trustees, the chairman or any vice-chairman of the executive committee of the board of directors or trustees, the president, any executive vice-president, any senior vice-president, any vice-president, any assistant vice-president, the treasurer, the secretary, any trust officer, any second or assistant vice-president, or any other officer or assistant officer of the Trustee customarily performing functions similar to those performed by the persons who at the time shall be such officers, respectively, or to whom any corporate trust matter is referred because of his knowledge of and familiarity with a particular subject.

"SEC" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"SERIES" or "SERIES OF SECURITIES" means a series of Securities.

"SECURITIES" means the debentures, notes or other obligations of the Company issued, authenticated and delivered under this Indenture.

"SUBSIDIARY" means any corporation more than 50% of the outstanding voting stock of which is owned, directly or indirectly, by the Company and/or by one or more other Subsidiaries. For purposes of such definition, "voting stock" means stock ordinarily having voting power for the election of directors, whether at all times or only so long as no senior class of stock has such voting power by reason of any contingency.

"TIA" means the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 (15 U.S.C. Sections 77aaa-77bbb) as in effect on the date of this Indenture, except as provided in Section 9.03.

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"TRUSTEE" means the Person named as such in this Indenture until a successor replaces it and, thereafter, means the successor and if, at any time, there is more than one Trustee, "Trustee" as used with respect to the Securities of any Series shall mean the Trustee with respect to that Series.

"U.S. PERSON" means a citizen, national or resident of the United States, a corporation, partnership or other entity created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any political subdivision thereof, or an estate or trust which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source of income.

"UNREGISTERED SECURITY" means any Security issued hereunder which is not a Registered Security.

"YIELD TO MATURITY" means the yield to maturity, calculated by the Company at the time of issuance of a Series of Securities or, if applicable, at the most recent determination of interest on such Series in accordance with accepted financial practice.

Section 1.02 INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF TRUST INDENTURE ACT.

Whenever this Indenture refers to a provision of the TIA, the provision is incorporated by reference in and made a part of this Indenture. The following TIA terms used in this Indenture have the following meanings:

"Commission" means the SEC.

"indenture securities" means the Securities.

"indenture security holder" means a Holder or a Securityholder.

"indenture to be qualified" means this Indenture.

"indenture trustee" or "institutional trustee" means the Trustee.

"obligor" on the indenture securities means the Company.

All other terms used in this Indenture that are defined by the TIA, defined by TIA reference to another statute or defined by SEC rule under the TIA have the meanings assigned to them therein.

Section 1.03 RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.

Unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) a term has the meaning assigned to it;
- (2) an accounting term not otherwise defined has the meaning assigned to it in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- (3) "or" is not exclusive; and

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(4) words in the singular include the plural, and words in the plural include the singular.

ARTICLE 2

### THE SECURITIES

### Section 2.01 ISSUABLE IN SERIES.

The aggregate Principal amount of Securities which may be authenticated and delivered under this Indenture is unlimited. The Securities may be issued in one or more Series. There may be Registered Securities and Unregistered Securities within a Series and the Unregistered Securities may be subject to such restrictions, and contain such legends, as may be required by United States laws and regulations. All Series of Securities shall be equally and ratably entitled to the benefits of this Indenture.

Section 2.02 ESTABLISHMENT OF TERMS AND FORM OF SERIES OF SECURITIES.

(a) At or prior to the issuance of any Series of Securities, the following shall be established by a Company Board Resolution, by one or more Officers of the Company pursuant to a Company Board Resolution or by an indenture supplemental to this Indenture:

(1) the title of the Securities of the Series (which title shall distinguish the Securities of the Series from the Securities of any other Series and from any other securities issued by the Company);

(2) any limit upon the aggregate Principal amount of the Securities of the Series which may be authenticated and delivered under this Indenture (which limit shall not pertain to Securities authenticated and delivered upon registration of transfer of, or in exchange for, or in lieu of, other Securities of the Series pursuant to Section 2.08, 2.09, 2.12, 3.06 or 9.05);

(3) the date or dates on which the Principal of the Securities of the Series is payable;

(4) the rate or rates at which the Securities of the Series shall bear interest, if any, or the manner of determining such rate or rates of interest, the date or dates from which such interest shall accrue, the dates on which such interest shall be payable, and, with respect to Registered Securities, the record date for the interest payable on any interest payment date, and the basis upon which interest shall be calculated if other than on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months;

(5) the place or places where; the Principal of and interest on Registered and Unregistered, if any, Securities of the Series shall be payable;

(6) the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which, and the terms and conditions upon which, Securities of the Series may be redeemed, in whole or in part, at the option of the Company;

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(7) the obligation, if any, of the Company to redeem or purchase Securities of the Series pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provisions or upon the happening of a specified event or at the option of a Holder thereof and the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which, and the terms and conditions upon which, Securities of the Series shall be redeemed or purchased, in whole or in part, pursuant to such obligation;

(8) if in other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof, the denominations in which Securities of the Series shall be issuable;

(9) if other than the Principal amount thereof, the portion of the Principal amount of Securities of the Series which shall be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof pursuant to Section 6.02;

(10) whether Securities of the Series shall be issuable as Registered Securities or Unregistered Securities (with or without interest coupons), or both, and any restrictions applicable to the offering, sale or delivery of Unregistered Securities and whether, and the terms upon which, Unregistered Securities of a Series may be exchanged for Registered Securities of the same Series and vice versa;

(11) whether and under what terms and circumstances the Company will pay additional amounts on the Securities of that Series held by a Person who is not a U.S. Person in respect of taxes or similar charges withheld or deducted and, if so, whether the Company will have the option to redeem such Securities rather than pay such additional amounts;

(12) the form or forms of the Securities (or forms thereof if Unregistered and Registered Securities shall be issuable in such Series), including such legends as may be required by United States laws or regulations, the form of any coupons or temporary Global Security which may be issued and the forms of any certificates, opinions or other documents which may be required hereunder or under United States laws or regulations in connection with the offering, sale, delivery or exchange of Unregistered Securities;

(13) whether the Securities of the Series are issuable as a Global Security and, in such case, the identity of the Depositary for such Series;

(14) if other than such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public or private debts, the coin or currency, including composite currency, in which payment of the Principal of or interest on the Securities of the Series shall be payable;

(15) if the Principal of or interest on the Securities of the Series are to be payable, at the election of the Company or a Holder thereof, in a coin or currency other than that in which the Securities are stated to be payable, the coin or currency, including composite currency, in which payment of the Principal of or interest on the Securities of such Series as to which such election is made shall be payable, the period or

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periods within which, and the terms and conditions upon which, such election may be made;

(16) if the amount of payments of the Principal of or interest on the Securities of the Series may be determined with reference to an index based on any coin or currency other than that in which the Securities are stated to be payable, the manner in which such amounts shall be determined; and

(17) any other terms of the Series (which terms shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this Indenture), including any terms which may be required by or advisable under United States laws or regulations or advisable in connection with the marketing of Securities of that Series.

(b) All Securities of any one Series shall be substantially identical except as to denomination and the rate or rates of interest, if any, and maturity and currency and, except as may otherwise be provided in or pursuant to a Company Board Resolution or a certificate delivered pursuant to Section 2.02(c) or in an indenture supplemental to this Indenture. All Securities of any one Series need not be issued at the same time, and, unless otherwise provided, a Series may be reopened for issuances of additional Securities of such Series.

(c) If the terms and form or forms of any Series of Securities are established by or pursuant to a Company Board Resolution, the Company shall deliver a copy of such Board Resolution to the Trustee at or prior to the issuance of such Series with (i) the form or forms of the Securities which have been approved attached thereto; or (ii) if such Board Resolution authorizes a specific Officer or Officers to establish the terms and form or forms of the Securities, a certificate of such Officer or Officers establishing or providing for the establishment of the terms and form or forms of the Securities, with such form or forms of the Securities attached to the certificate establishing such form or forms.

(d) Unregistered Securities and their coupons must have the following statement on their face: "Any United States Person who holds this obligation will be subject to limitations under the United States income tax laws, including the limitations provided in Section 165(j) and 1287 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended."

Section 2.03 EXECUTION, AUTHENTICATION, AND DELIVERY.

(a) The Securities shall be executed on behalf of the Company by its President, an Executive Vice President or a Vice President, and by its Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer, its Secretary or an Assistant Secretary (or, in any case, a duly authorized designee). Signatures shall be manual or facsimile. The Company's seal may be reproduced on the Securities and may, but need not, be attested. The coupons of Unregistered Securities shall bear the facsimile signature of the Treasurer or an Assistant Treasurer of the Company.

(b) If an Officer whose signature is on a Security or coupon no longer holds that office at the time the Security is authenticated, the Security or coupon shall be valid nevertheless.

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(c) A Security shall not be valid until authenticated by the manual signature of the Trustee or an authenticating agent, and no coupon shall be valid until the Security to which it appertains has been so authenticated. Such signature shall be conclusive evidence that the Security has been authenticated under this Indenture. Each Unregistered Security shall be dated the date of its authentication.

(d) The Trustee (or an authenticating agent appointed pursuant to Section 2.03(f)) shall at any time, and from time to time, authenticate and deliver Securities of any Series executed and delivered by the Company for original issue in an unlimited aggregate Principal amount, upon receipt by the Trustee (or an authentication agent) of (i) a Company Order or directions pursuant to such a Company Order for the authentication and delivery of such Securities; (ii) if the terms and form or forms of the Securities of such Series have been established by or pursuant to a Board Resolution as permitted pursuant to Section 2.02, a copy of such Board Resolution and any certificate that may be required pursuant to Section 2.02(c); and (iii) an Opinion of Counsel stating:

(1) if the form of such Securities has been established by or pursuant to a Board Resolution as permitted by Section 2.02, that such form has been established in conformity with the provisions of this Indenture;

(2) if the terms of such Securities have been established by or pursuant to a Board Resolution as permitted by Section 2.02, that such terms have been established, or provision has been made for their establishment, in conformity with the provisions of this Indenture; and

(3) that such Securities, when authenticated and delivered by the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) and issued by the Company in the manner and subject to any conditions specified in such Opinion of Counsel, will constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the Company, enforceable in accordance with their terms, subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization and other laws of general applicability relating to or affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights and to general equity principles.

If the terms and form or forms of such Securities have been established by or pursuant to a Board Resolution as permitted by Section 2.02, the Trustee shall not be required to authenticate such Securities if the issue of such Securities pursuant to this Indenture will materially and adversely affect the Trustee's own rights, duties or immunities under the Securities and this Indenture or otherwise in a manner which is not reasonably acceptable to the Trustee.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, until the Company has notified the Trustee and the Registrar that, as a result of the action described, the Company would not suffer adverse consequences under the provisions of United States law or regulations in effect at the time of the delivery of Unregistered Securities, (i) delivery of Unregistered Securities will be made only outside the United States and its possessions, and (ii) Unregistered Securities will be released in definitive form to the Person entitled to physical delivery thereof only upon presentation of a certificate in the form prescribed by the Company.

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(e) The aggregate Principal amount of Securities of any Series outstanding at any time may not exceed any limit upon the maximum Principal amount for such Series set forth in the Board Resolution (or certificate of an Officer or Officers) or supplemental indenture pursuant to Section 2.02 or in any additional Board Resolution or supplemental indenture which shall reopen a Series of Securities pursuant to Section 2.02.

(f) The Trustee may appoint an authenticating agent acceptable to the Company to authenticate Securities. An authenticating agent may authenticate Securities whenever the Trustee may do so. Each reference in this Indenture to authentication by the Trustee includes authentication by such agent. An authenticating agent has the same rights as an Agent to deal with the Company or an Affiliate.

Section 2.04 REGISTRAR AND PAYING AGENT.

The Company shall maintain for each Series of Securities an office or agency where Registered Securities may be presented for registration of transfer or for exchange ("REGISTRAR") and an office or agency where (subject to Sections 2.05 and 2.08) Securities may be presented for payment ("PAYING AGENT"). With respect to any Series of Securities issued in whole or in part as Unregistered Securities, the Company shall maintain one or more Paying Agents located outside the United States and its possessions and shall maintain such Paying Agents for a period of two years after the Principal of such Unregistered Securities has become due and payable. During any period thereafter for which it is necessary in order to conform to United States tax law or regulations, the Company will maintain a Paying Agent outside the United States and its possessions to which the Unregistered Securities or coupons appertaining thereto may be presented for payment and will provide the necessary funds therefor to such Paying Agent upon reasonable notice. The Registrar shall keep a register with respect to each Series of Securities issued in whole or in part as Registered Securities and as to their transfer and exchange. The Company may appoint one or more co-Registrars and one or more additional Paying Agents for each Series of Securities and the Company may terminate the appointment of any co-Registrar. The term "Paying Agent" includes any Person authorized by the Company to pay the principal of or interest on any Security on behalf of the Company and any additional Paying Agent. The Company shall notify the Trustee of the name and address of any Agent not a party to this Indenture. If the Company fails to appoint any other Registrar or Paying Agent, the Trustee shall be and act as such.

# Section 2.05 PAYMENT ON SECURITIES

(a) Subject to the following provisions, the Company will pay to the Trustee or the Paying Agent, by wire transfer of immediately available funds to the account or accounts designated by the Company, the amounts, in such coin or currency as is at the time legal tender for the payment of public or private debt, at the times and for the purposes set forth herein and in the text of the Securities Series, of the Principal of and interest on the Securities and coupons of each Series, at least one business day prior to the relevant interest payment date on the Securities and coupons of each Series as set forth herein and in the text of such Securities and coupons. The Trustee will arrange directly with any Paying Agent for the payment, or the Trustee will make payment, from funds furnished by the Company, of the Principal of and interest on the Securities and coupons of each Series.

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(b) Interest, if any, on Registered Securities of a Series shall be paid on each interest payment date for such Series to the Holder thereof at the close of business on the relevant record dates specified in the Securities of such Series. Payment of the principal of and interest on the Securities shall be made at the office or agency of the Trustee maintained for that purpose in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for the payment of public and private debt or by check mailed to the address of the Holder entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the register for the Securities, PROVIDED that in case Securities are represented by a Global Security, each payment shall be made by wire transfer of immediately available funds, if the Holder has provided to the Trustee appropriate instructions for such payment.

(c) To the extent provided in the Securities of a Series, (i) interest, if any, on Unregistered Securities shall be paid only against presentation and surrender of the coupons for such interest installments as are evidenced thereby as they mature; and (ii) original issue discount (as defined in Section 1273 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended), if any, on Unregistered Securities shall be paid only against presentation and surrender of such Securities; in either case at the office of a Paying Agent located outside of the United States and its possessions, unless the Company shall have otherwise instructed the Trustee in writing. Principal of Unregistered Securities shall be paid only against presentation and surrender thereof as provided in the Securities of a Series. If at the time a payment of Principal of or interest, if any, or original issue discount, if any, on an Unregistered Security or coupon shall become due, the payment of the full amount so payable at the office or offices of all the Paying Agents outside the United States and its possessions is illegal or effectively precluded because of the imposition of exchange controls or other similar restrictions on the payment of such amount in United States currency, then the Company will instruct the Trustee in writing as to how and when such payment will be made and may instruct the Trustee to make such payments at the office of a Paying Agent located in the United States, provided that the Company has determined that provision for such payment in the United States would not cause such Unregistered Security to be treated as a "registration-required obligation" under United States law and regulations. Unless otherwise instructed in writing by the Company, no payments of interest, original issue discounts, or Principal with respect to Unregistered Securities shall be made by a Paying Agent (i) by transfer of funds into an account maintained by the payee in the United States, (ii) mailed to an address in the United States, or (iii) paid to a financial institution with a United States address by electronic funds transfer.

Section 2.06 PAYING AGENT TO HOLD MONEY IN TRUST.

The Company shall require each Paying Agent, other than the Trustee, to agree in writing that the Paying Agent will hold in trust, for the benefit of Securityholders of any or all Series of Securities, or the Trustee, all money held by the Paying Agent for the payment of Principal of or interest on such Series of Securities, and that the Paying Agent will notify the Trustee of any default by the Company (or any other obligor on the Securities) in making any such payment. While any such default continues, the Trustee may require a Paying Agent to pay all money held by it to the Trustee. If the Company or a Subsidiary acts as Paying Agent, it shall segregate the money held by it for the payment of Principal or interest on any Series of Securities and hold such money as a separate trust fund. The Company at any time may require a Paying Agent to pay all money held by it to the Trustee. Upon so doing, the Paying Agent shall have no

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further liability for the money so paid. The Trustee or the Paying Agent may allow and credit to the Company (or any other obligor on the Securities) interest on any monies received by it hereunder at such rate as may be agreed upon with the Company (or any other obligor on the Securities) from time to time and as may be permitted by law.

Section 2.07 SECURITYHOLDER LISTS; OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES.

(a) The Trustee shall preserve in as current a form as is reasonably practicable the most recent list available to it of the names and addresses of Holders of each Series of Securities. If the Trustee is not the Registrar, the Company shall furnish to the Trustee semiannually on or before the last day of June and December in each year, and at such other times as the Trustee may request in writing, a list in such form and as of such date as the Trustee may reasonably require, containing all the information in the possession or control of the Registrar, the Company or any of the Paying Agents other than the Trustee as to the names and addresses of Holders of each such Series of Securities.

(b) Ownership of Registered Security of a Series shall be proved by the register for such Series kept by the Registrar. Ownership of Unregistered Securities may be proved by the production of such Unregistered Securities, or by a certificate or affidavit executed by the Person holding such Unregistered Securities, or by a depository with whom such Unregistered Securities were deposited if the certificate or affidavit is satisfactory to the Trustee. The Company, the Trustee and any agent of the Company may treat the bearer or any Unregistered Security or coupon and the Person in whose name a Registered Security is registered as the absolute owner thereof for all purposes.

Section 2.08 TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE.

(a) Where Registered Securities of a Series are presented to the Registrar with a request to register their transfer or to exchange them for an equal Principal amount of Registered Securities of the same Series containing identical terms and provisions and date of maturity of other authorized denominations, the Registrar shall register the transfer or make the exchange if its requirements for such transactions are met.

If both Registered and Unregistered Securities are (b) authorized for a Series of Securities and the terms of such Securities permit, (i) Unregistered Securities may be exchanged for an equal Principal amount of Registered or Unregistered Securities containing identical terms and provisions of the same Series and date of maturity in any authorized denominations upon delivery to the Registrar (or a Paying Agent, if the exchange is for Unregistered Securities) of the Unregistered Security with all unmatured coupons and all matured coupons in default appertaining thereto and if all other requirements of the Registrar (or such Paying Agent) and such Securities for such exchange are met, and (ii) Registered Securities may be exchanged for an equal Principal amount of Unregistered Securities of the same Series and date of maturity in any authorized denominations (except that any coupons appertaining to such Unregistered Securities which have matured and have been paid shall be detached) upon delivery to the Registrar of the Registered Securities and if all other requirements of the Registrar (or such Paying Agent) and such Securities for such exchange are met.

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Notwithstanding the foregoing, the exchange of Unregistered Securities for Registered Securities or Registered Securities for Unregistered Securities will be subject to the satisfaction of the provisions of United States law and regulations in effect at the time of such exchange, and no exchange of Registered Securities for Unregistered Securities will be made until the Company has notified the Trustee and the Registrar that, as a result of such exchange, the Company would not suffer adverse consequences under the provisions of United States law or regulations.

(c) To permit registrations of transfers and exchanges the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) shall authenticate Securities upon instructions of the Registrar or, if applicable, a Paying Agent upon surrender of Securities for registration of transfer or for exchange as provided in this Section. The Company will not make any charge for any registration of transfer or exchange but may require the payment by the party requesting such registration of transfer or exchange of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

(d) Neither the Company nor the Registrar shall be required (i) to issue, register the transfer of or exchange Securities of any Series for the period of 15 days immediately preceding the selection of any such Securities to be redeemed, or (ii) to register the transfer of or exchange Securities of any Series selected, called or being called for redemption as a whole, or the portion being redeemed of any such Securities selected, called or being called for redemption in part.

(e) Unregistered Securities or any coupons appertaining thereto shall be transferable by delivery.

Section 2.09 REPLACEMENT SECURITIES.

(a) If a mutilated Security or a Security with a mutilated coupon appertaining to it is surrendered to the Trustee (or an authenticating agent), the Company shall issue and the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) shall authenticate a replacement Registered Security, if such surrendered security was a Registered Security, or a replacement Unregistered Security with coupons corresponding to the coupons appertaining to the surrendered Security, if such surrendered Security was an Unregistered Security of the same Series and containing identical terms and provisions, if the Trustee's (or authenticating agent's) requirements are met.

(b) If the Holder of a Security claims that the Security or any coupon appertaining thereto has been lost, destroyed or wrongfully taken, the Company shall issue and the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) shall authenticate a replacement Registered Security, if such Holder's claim pertains to a Registered Security, or a replacement Unregistered Security with coupons corresponding to the coupons appertaining to the lost, destroyed or wrongfully taken Unregistered Security or the Unregistered Security to which such lost, destroyed or wrongfully taken coupon appertains, if such Holder's claim pertains to an Unregistered Security, of the same Series and containing identical terms and provisions, if the Trustee's requirements are met; provided, however, that the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) or the Company may require any such Holder to provide to the Trustee and the Company security or indemnity sufficient in the judgment of the Company and the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) to protect

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the Company, the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) and any Agent from any loss which any of them may suffer if a Security is replaced. The Company and the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) may charge the party requesting a replacement Security for its expenses in replacing a Security.

(c) Every replacement Security is an additional obligation of the Company.

(d) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, replacement Securities need not be issued in any of the circumstances described in Section 2.09 if the Company or the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) have notice that the mutilated, lost, destroyed or wrongfully taken Security has been acquired by a bona fide purchaser.

Section 2.10 OUTSTANDING SECURITIES.

(a) Securities outstanding at any time are all Securities authenticated by the Trustee (or an authenticating agent), except for those canceled by it, those delivered to it for cancellation and those described in this Section as not outstanding.

(b) If a Security is replaced pursuant to Section 2.09, it ceases to be outstanding until the Trustee (or an authenticating agent) receives proof satisfactory to it that the replaced Security is held by a bona fide purchaser.

(c) If the Paying Agent holds on a redemption date or maturity date money or Eligible Instruments sufficient to pay all amounts due on Securities of any Series on that date, then, on and after that date, all Securities of such Series cease to be outstanding and interest on them ceases to accrue.

(d) A Security does not cease to be outstanding because the Company or an Affiliate of the Company holds the Security.

In determining whether the Holders of the requisite (e) Principal amount of outstanding Securities of any Series have given any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent or waiver hereunder, or whether sufficient funds are available for redemption or for any other purpose, (i) the Principal amount of an Original Issue Discount Security that shall be deemed to be outstanding for such purpose shall be the amount of the Principal thereof that would be due and payable as of the date of such determination upon a declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof pursuant to Section 6.02; and (ii) the Principal amount of any security denominated in a currency other than United States dollars that shall be deemed to be outstanding for such purposes shall be that amount of United States dollars that could be obtained for such amount on such reasonable basis of exchange and as of the record date for such determination or action (or, if there shall be no applicable record date, such other date reasonably proximate to the date of such determination or action), in each case, as the Company shall specify in a written notice to the Trustee.

Section 2.11 TREASURY SECURITIES.

In determining whether the Holders of the requisite Principal amount of Securities of any Series have concurred in any direction, waiver or consent, Securities of such Series owned

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by the Company or an Affiliate of the Company shall be disregarded, except that for the purposes of determining whether the Trustee shall be protected in relying on any such direction, waiver or consent, only Securities of such Series which the Trustee knows are so owned shall be so disregarded.

# Section 2.12 TEMPORARY SECURITIES.

(a) Until definitive Registered Securities of any Series are ready for delivery, the Company may prepare and execute and the Trustee shall authenticate temporary Registered Securities of such Series. Temporary Registered Securities of any Series shall be substantially in the form of definitive Registered Securities of such Series but may have variations that the Company considers appropriate for temporary Securities. Every temporary Registered Security shall be executed by the Company, authenticated by the Trustee and registered by the Registrar, upon the same conditions, and with like effect, as a definitive Registered Security. Without unreasonable delay, the Company shall prepare and the Trustee shall authenticate definitive Registered Securities of the same Series and containing identical terms and provisions in exchange for temporary Registered Securities.

Until definitive Unregistered Securities of any Series are (b) ready for delivery, the Company may prepare and execute and the Trustee shall authenticate one or more temporary Unregistered Securities, which may have coupons attached or which may be in the form of a single temporary global Unregistered Security of that Series. The temporary Unregistered Security or Securities of any Series shall be substantially in the form approved by or pursuant to a Board Resolution and shall be delivered to one of the Paying Agents located outside the United States and its possessions or to such other Person or Persons as the Company shall direct against such certification as the Company may from time to time prescribe by or pursuant to a Board Resolution. The temporary Unregistered Security or Securities of a Series shall be executed by the Company and authenticated by the Trustee, upon the same conditions, and with like effect, as a definitive Unregistered Security of such Series, except as provided herein or therein. A temporary Unregistered Security or Securities shall be exchangeable for definitive Unregistered Securities containing identical terms and provisions at the time and on the conditions, if any, specified in the temporary Security.

Upon any exchange of a part of a temporary Unregistered Security of a Series for definitive Unregistered Securities of such Series, the temporary Unregistered Security shall be endorsed by the Trustee or Paying Agent to reflect the reduction of its Principal amount by an amount equal to the aggregate Principal amount of definitive Unregistered Securities of such Series so exchanged and endorsed.

### Section 2.13 CANCELLATION.

The Company at any time may deliver Securities and coupons to the Trustee for cancellation. The Registrar and the Paying Agent shall forward to the Trustee any Securities and coupons surrendered to them for registration of transfer or for exchange or for payment. Except as otherwise required by this Indenture, the Trustee shall cancel all Securities and coupons surrendered for registration of transfer, or for exchange, payment or cancellation, and will dispose of canceled Securities and coupons as the Company directs; provided, however, that any

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Unregistered Securities of a Series delivered to the Trustee for exchange prior to maturity shall be retained by the Trustee for reissue as provided herein or in the Securities of such Series. The Company may not issue new Securities to replace Securities that it has paid or delivered to the Trustee for cancellation.

### Section 2.14 DEFAULTED INTEREST.

If the Company defaults on a payment of interest on a Series of Securities, it shall pay the defaulted interest as provided in such Securities or in any lawful manner not inconsistent with the requirements of any securities exchange on which such Securities may be listed.

# Section 2.15 GLOBAL SECURITIES.

(a) If the Company shall establish pursuant to Section 2.01 that the Securities of a particular Series are to be issued as a Global Security, then the Company shall execute and the Trustee shall, in accordance with Section 2.03, authenticate and deliver, one or more Global Securities that (i) shall represent, and shall be denominated in an amount equal to the aggregate Principal amount of, all of the outstanding Securities of such Series, (ii) shall be registered in the name of the Depositary or its nominee, (iii) shall be delivered by the Trustee to the Depositary or pursuant to the Depositary's instruction and (iv) shall bear a legend substantially to the following effect: "Except as otherwise provided in Section 2.15 of the Indenture, this Security may be transferred, in whole but not in part, only to another nominee of the Depositary or to a successor Depositary or to a nominee of such successor Depositary."

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2.08, the Global Security of a Series may be transferred, in whole but not in part and in the manner provided in Section 2.08, only to another nominee of the Depositary for such Series, or to a successor Depositary for such Series selected or approved by the Company or to a nominee of such successor Depositary.

If at any time the Depositary for a Series of the (C) Securities notifies the Company that it is unwilling or unable to continue as Depositary for such Series or if at any time the Depositary for such Series shall no longer be registered or in good standing under the Exchange Act or other applicable statute or regulation, and a successor Depositary for such Series is not appointed by the Company within 90 days after the Company receives such notice or becomes aware of such condition, as the case may be, this Section 2.15 shall no longer be applicable to the Securities of such Series and the Company will execute, and, subject to Section 2.08, the Trustee will authenticate and deliver the Securities of such Series, in authorized denominations, and in an aggregate Principal amount equal to the Principal amount of the Global Security of such Series in exchange for such Global Security. In addition, the Company may at any time determine that the Securities of any Series shall no longer be represented by a Global Security and that the provisions of this Section 2.15 shall no longer apply to the Securities of such Series. In such event the Company will execute and, subject to Section 2.08, the Trustee, upon receipt of an Officers' Certificate evidencing such determination by the Company, will authenticate and deliver the Securities of such Series, in authorized denominations, and in an aggregate Principal amount equal to the Principal amount of the Global Security of such Series in exchange for such Global Security. Upon the exchange of the Global Security for such Securities in authorized denominations, the Global Security shall be canceled by the Trustee.

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Such Securities issued in exchange for the Global Security pursuant to this Section 2.15(c) shall be registered in such names and in such authorized denominations as the Depositary, pursuant to instructions from its direct or indirect participants or otherwise, shall instruct the Trustee.

ARTICLE 3

#### REDEMPTION

### Section 3.01 NOTICE TO THE TRUSTEE.

The Company may, with respect to any Series of Securities, reserve the right to redeem and pay the Series of Securities or any part thereof, or may covenant to redeem and pay the Series of Securities or any part thereof, before maturity at such time and on such terms as provided for in such Securities. The election of the Company to redeem any Securities shall be evidenced by a Company Order. In case of any redemption at the election of the Company of all or less than all of the Securities of any Series with the same issue date, interest rate and stated maturity, the Company shall, at least 60 days prior to the redemption date fixed by the Company (unless a shorter notice shall be satisfactory to the Trustee), notify the Trustee of such redemption date and of the Principal amount and redemption price of Securities of such Series to be redeemed.

Section 3.02 SELECTION OF SECURITIES TO BE REDEEMED.

If less than all the Securities of any Series with the same issue date, interest rate and stated maturity are to be redeemed, the particular Securities to be redeemed shall be selected, not more than 60 days prior to the redemption date, by the Trustee from the outstanding Securities of such Series not previously called for redemption, by such method as the Trustee shall deem fair and appropriate and which may provide for the selection for redemption of portions of the Principal amount of Securities of such Series; provided, however, that no such partial redemption shall reduce the portion of the Principal amount of a Security of such Series not redeemed to less than the minimum denomination for a Security of that Series established pursuant to Section 2.02. The Trustee shall promptly notify the Company in writing of the Securities selected for redemption by it and, in the case of any Securities selected for partial redemption, the amount thereof to be redeemed.

### Section 3.03 NOTICE OF REDEMPTION.

(a) At least 30 days but not more than 90 days before a redemption date, unless a shorter period is specified in the Securities to be redeemed, the Company and the Trustee shall mail a notice of redemption by first-class mail to each Holder of Registered Securities that are to be redeemed.

(b) If Unregistered Securities are to be redeemed, notice of redemption shall be published in an Authorized Newspaper in each of The City of New York, and London, once in each of four successive calendar weeks, the first publication to be not less than 30 nor more than 90 days before the redemption date.

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(c) All notices shall identify the Series of Securities to be redeemed and shall state:

the redemption date;

(2) the redemption price;

(3) if less than all the outstanding Securities of a Series are to be redeemed, the identification (and, in the case of partial redemption, the Principal amounts) of the particular Securities to be redeemed;

(4) the name and address of the Paying Agent;

(5) that Securities of the Series called for redemption and all unmatured coupons, if any, appertaining thereto must be surrendered to the Paying Agent to collect the redemption price; and

(6) that interest on Securities of the Series called for redemption ceases to accrue on and after the redemption date.

At the Company's request, the Trustee shall give the notice of redemption in the Company's name and at its expense.

If the Company gives the notice of redemption, the Company shall promptly provide the Trustee with evidence satisfactory to the Trustee of its compliance with the notice requirements of this section.

# Section 3.04 EFFECT OF NOTICE OF REDEMPTION.

Once notice of redemption is mailed or published, Securities of a Series called for redemption become due and payable on the redemption date and from and after such date (unless the Company shall default in the payment of the redemption price) such Securities shall cease to bear interest. Upon surrender to the Paying Agent of such Securities together with all unmatured coupons, if any, appertaining thereto, such Securities shall be paid at the redemption price plus accrued interest to the redemption date, but installments of interest due on or prior to the redemption date will be payable, in the case of Unregistered Securities, to the bearers of the coupons for such interest upon surrender thereof, and, in the case of Registered Securities, to the Holders of such Securities of record at the close of business on the relevant record dates.

Section 3.05 DEPOSIT OF REDEMPTION PRICE.

One business day prior to the redemption date, the Company shall deposit with the Trustee or the Paying Agent for deposit into an account established pursuant to a supplemental indenture money sufficient to pay the redemption price of and (unless the redemption date shall be an interest payment date) interest accrued to the redemption date on all Securities to be redeemed on that date.

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Section 3.06 SECURITIES REDEEMED IN PART.

Upon surrender of a Security that is redeemed in part, the Company shall issue and the Trustee or the authenticating agent shall authenticate for the Holder of that Security a new Security or Securities of the same Series, the same form, and the same maturity in authorized denominations equal in aggregate Principal amount to the unredeemed portion of the Security surrendered.

# ARTICLE 4

#### COVENANTS

# Section 4.01 PAYMENT OF SECURITIES.

(a) The Company shall pay the Principal of and interest on the Securities on the dates and in the manner provided herein and in the Securities. An installment of Principal or interest shall be considered paid on the date it is due if the Trustee or Paying Agent holds on that date money designated for and sufficient to pay the installment.

(b) The Company shall pay interest on overdue Principal of a Security of any Series at the rate of interest (or Yield to Maturity in the case of Original Issue Discount Securities) borne by such Security of that Series; to the extent lawful, it shall pay interest on overdue installments of interest at the same rate.

Section 4.02 REPORTS BY THE COMPANY; COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE.

### The Company covenants:

(a) to deliver to the Trustee, within 20 days after the Company has filed the same with the SEC, copies of the annual reports and of the information, documents and other reports (or copies of such portions of any of the foregoing as the SEC may from time to time by rules and regulations prescribe) which the Company may be required to file with the SEC pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act, or, if the Company is not required to file information, documents or reports pursuant to either of such sections, to deliver to the Trustee and the SEC, in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed from time to time by the SEC, such of the supplementary and periodic information, documents and reports which may be required pursuant to Section 13 of the Exchange Act, in respect of a security listed and registered on a national securities exchange as may be prescribed from time to time in such rules and regulations;

(b) to deliver to the Trustee and the SEC, in accordance with the TIA or the rules and regulations prescribed from time to time by the SEC, such additional information, documents and reports with respect to compliance by it with the conditions and covenants provided for in this Indenture as may be required from time to time by the TIA or such rules and regulations; and

(c) to transmit by mail to all Holders of Registered Securities, as the names and addresses of such Holders appear on the register for each Series of Securities, and to such

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Holders of Unregistered Securities as have, within the two years preceding such transmission, filed their names and addresses with the Trustee for that purpose, within 30 days after the filing thereof with the Trustee, such summaries of any information, documents and reports required to be delivered to the Trustee pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this Section 4.02 as may be required by rules and regulations prescribed from time to time by the SEC.

(d) to deliver to the Trustee, within 105 days after the end of each fiscal year of the Company, a brief certificate, signed by the Company's principal executive officer, principal financial officer or principal accounting officer, as to such officer's knowledge of the Company's compliance with the conditions and covenants contained in this Indenture (determined without regard to any period of grace or requirement of notice provided herein).

(e) to deliver to the Trustee as soon as possible, and in any event within 10 days after the Company becomes aware of the occurrence of any Default or Event of Default, an Officers' Certificate specifying such Default or Event of Default and what action the Company is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto.

# Section 4.03 LIEN ON ASSETS.

If at any time the Company mortgages, pledges or otherwise subjects to any lien the whole or any part of the capital stock of the Student Loan Marketing Association, except as provided in this Section 4.03, the Company shall secure the outstanding Securities, and any other obligations of the Company which may then be outstanding and entitled to the benefit of a covenant similar in effect to this covenant, either on a priority basis or equally and ratably with the indebtedness or obligations secured by such mortgage, pledge or lien, for as long as any such indebtedness or obligation is so secured. The foregoing covenant does not apply in the event the Board of Directors determines, in its sole discretion, that such mortgage, pledge or lien on the capital stock of the Student Loan Marketing Association could not reasonably be expected to detract or interfere in any material respect from the fair market value of such capital stock or the control of such capital stock by the Company. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing contained in this Indenture is intended to prevent the Company from mortgaging, pledging or subjecting to any lien any of the other properties or assets of the Company, or from selling or otherwise disposing of any of the properties or assets of the Company, including the capital stock of the Student Loan Marketing Association.

# ARTICLE 5

### SUCCESSOR CORPORATION

Section 5.01 WHEN THE COMPANY MAY MERGE, ETC.

The Company may consolidate with, or merge into or be merged into, any other Person, and may sell, transfer or lease all or substantially all of its properties and assets to any Person so long as the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) the resulting or acquiring Person, if not the Company, is organized and existing under the laws of the United States, any State thereof or the District of Columbia, and such Person assumes all of the obligations of the Company under this Indenture and the

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Securities, including performance of all obligations under this Indenture and payment of all amounts due on the Securities;

(b) immediately after the transaction, and giving effect to the transaction, no Event of Default exists; and

(c) the Company delivers to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel stating that the transaction complies with the foregoing conditions.

If the Company consolidates with, or merges into, or is merged into, or sells, transfers or leases substantially all of its property and assets to any Person in accordance with this Section 5.01, (i) the resulting or acquiring Person shall succeed to, and be substituted for, and may exercise every right and power of, the Company under this Indenture and the Securities, with the same effect as if such Person had been an original party to this Indenture and (ii) thereafter, except in the case of a lease, the Company (or other predecessor Person) shall be relieved of all obligations and covenants under this Indenture and the Securities.

ARTICLE 6

### DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES

Section 6.01 EVENTS OF DEFAULT.

An "Event of Default" occurs with respect to the Securities of any Series if:

(1) the Company defaults in the payment of interest on any Security of that Series when the same becomes due and payable and the Default continues for a period of 30 days;

(2) the Company defaults in the payment of the Principal of any Security of that Series when the same becomes due and payable at maturity, upon redemption or otherwise;

(3) the Company fails to comply with any of its other agreements in the Securities of that Series, in this Indenture or in any supplemental indenture under which the Securities of that Series may have been issued, and the Default continues for the period and after the notice specified below;

(4) the Company, pursuant to or within the meaning of any Bankruptcy Law:

(a) commence a voluntary case,

(b) consent to the entry of an order for relief against it in an involuntary case,

(c) consent to the appointment of a Custodian of it or for all or substantially all of its property, or

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(d) make a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors; or

(5) a court of competent jurisdiction enters an order under any Bankruptcy Law that:

(a) involuntary case,

(b) appoints a Custodian of the Company or for all or substantially all of its property, or

(c) orders the liquidation of the Company and the order or decree remains unstayed and in effect for 90 days.

is for relief against the Company in an

A Default under clause (3) is not an Event of Default until the Trustee or the Holders of at least 25% in Principal amount of all the outstanding Securities of that Series notify the Company (and the Trustee in the case of notification by such Holders) of the Default and the Company does not cure the Default or such Default is not waived within 60 days after receipt of the notice. The notice must specify the Default, demand that it be remedied, and state that the notice is a "Notice of Default."

Section 6.02 ACCELERATION.

If an Event of Default occurs with respect to the Securities of any Series and is continuing, the Trustee, by notice to the Company, or the Holders of at least 25% in Principal amount of all of the outstanding Securities of that Series, by notice to the Company and the Trustee, may declare the Principal (or, if the Securities of that Series are Original Issue Discount Securities, such portion of the Principal amount as may be specified in the terms of that Series) of all the Securities of that Series to be due and payable. Upon such declaration, such Principal (or, in the case of Original Issue Discount Securities, such specified amount) shall be due and payable immediately. The Holders of a majority in Principal amount of all of the Securities of that Series, by notice to the Trustee, may rescind such a declaration and its consequences if the rescission would not conflict with any judgment or decree and if all existing Events of Default have been cured or waived except nonpayment of Principal or interest that has become due solely because of the acceleration. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Event of Default under clause 6.01 (4) or (5) shall cause the principal (or, if the Securities of that Series are Original Issue Discount Securities, such portion of the Principal amount as may be specified in the terms of that Series) of all the Securities of that Series to be due and payable without declaration or other action by the Trustee or Holders of outstanding Securities of that Series.

Section 6.03 OTHER REMEDIES AVAILABLE TO TRUSTEE.

(a) If an Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee may pursue any available remedy to collect the payment of Principal of or interest on the Securities of the Series that is in default or to enforce the performance of any provision of the Securities of that Series or this Indenture.

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(b) The Trustee may maintain a proceeding even if it does not possess any of the Securities or does not produce any of them in the proceeding. A delay or omission by the Trustee or any Securityholder in exercising any right or remedy accruing upon an Event of Default shall not impair the right or remedy or constitute a waiver of or acquiescence in the Event of Default. No remedy is exclusive of any other remedy. All available remedies are cumulative.

Section 6.04 WAIVER OF EXISTING DEFAULTS.

The Holders of a majority in Principal amount of any Series of Securities by notice to the Trustee may waive an existing Default with respect to that Series and its consequences, except a Default in the payment of the Principal of or interest on any Security.

Section 6.05 CONTROL BY MAJORITY.

The Holders of a majority in Principal amount of the Securities of each Series affected (with each such Series voting as a class) may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on it. However, the Trustee may refuse to follow any direction that conflicts with law or this Indenture or that would involve the Trustee in personal liability.

Section 6.06 LIMITATION ON SUITS BY SECURITYHOLDERS.

A Securityholder may pursue a remedy with respect to this Indenture or the Securities of any Series only if:

(1) the Holder gives to the Trustee written notice of a continuing Event of Default;

(2) the Holders of at least 25% in Principal amount of the Securities of that Series make a written request to the Trustee to pursue the remedy;

(3) such Holder or Holders offer to the Trustee indemnity satisfactory to the Trustee against any loss, liability, or expense to be, or which may be, incurred by the Trustee in pursuing the remedy;

(4) the Trustee does not comply with the request within 60 days after receipt of the request and the offer of indemnity; and

(5) during such 60 day period, the Holders of a majority in Principal amount of the Securities of that Series do not give the Trustee a direction inconsistent with the request.

A Securityholder of any Series may not use this Indenture to prejudice the rights of another Securityholder of that Series or any other Series or to obtain a preference or priority over another Securityholder of that Series or any other Series.

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# Section 6.07 RIGHTS OF HOLDERS TO RECEIVE PAYMENT.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Indenture, the right of any Holder of a Security to receive payment of the Principal of and interest on the Security, on or after the respective due dates expressed in the Security, and the right of any Holder of a coupon to receive payment of interest due as provided in such coupon, or to bring suit for the enforcement of any such payment, on or after such respective dates, shall not be impaired or affected without the consent of such Holder.

Section 6.08 COLLECTION SUITS BY TRUSTEE.

If a Default specified in Section 6.01(1) or (2) occurs and continues for the period specified therein, if any, the Trustee may recover judgment in its own name and as trustee of an express trust against the Company for the whole amount of such Principal and interest then in default.

Section 6.09 TRUSTEE MAY FILE PROOFS OF CLAIM.

The Trustee may file such proofs of claim and other papers or documents as may be necessary or advisable in order to have the claims of the Trustee and the Securityholders allowed in any judicial proceedings relating to the Company or its creditors or property.

Section 6.10 PRIORITIES.

If the Trustee collects any money pursuant to this Article, it shall pay out the money in the following order:

FIRST: to the Trustee for amounts due it under Section 7.07;

SECOND: to Holders of Securities in respect of which or for the benefit of which such money has been collected for amounts due and unpaid on such Securities for Principal and interest, ratably, without preference or priority of any kind, according to the amounts due and payable on such Securities for Principal and interest, respectively; and

THIRD: to the Person or Persons lawfully entitled thereto, or as a court of competent jurisdiction may direct.

### Section 6.11 UNDERTAKING FOR COSTS.

If any suit for the enforcement of any right or remedy under this Indenture or in any suit against the Trustee for any action taken or omitted by it as Trustee, a court in its discretion may require the filing by any party litigant in the suit of an undertaking to pay the costs of the suit, and the court in its discretion may assess reasonable attorneys' fees against any party litigant in this suit having due regard to the merits and good faith of the claims or defenses made by the party litigant. This Section does not apply to a suit by the Trustee, a suit by a Holder pursuant to Section 6.07 or a suit by Holders of more than 10% in Principal amount of the Securities of any Series.

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### ARTICLE 7

### TRUSTEE

### Section 7.01 DUTIES OF TRUSTEE.

(a) If an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the Trustee shall exercise its rights, duties and powers under this Indenture and use the same degree of care and skill in their exercise as a prudent man would exercise or use under the circumstances in the conduct of his own affairs.

(b) Except during the continuance of an Event of Default:

(1) The Trustee need perform only those duties that are specifically set forth in this Indenture, and no implied covenants or obligations shall be read into this Indenture against the Trustee; and

(2) In the absence of bad faith on its part, the Trustee may conclusively rely, as to the truth of the statements and the correctness of the opinions expressed therein, upon notices, certificates, opinions or other documents furnished to the Trustee and conforming to the requirements of this Indenture. However, the Trustee shall examine the notices, certificates, opinions or other documents to determine whether or not they conform to the requirements of this Indenture.

(c) The Trustee may not be relieved from liability for its own negligent action, its own negligent failure to act or its own willful misconduct, except that:

(1) This paragraph does not limit the effect of paragraph (b) of this Section;

(2) The Trustee shall not be liable for any error of judgment made in good faith by a Responsible Officer, unless it is proved that the Trustee was negligent in ascertaining the pertinent facts; and

(3) The Trustee shall not be liable with respect to any action it takes or omits to take in good faith in accordance with a direction received by it pursuant to Sections 6.04 and 6.05.

(d) Every provision of this Indenture that in any way relates to the Trustee is subject to paragraph (a), (b), and (c) of this Section.

(e) The Trustee may refuse to perform any duty or exercise any right or power unless it receives indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees) that might be incurred by it.

(f) The Trustee shall not be liable for interest on any money received by it except as the Trustee may agree with the Company. Money held in trust by the Trustee need not be segregated from other funds except to the extent required by law.

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(a) The Trustee may conclusively rely on and shall be fully protected in acting or refraining from acting upon any document believed by it to be genuine and to have been signed or presented by the proper person. The Trustee need not investigate any fact or matter stated in the document.

(b) Before the Trustee acts or refrains from acting, it may consult with counsel or require an Officers' Certificate or an Opinion of Counsel. The Trustee shall not be liable for any action it takes or omits to take in good faith in reliance on a Board Resolution, the written advice of counsel acceptable to the Company or the Trustee, a certificate of an Officer or Officers delivered pursuant to Section 2.02(b), an Officers' Certificate, or an Opinion of Counsel.

(c) The Trustee may act through agents, attorneys, custodians, nominees or any of its affiliates and shall not be responsible for the misconduct or negligence of any agent appointed with due care.

(d) The Trustee shall not be liable for any action it takes or omits to take in good faith which it believes to be authorized or within its rights or powers.

(e) Except as otherwise provided in Section 7.01, the Trustee shall not be liable for any action or omission of any Agent which is not the Trustee.

The duties and obligations of the Trustee shall be determined solely by the express provisions of this Indenture, and the Trustee shall take such action with respect to this Indenture as it shall be directed, and the Trustee shall not be liable except for the performance of such duties and obligations as are specifically set forth in this Indenture and as specifically directed by the Company, and no implied covenants or obligations shall be read into this Indenture against the Trustee;

In the absence of bad faith on the part of the Trustee, the Trustee may conclusively rely, as to the truth of the statements and the correctness of the opinions expressed therein, upon any certificates or opinions furnished to the Trustee which conform to the requirements of this Indenture;

The Trustee shall not be liable for any error of judgment made in good faith by an officer or officers of the Trustee, unless it shall be conclusively determined by a court of competent jurisdiction that the Trustee was grossly negligent in ascertaining the pertinent facts;

The Trustee shall not be liable with respect to any action taken or omitted to be taken by it in good faith in accordance with any direction of the Company given under this Indenture.

None of the provisions of this Indenture shall require the Trustee to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise to incur any liability, financial or otherwise, in the performance of any of its duties hereunder, or in the exercise of any of its rights or powers if it shall have

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reasonable grounds for believing that repayment of such funds or indemnity satisfactory to it against such risk or liability is not assured to it.

Whenever in the administration of the provisions of this Indenture the Trustee shall deem it necessary or desirable that a matter be proved or established prior to taking or suffering any action to be taken hereunder, such matter (unless other evidence in respect thereof be herein specifically prescribed) may, in the absence of gross negligence or bad faith on the part of the Trustee, be deemed to be conclusively proved and established by a certificate signed by one of the Company's officers, as the case may be, and delivered to the Trustee and such certificate, in the absence of gross negligence or bad faith on the part of the Trustee, shall be full warrant to the Trustee for any action taken, suffered or omitted by it under the provisions of this Indenture upon the faith thereof.

The Trustee shall have no obligation to invest and reinvest any cash held by it in the absence of timely and specific written investment direction from the Company. In no event shall the Trustee be liable for the selection of investments or for investment losses incurred thereon. The Trustee shall have no liability in respect of losses incurred as a result of the liquidation of any investment prior to its stated maturity or the failure of the Company to provide timely written investment direction.

Any corporation into which the Trustee may be merged or converted or with which it may be consolidated, or any corporation resulting from any merger, conversion or consolidation to which the Trustee shall be a party, or any corporation succeeding to the business of the Trustee shall be the successor of the Trustee hereunder without the execution or filing of any paper with any party hereto or any further act on the part of any of the parties hereto except where an instrument of transfer or assignment is required by law to effect such succession, anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding.

Neither the Trustee nor any of its officers, directors, employees or agents shall be liable for any action taken or omitted under this Indenture or in connection therewith except to the extent caused by the Trustee's gross negligence or willful misconduct, as determined by the final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, no longer subject to appeal or review. The parties each (for itself and any Person claiming through it) hereby releases, waives, discharges, exculpates and covenants not to sue the Trustee for any action taken or omitted under this Indenture except to the extent caused by the Trustee's gross negligence or willful misconduct. Anything in this Indenture to the contrary notwithstanding, in no event shall the Trustee be liable for special, indirect or consequential loss or damage of any kind whatsoever (including but not limited to lost profits), even if the Trustee has been advised of the likelihood of such loss or damage and regardless of the form of action.

Section 7.03 INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS OF TRUSTEE.

The Trustee in its individual or any other capacity may become the owner or pledgee of Securities and may otherwise deal with the Company, or one of its Affiliates with the same rights it would have if it were not Trustee, subject to Sections 7.10 and 7.11. Any Agent may do the same with like rights.

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# Section 7.04 TRUSTEE'S DISCLAIMER.

The Trustee makes no representation as to the validity or adequacy of this Indenture or the Securities. It shall not be accountable for the Company's use of the proceeds from the Securities or for monies paid over to the Company or by the Company to any Holders or to any Paying Agent pursuant to the Indenture, and it shall not be responsible for any statement in the Securities other than its certificate of authentication.

### Section 7.05 NOTICE OF DEFAULTS.

If a Default occurs and is continuing with respect to the Securities of any Series and if it is known to the Trustee, the Trustee shall mail to each Holder of a Security of that Series entitled to receive reports pursuant to Section 4.02(c) (and, if Unregistered Securities of that Series are outstanding, shall cause to be published at least once in an Authorized Newspaper in each of The City of New York, and London) notice of the Default within 90 days after it occurs. Except in the case of a Default in payment on the Securities of any Series, the Trustee may withhold the notice if and so long as a committee of its Responsible Officers in good faith determines that withholding such notice is in the interests of Securityholders of that Series.

Section 7.06 REPORTS BY TRUSTEE TO HOLDERS.

(a) Within 60 days after each anniversary date of the first issue of a Series of Securities, the Trustee shall mail to each Securityholder of that Series entitled to receive reports pursuant to Section 4.02(c) a brief report dated as of such date that complies with TIA Section 313(a). The Trustee also shall comply with TIA Section 313(b).

(b) At the time that it mails such a report to Securityholders of any Series, the Trustee shall file a copy of that report with the SEC and with each stock exchange on which the Securities of that Series are listed. The Company shall provide written notice to the Trustee when the Securities of any Series are listed on any stock exchange.

Section 7.07 COMPENSATION AND INDEMNITY.

(a) The Company shall pay to the Trustee from time to time compensation for its services. The Trustee's compensation shall not be limited by any law on compensation of a trustee of an express trust. The Company shall reimburse the Trustee upon request for all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by it in connection with the performance of its duties under this Indenture. Such expenses shall include the reasonable compensation and expenses of the Trustee's agents and counsel.

(b) The Company shall indemnify the Trustee and its officers, directors, employees, representatives and agents from and against any loss, claims, expenses, obligations, charges or liability incurred by it of whatever kind or nature, regardless of their merit, demanded, asserted or claimed against the Trustee directly or indirectly relating to or arising out of or in connection with its acceptance or administration of the trust or trusts hereunder and by reason of its participation in the transactions contemplated hereby. The Trustee shall notify the Company promptly of any claim for which it may seek indemnity. The Company shall defend the claim, and the Trustee shall cooperate in the defense. The Trustee may have separate counsel and the

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Company shall pay the reasonable fees and expenses of such counsel. The Company need not pay for any settlement made without its consent.

(c) The Company need not reimburse any expense or indemnify against any loss of liability incurred by the Trustee through gross negligence or bad faith.

(d) To secure the payment obligations of the Company pursuant to this Section, the Trustee shall have a lien prior to the Securities of any Series on all money or property held or collected by the Trustee, except that held in trust to pay Principal and interest on particular Securities of a Series.

(e) If the Trustee incurs expenses or renders services after an Event of Default specified in Section 6.01(4) or (5) occurs, such expenses and the compensation for such services are intended to constitute expenses of administration under any Bankruptcy Law.

The provisions of this Section 7.07 shall survive the termination of t he Indenture or the earlier resignation or removal of the Trustee.

Section 7.08 REPLACEMENT OF TRUSTEE.

(a) The resignation or removal of the Trustee and the appointment of a successor Trustee shall become effective only upon the successor Trustee's acceptance of appointment as provided in this Section.

(b) The Trustee may resign with respect to the Securities of any Series by so notifying the Company. The Holders of a majority in Principal amount of the Securities of any Series may remove the Trustee with respect to that Series by so notifying the Trustee and the Company, and may appoint a successor Trustee for such Series with the Company's consent.

(c) The Company may remove the Trustee with respect to Securities of any Series if:

(1) the Trustee fails to comply with Section 7.10;

(2) the Trustee is adjudged a bankrupt or an insolvent;

(3) a receiver or public officer takes charge of the Trustee or its property; or

(4) the Trustee becomes incapable of acting.

In addition, the Company may remove the Trustee with respect to Securities of any Series without cause if the Company gives written notice to the Trustee of such proposed removal at least six months in advance of the proposed effective date of such removal; provided, however, that such removal shall not become effective if a Default exists on the date of the giving of such notice or occurs prior to the date such removal is scheduled to become effective.

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(d) If the Trustee resigns or is removed or if a vacancy exists in the office of Trustee for any reason, with respect to Securities of any Series, the Company shall promptly appoint a successor Trustee for such Series.

(e) If a successor Trustee with respect to the Securities of any Series does not take office within 30 days after the retiring Trustee resigns or is removed, the retiring Trustee, the Company or the Holders of a majority in Principal amount of the Securities of the applicable Series may petition any court of competent jurisdiction for the appointment of a successor Trustee.

(f) If the Trustee with respect to the Securities of any Series fails to comply with Section 7.10, any Securityholder of the applicable Series may petition any court of competent jurisdiction for the removal of such Trustee and the appointment of a successor Trustee.

(g) A successor Trustee shall deliver a written acceptance of its appointment to the retiring Trustee and the Company. Thereupon, the resignation or removal of the retiring Trustee for any Series of Securities shall become effective, and the successor Trustee shall have all the rights, powers, and duties of the retiring Trustee with respect to all Series of Securities for which the successor Trustee is to be acting as Trustee under this Indenture. The retiring Trustee shall promptly transfer all property held by it as Trustee with respect to such Series of Securities to the successor Trustee subject to the lien provided for in Section 7.07. The Company shall give notice of each appointment of a successor Trustee for any Series of Securities by publishing notice of such event once in an Authorized Newspaper in each of The City of New York, and London, by mailing written notice of such event by first-class mail to the Holders of Securities of such Series entitled to receive reports pursuant to Section 4.02(c).

(h) All provisions of this Section 7.08 except subparagraphs (c)(1) and (d) and the words "subject to the lien provided for in Section 7.07" in subparagraph (g) shall apply also to any Paying Agent located outside the U.S. and its possessions and required by Section 2.04.

In case of the appointment hereunder of a successor Trustee (i) with respect to the Securities of one or more (but not all) Series, the Company, the retiring Trustee and such successor Trustee shall execute and deliver a supplemental indenture wherein such successor Trustee shall accept such appointment, and which (1) shall contain such provisions as shall be necessary or desirable to transfer and confirm to, and to vest in, such successor Trustee all the rights, powers, trusts, and duties of the retiring Trustee with respect to the Securities of that or those Series to which the appointment of such successor Trustee relates; (2) if the retiring Trustee is not retiring with respect to all Securities, shall contain such provisions as shall be deemed necessary or desirable to confirm that all the rights, powers, trusts and duties of the retiring Trustee with respect to the Securities of that or those Series as to which the retiring Trustee is not retiring shall continue to be vested in the retiring Trustee; and (3) shall add to or change any of the provisions of this Indenture as shall be necessary to provide for or facilitate the administration of the trusts hereunder by more than one Trustee, it being understood that nothing herein or in such supplemental indenture shall constitute such Trustees co-trustees of the same trust and that each such Trustee shall be trustee of a trust or trusts hereunder separate and apart from any trust or trusts hereunder administered by any other such Trustee.

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Section 7.09 SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE, AGENTS BY MERGER, ETC.

If the Trustee or any Agent consolidates with, merges or converts into, or transfers all or substantially all of its corporate trust business assets to, another corporation, the successor corporation, without any further act, shall be the successor Trustee or Agent, as the case may be.

Section 7.10 ELIGIBILITY; DISQUALIFICATION.

This Indenture shall always have a Trustee with respect to each Series of Securities who satisfies the requirements of TIA Section 310(a)(1).

The Trustee shall always have a combined capital and surplus of at least 10,000,000 as set forth in its most recent published annual report of condition. The Trustee is subject to TIA Section 310(b), including the optional provision permitted by the second sentence of TIA Section 310(b)(9), except that there shall be excluded from the operation of TIA Section 310(b)(1) each Series of Securities and all indentures of the Company or any of its Affiliates now or hereafter existing which may be excluded under the proviso of TIA Section 310(b)(1).

Section 7.11 PREFERENTIAL COLLECTION OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE COMPANY.

The Trustee is subject to TIA Section 311(a), excluding any creditor relationship listed in TIA Section 311(b). A Trustee who has resigned or been removed shall be subject to TIA Section 311(a) to the extent indicated.

### ARTICLE 8

# DISCHARGE OF INDENTURE

Section 8.01 TERMINATION OF THE COMPANY'S OBLIGATIONS.

(a) The Company reserves the right to terminate all of its obligations under the Securities and this Indenture with respect to the Securities of any Series or any installment of Principal of or interest on that Series if the Company irrevocably deposits in trust with the Trustee money or Eligible Instruments sufficient to pay, when due, the Principal of and interest on the Securities of that Series to maturity or redemption or such installment of Principal or interest, as the case may be, and if all other conditions set forth in the Securities of that Series are met. The Company shall designate the installment or installments of Principal or interest to be so satisfied.

(b) However, the Company's obligations in Sections 2.04, 2.05, 2.06, 2.07, 2.08, 2.09, 4.01, 7.07, 7.08, 8.03 and 8.04 shall survive until the Securities are no longer outstanding. Thereafter, the Company's obligations in Sections 7.07, 8.03 and 8.04 shall survive.

(c) Before or after a deposit, the Company may make arrangements satisfactory to the Trustee for the redemption of Securities at a future date in accordance with Article 3.

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(d) After a deposit by the Company in accordance with this Section in respect of the Securities of a Series, the Trustee upon request shall acknowledge in writing the discharge of the Company's obligations under the Securities of the Series in respect of which the deposit has been made and under this Indenture with respect to the Securities of that Series except for those surviving obligations specified above.

(e) In order to have money available on a payment date to pay the Principal of or interest on the Securities of any Series, the Eligible Instruments shall be payable as to the Principal of or interest on or before such payment date in such amounts as will provide the necessary money. Eligible Instruments shall not be callable at the issuer's option.

(f) "Eligible Instruments" means:

(i) direct obligations of the United States of America for the payment of which the full faith and credit of the United States of America is pledged; or

(ii) obligations of a Person controlled or supervised by and acting as an agency or instrumentality of the United States of America, the timely payment of which is unconditionally guaranteed as a full faith and credit obligation by the United States of America.

Section 8.02 APPLICATION OF TRUST MONEY.

The Trustee shall hold money or Eligible Instruments deposited with it pursuant to Section 8.01. It shall apply the deposited money and the investment earnings from Eligible Instruments through the Paying Agent and in accordance with this Indenture to the payment of the Principal of and interest on the Securities of each Series in respect of which the deposit shall have been made.

Section 8.03 REPAYMENT TO THE COMPANY.

(a) Subject to the provisions of Section 7.07(d), the Trustee and the Paying Agent shall promptly pay to the Company, upon request, any money or securities held by them at any time in excess of that required for the payment of Principal or interest on the Securities.

(b) The Trustee and the Paying Agent shall promptly pay to the Company, upon request, any money held by them for the payment of Principal or interest that remains unclaimed for two years. After that, Securityholders entitled to the money must look to the Company for payment as general creditors unless an abandoned property law designates another Person. Upon payment to the Company, the Trustee and Paying Agent are released of any further obligation or liability with respect to the utilization of such moneys.

Section 8.04 INDEMNITY FOR ELIGIBLE INSTRUMENTS.

The Company shall pay and shall indemnify the Trustee and each Securityholder of each Series in respect of which the deposit shall have been made against any tax, fee, or other charge imposed on or assessed against deposited Eligible Instruments or the Principal and interest received on such instruments.

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# ARTICLE 9

# AMENDMENTS AND WAIVERS

Section 9.01 WITHOUT CONSENT OF HOLDERS.

The Company and the Trustee may enter into one or more supplemental indentures without consent of any Securityholder for any of the following purposes:

(1) to cure any ambiguity, defect, or inconsistency herein, in the Securities of any Series;

(2) to comply with Article 5;

(3) to provide for uncertificated Securities in addition to or in place of certificated Securities;

(4) to add to the covenants of the Company for the benefit of the Holders of all or any Series of Securities (and if such covenants are to be for the benefit of less than all Series of Securities, stating that such covenants are expressly being included solely for the benefit of such Series) or to surrender any right or power herein conferred upon the Company;

(5) to add to, delete from, or revise the conditions, limitations, and restrictions on the authorized amount, terms, or purposes of issue, authentication, and delivery of Securities, as herein set forth;

(6) to secure the Securities pursuant to Section 4.03.

(7) to make any change that does not adversely affect the rights of any Securityholder in any material respect; or

(8) to provide for the issuance of and establish the form and terms and conditions of Securities of any Series as provided in Section 2.02, to establish the form of any certifications required to be furnished pursuant to the terms of this Indenture or any Series of Securities, or to add to the rights of the Holders of any Series of Securities.

Section 9.02 WITH CONSENT OF HOLDERS.

(a) With the written consent of the Holders of a majority in Principal amount of the outstanding Securities of each Series affected by such supplemental indenture (with each Series voting as a class), the Company and the Trustee may enter into a supplemental indenture to add any provisions to or to change or eliminate any provisions of this Indenture or of any supplemental indenture or to modify, in each case in any manner not covered by Section 9.01, the rights of the Securityholders of each such Series. The Holders of a majority in Principal amount of the outstanding Securities of each Series affected by such waiver (with each Series voting as a class), by notice to the Trustee, may waive compliance by the Company with any provision of this Indenture, any supplemental indenture, or the Securities of any such Series,

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except a Default in the payment of the Principal of or interest on any Security. However, without the consent of each Securityholder affected, an amendment or waiver may not:

(1) reduce the amount of Securities whose Holders must consent to an amendment or waiver;

(2) change the rate of or change the time for payment of interest on any Security;

(3) change the Principal of or change the fixed maturity of any Security;

(4) waive a Default in the payment of the Principal of or interest on any Security;

(5) make any Security payable in money other than that stated in the Security; or

(6) make any change in Section 6.04 (Waiver of Existing Defaults), 6.07 (Rights of Holders to Receive Payment), or this Section 9.02(a) (third sentence).

(b) It is not necessary under this Section 9.02 for the Securityholders to consent to the particular form of any proposed supplemental indenture, but it is sufficient if they consent to the substance thereof.

(c) Promptly after the execution by the Company and the Trustee of any supplemental indenture pursuant to the provisions of this Section 9.02, the Company shall transmit by mail a notice, setting forth in general terms the substance of such supplemental indenture, to all Holders of Registered Securities, as the names and addresses of such Holders appear on the register for each Series of Securities, and to such Holders of Unregistered Securities as are entitled to receive reports pursuant to Section 4.02(c). Any failure of the Company to mail such notice, or any defect therein, shall not, however, in any way impair or affect the validity of any such supplemental indenture.

Section 9.03 COMPLIANCE WITH TRUST INDENTURE ACT.

Every amendment to this Indenture or the Securities of one or more Series shall be set forth in a supplemental indenture that complies with the TIA as then in effect.

Section 9.04 REVOCATION AND EFFECT OF CONSENTS.

Until an amendment or waiver becomes effective, a consent to it by a Holder of a Security is a continuing consent by the Holder and every subsequent Holder of a Security or portion of a Security that evidences the same debt as the consenting Holder's Security even if a notation of the consent is not made on any Security. However, any such Holder or subsequent Holder may revoke the consent as to his Security or portion of his Security if the Trustee receives a written notice of revocation before the date the amendment or waiver becomes

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effective. After an amendment or waiver becomes effective, it shall bind every Securityholder of each Series affected by such amendment or wavier.

Section 9.05 NOTATION ON OR EXCHANGE OF SECURITIES.

The Trustee shall place an appropriate notation about an amendment or waiver on any Security of any Series thereafter authenticated. The Company, in exchange for Securities of that Series, may issue and the Trustee shall authenticate new Securities of that Series that reflect the amendment or waiver.

Section 9.06 TRUSTEE PROTECTED.

The Trustee need not sign any supplemental indenture that adversely affects its rights or obligations. The Company shall provide to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel that any supplemental indenture is authorized or permitted hereunder and that all conditions precedent to such execution and delivery have been satisfied.

#### ARTICLE 10

#### SINKING FUNDS

### Section 10.01 APPLICABILITY OF ARTICLE.

The provisions of this Article shall be applicable to any sinking fund for the retirement of Securities of a Series, except as otherwise permitted or required by any form of Security of such Series issued pursuant to this Indenture.

The minimum amount of any sinking fund payment provided for by the terms of Securities of any Series is herein referred to as "mandatory sinking fund payment," and any payment in excess of such minimum amount provided for by the terms of Securities of such Series is herein referred to as an "optional sinking fund payment." If provided for by the terms of Securities of any Series, the cash amount of any sinking fund payment may be subject to reduction as provided in Section 10.02. Each sinking fund payment shall be applied to the redemption of Securities of any Series as provided for by the terms of Securities of such Series.

Section 10.02 SATISFACTION OF SINKING FUND PAYMENTS WITH SECURITIES.

The Company may, in satisfaction of all or any part of any sinking fund payment with respect to the Securities of such Series to be made pursuant to the terms of such Securities as provided for by the terms of such Series, (1) deliver outstanding Securities of such Series (other than any of such Securities previously called for redemption or any of such Securities in respect of which cash shall have been released to the Company) to the Trustee for cancellation pursuant to Section 2.13, or (2) apply as a credit Securities of such Series which have been previously cancelled pursuant to Section 2.13 or redeemed either at the election of the Company pursuant to the terms of such Series of Securities or through the application of permitted optional sinking fund payments pursuant to the terms of such Securities shall be received and credited for such purpose by the Trustee at the redemption price specified in such Securities for

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redemption through operation of the sinking fund and the amount of such sinking fund payment shall be reduced accordingly. If as a result of the delivery or credit of Securities of any Series in lieu of cash payments pursuant to this Section 10.02, the Principal amount of Securities of such Series to be redeemed in order to exhaust the aforesaid cash payment shall be less than \$500,000, the Trustee shall not call Securities of such Series for redemption, except upon Company Order, and such cash payment shall be held by the Trustee or a Paying Agent and applied to the next succeeding sinking fund payment; provided, however, that the Trustee or such Paying Agent shall at the request of the Company from time to time pay over and deliver to the Company any cash payment so being held by the Trustee or such Paying Agent upon delivery by the Company to the Trustee of Securities of that Series for cancellation pursuant to Section 2.13 having an unpaid Principal amount equal to the cash payment required to bereleased to the Company. Funds held by the Trustee under this Section may be invested, pursuant to a Company Order, in Eligible Instruments for the benefit of the Company.

### Section 10.03 REDEMPTION OF SECURITIES FOR SINKING FUND.

Not less than 60 days prior to each sinking fund payment date for any Series of Securities, the Company will deliver to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate specifying the amount of the next ensuring mandatory sinking fund payment for that Series pursuant to the terms of that Series, the portion thereof, if any, which is to be satisfied by payment of cash, and the portion thereof, if any, which is to be satisfied by delivering and crediting of Securities of that Series pursuant to Section 10.02, and the optional amount, if any, to be added in cash to the next ensuing mandatory sinking fund payment, and will also deliver to the Trustee any Securities to be so credited and not theretofore delivered. If such Officers' Certificate shall specify an optional amount to be added in cash to the next ensuing mandatory sinking fund payment, the Company shall thereupon be obligated to pay the amount therein specified. Not less than 30 days before each such sinking fund payment date, the Trustee shall select the Securities to be redeemed upon such sinking fund payment date in the manner specified in Section 3.02 and cause notice of the redemption thereof to be given in the name of and at the expense of the Company in the manner provided in Section 3.03. Such notice having been duly given, the redemption of such Securities shall be made upon the terms and in the manner stated in Sections 3.04, 3.05 and 3.06.

#### ARTICLE 11

#### MISCELLANEOUS

### Section 11.01 TRUST INDENTURE ACT CONTROLS.

If any provision of this Indenture limits, qualifies or conflicts with a provision which is required to be included in this Indenture by the TIA, the required provision shall control.

#### Section 11.02 NOTICES.

(a) Any notice or communication by the Company or the Trustee is duly given if in writing and delivered in person, sent by facsimile or mailed by certified mail:

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if to the Company to:

USA Education, Inc. 11600 Sallie Mae Drive Reston, Virginia 20193 Attention: Treasurer

if to the Trustee to:

The Chase Manhattan Bank 450 West 33rd Street, 14thth Floor New York, New York 10001 Attention: Capital Markets Fiduciary Services;Structured Finance

(b) The Company or the Trustee by notice to the others may designate additional or different addresses for subsequent notices or communications.

(c) Any notice or communication to Holders of Securities entitled to receive reports pursuant to Section 4.02(c) shall be mailed by first-class mail to the addresses for Holders of Registered Securities shown on the register kept by the Registrar and to addresses filed with the Trustee for other Holders. Failure to so mail a notice or communication or any defect in such notice or communication shall not affect its sufficiency with respect to other Holders of Securities of that or any other Series entitled to receive notice.

(d) If a notice of communication is mailed in the manner provided above within the time prescribed, it is conclusively presumed to have been duly given, whether or not the addressee receives it.

(e) If the Company mails a notice or communication to Securityholders, it shall mail a copy to the Trustee and to each Agent at the same time.

(f) If it shall be impractical in the opinion of the Trustee or the Company to make any publication of any notice required hereby in an Authorized Newspaper, any publication or other notice in lieu thereof which is made or given with the approval of the Trustee shall constitute a sufficient publication of such notice.

Section 11.03 COMMUNICATION BY HOLDERS WITH OTHER HOLDERS.

Securityholders of any Series may communicate pursuant to TIA Section 312(b) with other Securityholders of that Series or of all Series with respect to their rights under this Indenture or under the Securities of that Series or of all Series. The Company the Trustee, the Registrar and anyone else shall have the protection of TIA Section 312(c).

Section 11.04 CERTIFICATE AND OPINION AS TO CONDITIONS PRECEDENT.

Upon any request or application by the Company to the Trustee to take any action under this Indenture, the Company shall furnish to the Trustee:

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(1) an Officers' Certificate stating that, in the opinion of the signers, all conditions precedent, if any, provided for in this Indenture relating to the proposed action have been complied with; and

(2) an Opinion of Counsel stating that, in the opinion of such counsel, all such conditions precedent have been complied with.

Section 11.05 STATEMENTS REQUIRED IN CERTIFICATE OR OPINION.

Each certificate or opinion with respect to compliance with a condition or covenant provided for in this Indenture shall include:

(1) a statement that the person making such certificate or opinion has read such covenant or condition;

(2) a brief statement as to the nature and scope of the examination or investigation upon which the statements or opinions contained in such certificate or opinion are based;

(3) a statement that, in the opinion of such person, he has made such examination or investigation as is necessary to enable him to express an informed opinion as to whether or not such covenant or condition has been complied with; and

(4) a statement as to whether or not, in the opinion of such person, such condition or covenant has been complied with.

Section 11.06 RULES BY TRUSTEE AND AGENTS.

The Trustee may make reasonable rules for action by or a meeting of Securityholders of one or more Series. The Paying Agent or Registrar may make reasonable rules and set reasonable requirements for its functions.

Section 11.07 LEGAL HOLIDAYS.

Except as may otherwise be provided in the form of Securities of any particular Series pursuant to the provisions of this Indenture, a "Legal Holiday" is a Saturday, Sunday, or a day on which banking institutions are not required to be open. If a payment date is a Legal Holiday at a place of payment, payment may be made at such place on the next succeeding day that is not a Legal Holiday, and no interest shall accrue for the intervening period, except as provided in any related Board Resolutions or supplement to this Indenture.

Section 11.08 GOVERNING LAW.

The laws of the State of New York shall govern this Indenture, the Securities and any coupons appertaining thereto.

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Section 11.09 NO ADVERSE INTERPRETATION OF OTHER AGREEMENTS.

This Indenture may not be used to interpret another indenture, loan, or debt agreement of the Company or an Affiliate. No such indenture, loan, or debt agreement may be used to interpret this Indenture.

#### Section 11.10 NO RECOURSE AGAINST OTHERS.

No director, officer, employee or stockholder, as such, of the Company shall have any liability for any obligations of the Company under the Securities or the Indenture or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each Securityholder by accepting a Security waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for the issue of the Securities.

### Section 11.11 EXECUTION IN COUNTERPARTS.

This Indenture may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original, but such counterparts shall together constitute but one instrument.

#### Section 11.12 CURRENCIES.

Except as may otherwise be provided in the form of Securities of any particular Series pursuant to the provisions of this Indenture, all references in this Indenture or in the Securities to "dollars," "\$," or any similar reference shall be to the currency of the United States of America.

### ARTICLE 12

#### REPAYMENT AT THE OPTION OF HOLDERS

#### Section 12.01 APPLICABILITY OF ARTICLE.

Securities of any Series which are repayable at the option of the Holders thereof before their stated maturity shall be repaid in accordance with the terms of the Securities of such Series.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Indenture to be duly executed as of the day and year set forth above.

USA EDUCATION, INC. By: /s/ John F. Remondi Name: John F. Remondi Title: Senior Vice President & Treasurer THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Trustee By: /s/ Patricia M.F. Russo

Name: Patricia M.F. Russo Title: Vice President

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FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE between USA EDUCATION, INC. and THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK Dated as of October 3, 2000 \$500,000,000 SENIOR NOTES DUE SEPTEMBER 16, 2002

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FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE, dated as of October 3, 2000 (the "SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE"), between USA Education, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "COMPANY"), and The Chase Manhattan Bank, as trustee (the "TRUSTEE") under the Indenture, dated as of October 1, 2000 between the Company and the Trustee (the "BASE INDENTURE" and, together with this Supplemental Indenture, the "INDENTURE").

WHEREAS, the Company executed and delivered the Base Indenture to the Trustee to provide for the future issuance of debentures, notes or other evidences of indebtedness of the Company to be issued from time to time in one or more series as might be determined by the Company under the Indenture, in an unlimited aggregate principal amount which may be authenticated and delivered as provided in the Base Indenture;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the Base Indenture, the Company desires to provide for the establishment of a series of senior unsecured and unsubordinated notes to be known as its Senior Notes due September 16, 2002, the form and substance of such Notes and the terms, provisions and conditions thereof to be set forth as provided in the Base Indenture and this Supplemental Indenture;

WHEREAS, the Company has requested that the Trustee execute and deliver this Supplemental Indenture; all requirements necessary to make this Supplemental Indenture a valid instrument in accordance with its terms, and to make the Notes, when executed by the Company and authenticated and delivered by the Trustee, the valid obligations of the Company, have been performed; and the execution and delivery of this Supplemental Indenture has been duly authorized in all respects.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration for the purchase and acceptance of the Notes by the Holders thereof, and for the purpose of setting forth, as provided in the Base Indenture, the form and substance of the Notes and the terms, provisions and conditions thereof, the Company covenants and agrees with the Trustee as follows:

#### ARTICLE 1

#### DEFINITIONS

1.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS. Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined in this Supplemental Indenture (including the form of Global Note attached as EXHIBIT A to this Supplemental Indenture, the terms of which are a part of this Supplemental Indenture) have the meanings assigned to them below:

"BASE INDENTURE" is defined in the introductory paragraph.

"BUSINESS DAY" is defined in the Global Note.

"COMPANY" is defined in the introductory paragraph.

"COMPANY ORDER" is defined in the Base Indenture.

"DEPOSITARY" is defined in the Base Indenture. "ELIGIBLE INSTRUMENTS" is defined in the Base Indenture. "GLOBAL NOTE" is defined in Section 2.3. "GLOBAL SECURITY" is defined in the Base Indenture. "HOLDER" is defined in the Base Indenture. "INDENTURE" is defined in the introductory paragraph. "INTEREST ACCRUAL PERIOD" is defined in the Global Note. "INTEREST PAYMENT DATE" is defined in the Global Note. "LIBOR BUSINESS DAY" is defined in the Global Note. "LIBOR DETERMINATION DATE" is defined in the Global Note. "NOTES" is defined in Section 2.1. "MATURITY DATE" is defined in the Global Note. "PAYING AGENT" is defined in the Base Indenture. "PERSON" is defined in the Base Indenture. "REGISTERED SECURITY" is defined in the Base Indenture. "REGISTRAR" is defined in the Base Indenture. "REGULAR RECORD DATE" is defined in the Global Note. "SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE" is defined in the introductory paragraph. "THREE-MONTH LIBOR" is defined in the Global Note. "TRUSTEE" is defined in the introductory paragraph.

1.2 OTHER RULES OF CONSTRUCTION. For all purposes of this Supplemental Indenture, except as otherwise expressly provided or unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) capitalized terms used and not defined in this Supplemental Indenture have the meanings assigned to them in the Base Indenture;

(b) capitalized terms defined in the Global Note have the meanings assigned to them

in the Global Note;

(c) all terms used in this Supplemental Indenture which are defined in the Trust Indenture Act, whether directly or by reference therein, have the meanings assigned to them in the Trust Indenture Act;

(d) "or" is not exclusive;

(e) words in the singular include the plural, and words in the plural include the singular;

(f) a reference to a Section or Article is to a Section or Article of this Supplemental Indenture;

(g) the words "herein," "hereof" and "hereunder" and other words of similar import refer to this Supplemental Indenture as a whole and not to any particular Article, Section or other subdivision; and

(h) headings are for convenience of reference only and do not affect interpretation.

#### ARTICLE 2

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

2.1 TITLE OF SECURITIES. The title of the Securities is "Senior Notes due September 16, 2002" (the "NOTES").

2.2 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOTES. The aggregate principal amount of Notes that may be authenticated and delivered is \$500,000,000. Upon receipt of a Company Order for the authentication and delivery of the Notes and satisfaction of the requirements of Section 2.03 of the Base Indenture, the Trustee shall authenticate Notes for original issuance in an aggregate principal amount of \$500,000,000.

2.3 FORM OF NOTES. The Notes and the Trustee's Certificate of Authentication to be endorsed on the Notes are to be substantially in the form attached as EXHIBIT A to this Supplemental Indenture (the "GLOBAL NOTE").

2.4 MATURITY DATE. The entire outstanding principal of the Notes shall be payable on Maturity Date set forth on the face of the Global Note to Holders as of the Regular Record Date immediately preceding the Maturity Date.

2.5 INTEREST. The rate of interest on the Notes for each Interest Accrual Period after the first shall be Three-month LIBOR, plus the Spread set forth on the face of the Global Note, determined by the Trustee as set forth in the Global Note. Interest shall accrue from the Original Issue Date set forth on the face of the Global Note, and the interest rate for the first Interest Accrual Period shall be as set forth in the Global Note. Interest is payable on each Interest

Payment Date to Holders as of each Regular Record Date, determined as set forth in the Global Note. Interest shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year and the actual number of days elapsed in the applicable Interest Accrual Period. Upon each determination of Three-month LIBOR, the Trustee shall forthwith notify the Company of such determination. The Trustee may appoint an agent to determine Three-month LIBOR.

2.6 RECORD DATE. Payments of interest and principal shall be made to Holders on each Regular Record Date, determined as set forth in the Global Note.

2.7 PAYING AGENT. The Trustee shall be the Registrar and the Paying Agent with respect to the Notes. Payments in respect of the Notes represented by Global Securities (including principal and interest) shall be made in immediately available funds as provided in the Global Note.

2.8 REGISTERED SECURITIES. The Notes shall be issuable only as Registered Securities (without coupons) and as permanent Global Securities. The Notes shall not be issuable in definitive form (other than in the name of the Depositary's nominee) except under the circumstances described in Section 2.15 of the Base Indenture. The Trustee shall act as transfer agent for the Notes.

2.9 DEPOSITARY. The Depositary for Notes in global form shall be The Depository Trust Company. Beneficial interests in such Notes shall be held through the Depositary.

2.10 DENOMINATION. The Notes shall be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof. The Notes may be transferred or exchanged only in minimum denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof; and any attempted transfer, sale or other disposition of Notes in a denomination of less than \$1,000 shall be deemed to be void and of no legal effect whatsoever.

2.11 CURRENCY. Payments of the principal and interest on the Notes shall be made in U.S. Dollars, and the Notes shall be denominated in U.S. Dollars.

2.12 REDEMPTION. The Company shall have no option to redeem the Notes prior to their maturity, nor shall they be repayable before the Maturity Date at the option of any Holder.

2.13  $\,$  SINKING FUND. The Notes shall not have the benefit of any sinking fund.

2.14 CONVERSION. The Notes shall not be convertible or exchangeable into any other class or series of securities.

2.15 DEFEASANCE. The Company shall not be entitled to defease payments under the Notes.

2.16. PRIORITY. The Notes are senior unsecured obligations of the Company and rank equally in right of payment with any other senior unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness that the Company may issue from time to time. The Notes will rank senior to any subordinated

indebtedness that the Company may issue from time to time.

#### ARTICLE 3

#### TRUSTEE PAYMENTS

ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCOUNT; INVESTMENTS. The Company hereby directs 3.1. and authorizes the Trustee to establish and maintain a debt service account to be entitled the "USA Education, Inc. 2000-A Debt Service Account." All or a portion of amounts paid to the Trustee by the Company pursuant to Section 2.05 of the Base Indenture shall be deposited in the USA Education, Inc. 2000-A Debt Service Account established for such purpose and shall be invested and reinvested by the Trustee pursuant to written directions from the Company, which direction may be in the form of a standing direction. Such investments may be in one or more Eligible Instruments or Eligible Investments (defined below). Notwithstanding the foregoing, no investment of any such amount may mature later than the business day preceding the applicable payment date (or, in the case of an investment in an obligation of the Trustee, no later than the applicable payment date) and no such investment shall be sold prior to its maturity date. On each payment date the Trustee shall withdraw any net reinvestment income and return such amount to the Company. The Trustee shall have no obligation to invest and reinvest any cash held in the USA Education Inc. 2000-A Debt Service Account in the absence of timely and specific written investment direction from the Company. In no event shall the Trustee be liable for the selection of investments or for investment losses incurred thereon. The Trustee shall have no liability in respect of losses incurred as a result of the liquidation of any investment prior to its stated maturity or the failure of the Company to provide timely written investment direction.

"Eligible Investments" means book-entry securities, negotiable instruments or securities represented by instruments in bearer or registered form, with respect to which the Trustee has taken delivery, which evidence: (a) direct obligations of, and obligations fully guaranteed as to the full and timely payment by, the United States of America; (b) demand deposits, time deposits or certificates of deposit of any depository institution or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States of America or any State thereof and subject to supervision and examination by Federal or State banking or depository institution authorities, provided that at the time of the investment or contractual commitment to invest therein, the commercial paper or other short-term unsecured debt obligations (other than such obligations the rating of which is based on the credit of a Person other than such depository institution or trust company) thereof shall be rated "A-1+" by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services ("S&P") and "P-1" by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("MOODY'S"); (c) commercial paper that, at the time of the investment or contractual commitment to invest therein, is rated "A-1" by S&P and "P-1" by Moody's; (d) bankers' acceptances issued by any depository institution or trust company referred to in (b) above; (e) repurchase obligations with respect to any security pursuant to a written agreement that is a direct obligation of, or fully guaranteed as to the full and timely payment by, the United States of America or any agency or instrumentality thereof, the obligations of which are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States of America, in either case entered into with (i) a depository institution or trust company the deposits of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and whose commercial paper or other short-term unsecured debt

obligations are rated "A-1+" by S&P and "Aaa" by Moody's; and (f) money market mutual funds registered under the Investment Company Act having a rating, at the time of such investment from each of S&P and Moody's in the highest investment category granted thereby. Any Eligible Investments may be purchased by or through the Trustee or any of its Affiliates and shall include such securities issued by the Trustee or its Affiliates.

#### ARTICLE 4

#### MISCELLANEOUS

4.1 TERMS. The foregoing form and terms of the Notes have been established in conformity with the provisions of the Base Indenture.

4.2 RATIFICATION OF BASE INDENTURE; SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE CONTROLS. The Base Indenture, as supplemented by this Supplemental Indenture, is in all respects ratified and confirmed, and this Supplemental Indenture shall be deemed part of the Base Indenture in the manner and to the extent herein and therein provided. The provisions of this Supplemental Indenture (including the Global Note) shall supersede the provisions of the Base Indenture to the extent the Base Indenture is inconsistent herewith.

4.3 TRUSTEE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR RECITALS. The recitals in this Supplemental Indenture are made by the Company and not by the Trustee, and the Trustee assumes no responsibility for the correctness thereof. The Trustee makes no representation as to the validity or sufficiency of this Supplemental Indenture.

4.4 GOVERNING LAW. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE AND EACH NOTE SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE A CONTRACT MADE UNDER THE INTERNAL LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, AND FOR ALL PURPOSES SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF SAID STATE, WITHOUT REGARD TO CONFLICTS OF LAW PRINCIPLES THEREOF.

4.5 SEPARABILITY. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Supplemental Indenture or in the Notes shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of this Supplemental Indenture or of the Notes, but this Supplemental Indenture and the Notes shall be construed as if such invalid or illegal or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein or therein.

4.6 COUNTERPARTS. This Supplemental Indenture may be executed in any number of counterparts each of which shall be an original; but such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same instrument.

[remainder of page left blank intentionally]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Supplemental Indenture to be duly executed as of the day and year set forth above.

USA EDUCATION, INC.

By: /s/ John F. Remondi Name: John F. Remondi Title: Senior Vice President & Treasurer

[FORM OF GLOBAL NOTE]

- A -

EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVED IN SECTION 2.15 OF THE BASE INDENTURE, THIS NOTE MAY BE TRANSFERRED IN WHOLE, BUT NOT IN PART, ONLY TO ANOTHER NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY OR TO A SUCCESSOR DEPOSITARY. UNLESS THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY (55 WATER STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK) TO THE ISSUER OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE OR PAYMENT, AND ANY CERTIFICATE ISSUED IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR SUCH OTHER NAME AS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO., ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL, SINCE THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

REGISTERED

No. R-1

\$400,000,000.00

CUSIP 90390U AA 0

## USA EDUCATION, INC.

### SENIOR NOTE DUE SEPTEMBER 16, 2002 (FLOATING RATE)

Original Issue Date: October 3, 2000	LIBOR Determination Date: Second LIBOR Business Day prior to Interest Accrual Period
Maturity Date: September 16, 2002	Interest Payment Dates: *
Interest Rate Basis: LIBOR (Telerate)	Interest Accrual Period: **
Index Maturity: Three Months	Maximum Interest Rate: Maximum permitted by law
Spread: +0.22%	Redeemable On and After: N/A
Initial Interest Rate: 7.03125%	Optional Repayment Date(s): N/A

March 16, June 16, September 16 and December 16 of each year, except that the first Interest Payment Date is January 3, 2001, and the Maturity Date.
 From previous Interest Payment Date (or Original Issue Date, in the case of the first Interest Accrual Period) through the calendar day before current Interest Payment Date.

USA EDUCATION, INC., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), for value received, hereby promises to pay to CEDE & CO., or registered assigns, the principal amount stated above on the Maturity Date shown above and interest on the principal amount stated above at the rate PER ANNUM equal to the Initial Interest Rate shown above on the first Interest Payment Date shown above and thereafter at a rate determined in accordance with the provisions on the reverse hereof, until the principal hereof is fully paid or duly made available for payment. The Company will pay interest on each Interest Payment Date and on the Maturity Date, PROVIDED if any Interest Payment Date, other than the Maturity Date, would otherwise be a day that is not a Business Day, such Interest Payment Date will be postponed until the next calendar day that is a Business Day. If the Maturity Date is a day that is not a Business Day, principal and interest will be paid on the next succeeding Business Day, with the same force and effect as if made on the Maturity Date, and no interest on such payment shall accrue from or after the Maturity Date. "Business Day" means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or Legal Holiday in New York City. The "Regular Record Date" for each payment is the date one calendar day immediately preceding such Interest Payment Date or Maturity Date.

The interest so payable, and punctually paid or duly provided for, on the Interest Payment Dates referred to above, will, as provided in the Indenture, be paid to the Person in whose name this Note is registered at the close of business on the Regular Record Date for such interest, PROVIDED that interest payable on the Maturity Date will be paid to the Person to whom the principal of this Note is payable. Any such interest which is payable, but is not punctually paid or duly provided for, on any Interest Payment Date shall forthwith cease to be payable to the Holder on such Regular Record Date, and may be paid to the Person in whose name this Note is registered at the close of business on a special record date for the payment of such defaulted interest to be fixed by the Trustee, notice whereof shall be given to the Holder of this Note not less than ten days prior to such special record date, or may be paid at any time in any other lawful manner not inconsistent with the requirements of any securities exchange on which the Notes may be listed and upon such notice as may be required by such exchange, all as more fully provided in the Indenture. The Company shall pay interest at the applicable interest rate (calculated quarterly on each LIBOR Determination Date) on overdue principal and, to the extent permitted by law, on overdue interest.

Payments of principal and interest will be made at the office or agency of the Trustee maintained for that purpose in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for the payment of public and private debt, by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the register for this Note, PROVIDED that so long as this Note is represented by a Global Security, each payment shall be made by wire transfer of immediately available funds, if the registered holder has provided the Trustee appropriate instructions for such payment.

The principal hereof and interest due at maturity will be paid upon maturity by wire transfer of immediately available funds against presentation of this Note at the office or agency of the Trustee maintained for that purpose in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York.

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REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE TO THE FURTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS NOTE SET FORTH ON THE REVERSE HEREOF, WHICH FURTHER PROVISIONS SHALL FOR ALL PURPOSES HAVE THE SAME EFFECT AS IF SET FORTH ON THE FACE HEREOF.

This Note shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the State of New York.

Unless the certificate of authentication hereon has been executed by The Chase Manhattan Bank, the Trustee under the Indenture, or its successor thereunder by the manual signature of one of its authorized signatories, this Note shall not be entitled to any benefit under the Indenture or be valid or obligatory for any purpose.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be duly executed.

Dated: October 3, 2000

USA EDUCATION, INC.

By: /s/ Thomas J. Fitzpatrick

Name: Thomas J. Fitzpatrick Title: President and Chief Marketing and and Administrative Officer

By: /s/ John F. Remondi Name: John F. Remondi Title: Senior Vice President & Treasurer

# CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This is one of the Notes referred to in the within-mentioned Indenture.

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, as Trustee

By: /s/ Patricia M.F. Russo Authorized Signature

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[Reverse of Note]

### USA EDUCATION, INC.

## SENIOR NOTE DUE SEPTEMBER 16, 2002

## (FLOATING RATE)

This Note is one of a duly authorized issue of notes of the Company issued under the Indenture, dated as of October 1, 2000 (the "Base Indenture"), as supplemented by a First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of October 3, 2000 (collectively, the "Indenture"), each between the Company and The Chase Manhattan Bank, as trustee (the "Trustee," which term includes any successor trustee under the Indenture), to which Indenture and all indentures supplemental thereto reference is hereby made for a statement of the respective rights and limitations of rights thereunder of the Company, the Trustee and the Holders of the Notes, and the terms upon which the Securities are, and are to be, authenticated and delivered. Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined in this Note have the meanings ascribed to them in the Indenture.

This Note is designated as a Senior Note due September 16, 2002. The Interest Accrual Period for each Interest Payment Date begins on each Interest Payment Date and ends on the calendar day before the next Interest Payment Date, PROVIDED that the first Interest Accrual Period begins on October 3, 2000 and ends on January 2, 2001, the calendar day before the first Interest Payment Date. The interest rate in effect during each Interest Accrual Period after the first will be the interest rate determined on the LIBOR Determination Date immediately preceding such Interest Accrual Period, PROVIDED that the interest rate in effect for the first Interest Accrual Period will be the Initial Interest Rate specified on the face hereof. Interest shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year and the actual number of days elapsed in the applicable Interest Accrual Period. All percentages resulting from any calculations will be carried to five decimal places (that is, to the one hundred thousandths place), with five one-millionths being rounded upwards, if necessary. In addition, the interest rate hereon shall in no event be higher than the maximum rate, if any, permitted by applicable law.

Commencing with the first LIBOR Determination Date, and thereafter on each succeeding LIBOR Determination Date, the rate at which interest on this Note is payable shall be adjusted. Each such adjusted rate shall be applicable to the Interest Accrual Period to which it relates.

Subject to applicable law and except as specified herein, the rate of interest on this Note for each Interest Accrual Period after the first shall be Three-month LIBOR, plus the Spread (as specified on the face hereof).

Three-month LIBOR, for any Interest Accrual Period, is the London interbank offered rate for deposits in U.S. dollars having a maturity of three months, commencing on the first day of the Interest Accrual Period, which appears on Telerate Page 3750 as of 11:00 a.m. London time, on the related LIBOR Determination Date. If this rate does not appear on Telerate Page 3750, the rate for that day will be determined on the basis of the rates at which deposits in

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U.S. dollars, having the applicable maturity and in a principal amount of not less than U.S. \$1,000,000, are offered at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, on that LIBOR Determination Date, to prime banks in the London interbank market by the Reference Banks. The Trustee will request the principal London office of each Reference Bank to provide a quotation of its rate. If the Reference Banks provide at least two quotations, the rate for that day will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations. If the Reference Banks provide fewer than two quotations, the rate for that day will be the arithmetic mean of the rates quoted by major banks in New York City, selected by the Trustee, at approximately 11:00 a.m. New York time, on that LIBOR Determination Date, for loans in U.S. dollars to leading European banks having the applicable maturity and in a principal amount of not less than U.S. \$1,000,000. If the banks selected as described above are not providing quotations, Three-month LIBOR in effect for the applicable Interest Accrual Period will be Three-month LIBOR as most recently quoted on Telerate Page 3750.

"LIBOR Business Day" means any day on which banks in New York City and the City of London are open for the transaction of international business.

"LIBOR Determination Date" means, for each Interest Accrual Period, the second LIBOR Business Day before the beginning of that Interest Accrual Period.

"Reference Banks" means four major banks in the London interbank market selected by the Trustee.

"Telerate Page 3750" means the display page so designated on the Dow Jones Telerate Service or any other page that may replace that page on that service for the purpose of displaying comparable rates or prices.

The Trustee shall calculate the interest rate hereon in accordance with the foregoing and will confirm in writing such calculation to the Company and the Paying Agent (if other than the Trustee) immediately after each determination. All determinations made by the Trustee shall be, in the absence of manifest error, conclusive for all purposes and binding on the Company and Holders of the Notes. At the request of the Holder hereof, the Trustee will provide to the Holder hereof the interest rate hereon then in effect and, if determined, the interest rate which will become effective as of the next Interest Accrual Period.

If an Event of Default with respect to the Notes shall occur and be continuing, the Trustee, by notice to the Company, or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of all of the outstanding Notes, by notice to the Company and the Trustee, may declare the principal of all the Notes due and payable in the manner and with the effect provided in the Indenture.

The Indenture permits, with certain exceptions as therein provided, the amendment thereof and the modification of the rights and obligations of the Company and the rights of the Holders of the Notes at any time by the Company and the Trustee with the consent of the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Notes at the time outstanding. The Indenture also contains provisions permitting the Holders of specified percentages in aggregate principal amount of the Notes at the time outstanding, on behalf of the Holders of all Notes, to waive compliance by the Company with certain provisions of the Indenture and certain

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past defaults under the Indenture and their consequences. Any such consent or waiver by the Holder of this Note shall be conclusive and binding upon such Holder and upon future Holders of this Note and of any Note issued upon the registration of transfer hereof or in exchange therefor or in lieu hereof whether or not notation of such consent or waiver is made upon this Note.

Holders of Notes may not enforce their rights pursuant to the Indenture or the Notes except as provided in the Indenture. No reference herein to the Indenture and no provision of this Note or the Indenture shall alter or impair the obligation of the Company, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay the principal of and interest on this Note at the time, place, and rate, and in the coin or currency, herein prescribed.

As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, the transfer of this Note may be registered on the Note register of the Company, upon surrender of this Note for registration of transfer at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, duly endorsed by, or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company, and this Note duly executed by, the Holder hereof or by his attorney duly authorized in writing and thereupon one or more new Notes, of authorized denominations and for the same aggregate principal amount, will be issued to the designated transferee or transferees.

The Notes are issuable only in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 or any amount in excess thereof which is an integral multiple of \$1,000. As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, this Note is exchangeable for a like aggregate principal amount of Notes of different authorized denomination as requested by the Holder surrendering the same.

No service charge will be made for any such registration of transfer or exchange, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Prior to the due presentment of this Note for registration of transfer, the Company, the Trustee and any agent of the Company or the Trustee may treat the Person in whose name this Note is registered as the owner hereof for all purposes, whether or not this Note be overdue, and neither the Company, the Trustee nor any such agent shall be affected by notice to the contrary.

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### ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations, when used in the inscription on the face of this instrument, shall be construed as though they were written out in full according to applicable laws or regulations:

- TEN COM as tenants in common
- TEN ENT as tenants by the entireties

JT TEN - as joint tenants with right of survivorship and not as tenants in common

UNIF GIFT MIN ACT - \_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Custodian \_\_\_

(Minor)

Under Uniform Gifts to Minors Act

_(	S	t	at	t€	e)

Additional abbreviations may also be used though not in the above list.

(Cust)

ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sell(s), assign(s) and transfer(s) unto

PLEASE INSERT SOCIAL SECURITY OR OTHER IDENTIFYING NUMBER OF ASSIGNEE

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPEWRITE NAME AND ADDRESS INCLUDING POSTAL ZIP CODE OF ASSIGNEE

the within Note and all rights thereunder, hereby irrevocably constituting and appointing

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attorney to transfer said Note on the books of the Company, with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated: \_

(Signature Guarantee)

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EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVED IN SECTION 2.15 OF THE BASE INDENTURE, THIS NOTE MAY BE TRANSFERRED IN WHOLE, BUT NOT IN PART, ONLY TO ANOTHER NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY OR TO A SUCCESSOR DEPOSITARY. UNLESS THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY (55 WATER STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK) TO THE ISSUER OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE OR PAYMENT, AND ANY CERTIFICATE ISSUED IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR SUCH OTHER NAME AS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO., ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL, SINCE THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

#### REGISTERED

No. R-2

\$100,000,000.00

CUSIP 90390U AA 0

# USA EDUCATION, INC.

## SENIOR NOTE DUE SEPTEMBER 16, 2002 (FLOATING RATE)

Original Issue Date: October 3, 2000	LIBOR Determination Date: Second LIBOR Business Day prior to Interest Accrual Period
Maturity Date: September 16, 2002	Interest Payment Dates: *
Interest Rate Basis: LIBOR (Telerate)	Interest Accrual Period: **
Index Maturity: Three Months	Maximum Interest Rate: Maximum permitted by law
Spread: +0.22%	Redeemable On and After: N/A
Initial Interest Rate: 7.03125%	Optional Repayment Date(s): N/A

March 16, June 16, September 16 and December 16 of each year, except that the first Interest Payment Date is January 3, 2001, and the Maturity Date.
 From previous Interest Payment Date (or Original Issue Date, in the case of the first Interest Accrual Period) through the calendar day before current Interest Payment Date.

USA EDUCATION, INC., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), for value received, hereby promises to pay to CEDE & CO., or registered assigns, the principal amount stated above on the Maturity Date shown above and interest on the principal amount stated above at the rate PER ANNUM equal to the Initial Interest Rate shown above on the first Interest Payment Date shown above and thereafter at a rate determined in accordance with the provisions on the reverse hereof, until the principal hereof is fully paid or duly made available for payment. The Company will pay interest on each Interest Payment Date and on the Maturity Date, PROVIDED if any Interest Payment Date, other than the Maturity Date, would otherwise be a day that is not a Business Day, such Interest Payment Date will be postponed until the next calendar day that is a Business Day. If the Maturity Date is a day that is not a Business Day, principal and interest will be paid on the next succeeding Business Day, with the same force and effect as if made on the Maturity Date, and no interest on such payment shall accrue from or after the Maturity Date. "Business Day" means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or Legal Holiday in New York City. The "Regular Record Date" for each payment is the date one calendar day immediately preceding such Interest Payment Date or Maturity Date.

The interest so payable, and punctually paid or duly provided for, on the Interest Payment Dates referred to above, will, as provided in the Indenture, be paid to the Person in whose name this Note is registered at the close of business on the Regular Record Date for such interest, PROVIDED that interest payable on the Maturity Date will be paid to the Person to whom the principal of this Note is payable. Any such interest which is payable, but is not punctually paid or duly provided for, on any Interest Payment Date shall forthwith cease to be payable to the Holder on such Regular Record Date, and may be paid to the Person in whose name this Note is registered at the close of business on a special record date for the payment of such defaulted interest to be fixed by the Trustee, notice whereof shall be given to the Holder of this Note not less than ten days prior to such special record date, or may be paid at any time in any other lawful manner not inconsistent with the requirements of any securities exchange on which the Notes may be listed and upon such notice as may be required by such exchange, all as more fully provided in the Indenture. The Company shall pay interest at the applicable interest rate (calculated quarterly on each LIBOR Determination Date) on overdue principal and, to the extent permitted by law, on overdue interest.

Payments of principal and interest will be made at the office or agency of the Trustee maintained for that purpose in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for the payment of public and private debt, by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the register for this Note, PROVIDED that so long as this Note is represented by a Global Security, each payment shall be made by wire transfer of immediately available funds, if the registered holder has provided the Trustee appropriate instructions for such payment.

The principal hereof and interest due at maturity will be paid upon maturity by wire transfer of immediately available funds against presentation of this Note at the office or agency of the Trustee maintained for that purpose in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York.

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REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE TO THE FURTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS NOTE SET FORTH ON THE REVERSE HEREOF, WHICH FURTHER PROVISIONS SHALL FOR ALL PURPOSES HAVE THE SAME EFFECT AS IF SET FORTH ON THE FACE HEREOF.

This Note shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the State of New York.

Unless the certificate of authentication hereon has been executed by The Chase Manhattan Bank, the Trustee under the Indenture, or its successor thereunder by the manual signature of one of its authorized signatories, this Note shall not be entitled to any benefit under the Indenture or be valid or obligatory for any purpose.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be duly executed.

Dated: October 3, 2000

USA EDUCATION, INC.

By: /s/ Thomas J. Fitzpatrick Name: Thomas J. Fitzpatrick Title: President and Chief Marketing and Administrative Officer

By: /s/ John F. Remondi Name: John F. Remondi Title: Senior Vice President & Treasurer

# CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This is one of the Notes referred to in the within-mentioned Indenture.

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, as Trustee

By: /s/ Patricia M.F. Russo Authorized Signature

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[Reverse of Note]

### USA EDUCATION, INC.

## SENIOR NOTE DUE SEPTEMBER 16, 2002

## (FLOATING RATE)

This Note is one of a duly authorized issue of notes of the Company issued under the Indenture, dated as of October 1, 2000 (the "Base Indenture"), as supplemented by a First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of October 3, 2000 (collectively, the "Indenture"), each between the Company and The Chase Manhattan Bank, as trustee (the "Trustee," which term includes any successor trustee under the Indenture), to which Indenture and all indentures supplemental thereto reference is hereby made for a statement of the respective rights and limitations of rights thereunder of the Company, the Trustee and the Holders of the Notes, and the terms upon which the Securities are, and are to be, authenticated and delivered. Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined in this Note have the meanings ascribed to them in the Indenture.

This Note is designated as a Senior Note due September 16, 2002. The Interest Accrual Period for each Interest Payment Date begins on each Interest Payment Date and ends on the calendar day before the next Interest Payment Date, PROVIDED that the first Interest Accrual Period begins on October 3, 2000 and ends on January 2, 2001, the calendar day before the first Interest Payment Date. The interest rate in effect during each Interest Accrual Period after the first will be the interest rate determined on the LIBOR Determination Date immediately preceding such Interest Accrual Period, PROVIDED that the interest rate in effect for the first Interest Accrual Period will be the Initial Interest Rate specified on the face hereof. Interest shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year and the actual number of days elapsed in the applicable Interest Accrual Period. All percentages resulting from any calculations will be carried to five decimal places (that is, to the one hundred thousandths place), with five one-millionths being rounded upwards, if necessary. In addition, the interest rate hereon shall in no event be higher than the maximum rate, if any, permitted by applicable law.

Commencing with the first LIBOR Determination Date, and thereafter on each succeeding LIBOR Determination Date, the rate at which interest on this Note is payable shall be adjusted. Each such adjusted rate shall be applicable to the Interest Accrual Period to which it relates.

Subject to applicable law and except as specified herein, the rate of interest on this Note for each Interest Accrual Period after the first shall be Three-month LIBOR, plus the Spread (as specified on the face hereof).

Three-month LIBOR, for any Interest Accrual Period, is the London interbank offered rate for deposits in U.S. dollars having a maturity of three months, commencing on the first day of the Interest Accrual Period, which appears on Telerate Page 3750 as of 11:00 a.m. London time, on the related LIBOR Determination Date. If this rate does not appear on Telerate Page 3750, the rate for that day will be determined on the basis of the rates at which deposits in

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U.S. dollars, having the applicable maturity and in a principal amount of not less than U.S. \$1,000,000, are offered at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, on that LIBOR Determination Date, to prime banks in the London interbank market by the Reference Banks. The Trustee will request the principal London office of each Reference Bank to provide a quotation of its rate. If the Reference Banks provide at least two quotations, the rate for that day will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations. If the Reference Banks provide fewer than two quotations, the rate for that day will be the arithmetic mean of the rates quoted by major banks in New York City, selected by the Trustee, at approximately 11:00 a.m. New York time, on that LIBOR Determination Date, for loans in U.S. dollars to leading European banks having the applicable maturity and in a principal amount of not less than U.S. \$1,000,000. If the banks selected as described above are not providing quotations, Three-month LIBOR in effect for the applicable Interest Accrual Period will be Three-month LIBOR as most recently quoted on Telerate Page 3750.

"LIBOR Business Day" means any day on which banks in New York City and the City of London are open for the transaction of international business.

"LIBOR Determination Date" means, for each Interest Accrual Period, the second LIBOR Business Day before the beginning of that Interest Accrual Period.

"Reference Banks" means four major banks in the London interbank market selected by the Trustee.

"Telerate Page 3750" means the display page so designated on the Dow Jones Telerate Service or any other page that may replace that page on that service for the purpose of displaying comparable rates or prices.

The Trustee shall calculate the interest rate hereon in accordance with the foregoing and will confirm in writing such calculation to the Company and the Paying Agent (if other than the Trustee) immediately after each determination. All determinations made by the Trustee shall be, in the absence of manifest error, conclusive for all purposes and binding on the Company and Holders of the Notes. At the request of the Holder hereof, the Trustee will provide to the Holder hereof the interest rate hereon then in effect and, if determined, the interest rate which will become effective as of the next Interest Accrual Period.

If an Event of Default with respect to the Notes shall occur and be continuing, the Trustee, by notice to the Company, or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of all of the outstanding Notes, by notice to the Company and the Trustee, may declare the principal of all the Notes due and payable in the manner and with the effect provided in the Indenture.

The Indenture permits, with certain exceptions as therein provided, the amendment thereof and the modification of the rights and obligations of the Company and the rights of the Holders of the Notes at any time by the Company and the Trustee with the consent of the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Notes at the time outstanding. The Indenture also contains provisions permitting the Holders of specified percentages in aggregate principal amount of the Notes at the time outstanding, on behalf of the Holders of all Notes, to waive compliance by the Company with certain provisions of the Indenture and certain

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past defaults under the Indenture and their consequences. Any such consent or waiver by the Holder of this Note shall be conclusive and binding upon such Holder and upon future Holders of this Note and of any Note issued upon the registration of transfer hereof or in exchange therefor or in lieu hereof whether or not notation of such consent or waiver is made upon this Note.

Holders of Notes may not enforce their rights pursuant to the Indenture or the Notes except as provided in the Indenture. No reference herein to the Indenture and no provision of this Note or the Indenture shall alter or impair the obligation of the Company, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay the principal of and interest on this Note at the time, place, and rate, and in the coin or currency, herein prescribed.

As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, the transfer of this Note may be registered on the Note register of the Company, upon surrender of this Note for registration of transfer at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, duly endorsed by, or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company, and this Note duly executed by, the Holder hereof or by his attorney duly authorized in writing and thereupon one or more new Notes, of authorized denominations and for the same aggregate principal amount, will be issued to the designated transferee or transferees.

The Notes are issuable only in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 or any amount in excess thereof which is an integral multiple of \$1,000. As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, this Note is exchangeable for a like aggregate principal amount of Notes of different authorized denomination as requested by the Holder surrendering the same.

No service charge will be made for any such registration of transfer or exchange, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Prior to the due presentment of this Note for registration of transfer, the Company, the Trustee and any agent of the Company or the Trustee may treat the Person in whose name this Note is registered as the owner hereof for all purposes, whether or not this Note be overdue, and neither the Company, the Trustee nor any such agent shall be affected by notice to the contrary.

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### ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations, when used in the inscription on the face of this instrument, shall be construed as though they were written out in full according to applicable laws or regulations:

TEN COM - as tenants in common

TEN ENT - as tenants by the entireties

JT TEN - as joint tenants with right of survivorship and not as tenants in common

UNIF GIFT MIN ACT - \_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Custodian \_\_

(Cust)

(Minor)

Under Uniform Gifts to Minors Act

(	State	)

Additional abbreviations may also be used though not in the above list.

ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sell(s), assign(s) and transfer(s) unto

PLEASE INSERT SOCIAL SECURITY OR OTHER IDENTIFYING NUMBER OF ASSIGNEE

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPEWRITE NAME AND ADDRESS INCLUDING POSTAL ZIP CODE OF ASSIGNEE

the within Note and all rights thereunder, hereby irrevocably constituting and appointing  $% \left( {{\left[ {{L_{\rm{s}}} \right]}} \right)$ 

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attorney to transfer said Note on the books of the Company, with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated: \_

(Signature Guarantee)

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