**SUBJECT TO COMPLETION DATED APRIL 18, 2018** 

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

#### **PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT** (To the Prospectus dated April 18, 2018)

shares



Aspen Group, Inc.

#### **Common Stock**

We are offering shares of our common stock. Our common stock is traded on The Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol "ASPU." On April 17, 2018, the last reported sales price of our common sa

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#### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act"), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. Such forward-looking statements include those that express plans, anticipation, intent, contingency, goals, targets or future development and/or otherwise are not statements of historical fact. In particular, these forward-looking statements include, among others, statements about our intended use of proceeds and our increased revenue guidance.

Forward looking statements may be identified by the use of words such as "may," "expect," "intend," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "continue," "plan" and other words or phrases of similar meaning. The forward looking statements are based on our current views with respect to future events and financial performance. These forward looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including those described in the section entitled "Risk Factors" in the accompanying prospectus or in our filings with the SEC that are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Although we believe that the assumptions underlying the forward looking statements are reasonable, any of the assumptions could prove inaccurate and, therefore, there can be no assurance that the forward looking information will prove to be accurate. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward looking information of such information should not be regarded as a representation by us or any other person that the objectives or plans of our Company will be achieved. The forward-looking statements relate only to events as of the date on which the statements are made. We do not undertake any obligation to publicly release the results of any revisions to these forward looking statements. We cannot assure you that actual results will be consistent with these forward looking statements. These forward looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including the risk factors in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

#### PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

The following summary highlights information contained elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information that should be considered before investing in our common stock. Before making an investment decision, investors should carefully read the entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying particular attention to the risks referred to under the headings "Cautionary Statements Regarding Forward-Looking Statements," "Risk Factors" and our financial statements and the notes to those financial statements.

#### **Our Company**

AGI is a post-secondary education company with an overarching vision of making higher education affordable again in America. Because we believe higher education should be a catalyst to our students' long-term economic success, we exert financial prudence by offering affordable tuition that is one of the greatest values in online higher education. AGI has two subsidiaries, Aspen University Inc. ("Aspen" or "Aspen University") and United States University Inc. ("USU").

#### **Recent Developments**

AGI is increasing its top line revenue guidance for the quarter ending April 30, 2018.

Initially AGI forecasted revenues of approximately \$6.5 million which it increased on March 15th to \$6.7 million. Based on April class starts at Aspen and USU, AGI now expects to report at least \$7.2 million for the quarter ending April 30, 2018.

#### **Corporate Information**

Our principal executive offices are located at 1660 S Albion Street, Suite 525, Denver, Colorado 80222 and our telephone number is (303) 333-4224. Our corporate website address is https://ir.aspen.edu. The information on our website is not incorporated into this prospectus.

#### The Offering

Issuer	Aspen Group, Inc.			
Common stock offered by us	shares of common stock (or shares of common stock if the underwriter exercises its option to purchase additional shares in full).			
Common stock outstanding after this offering	shares of common stock (or shares of common stock if the underwriter exercises its option to purchase additional shares in full).			
Over-allotment option	shares of common stock.			
Use of proceeds	We expect the net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$ million (or \$ million if the underwriter exercises its option to purchase additional shares in full) after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions, as described in "Underwriting," and estimated offering expenses payable by us. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes and working capital. See "Use of Proceeds" on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement.			
Nasdaq Capital Market symbol	"ASPU"			
Risk factors	This investment involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully read and consider the information set forth under the heading "Risk Factors" on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement, and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement before deciding to invest in our common stock.			

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding immediately after the closing of this offering is based on 15,132,270 shares of common stock outstanding as of April 18, 2018 and excludes, as of that date:

- 701,513 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding warrants at a weighted average exercise price of \$3.96 per share;
- 2,905,630 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options at a weighted average exercise price of \$3.58 per share;
- 268,456 shares issuable upon conversion of \$2 million in convertible notes at a conversion price of \$7.45 per share (based on the closing price on April 17, 2018); and
- 594,370 shares of common stock available for future grant under our 2012 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan").

Except as otherwise indicated, all information in this prospectus supplement assumes no exercise by the underwriter of the over-allotment option.

#### **DIVIDEND POLICY**

We have never declared or paid cash dividends on our capital stock. We currently intend to retain our future earnings, if any, for use in our business and therefore do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Payment of future dividends, if any, will be at the discretion of our board of directors after taking into account various factors, including our financial condition, operating results, current and anticipated cash needs and plans for expansion. Our credit facility precludes us from paying cash dividends.

#### CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of January 31, 2018 as follows:

- $\cdot$  on an actual basis.
- on an as adjusted basis to give effect to our issuance and sale of shares of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shares of common stock in this offering at the public offering price of \$ per share, after deducting estimated underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

You should read this table in conjunction with the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the information incorporated by reference from our Form 10-K for the year ending April 30, 2017, including the historical financial statements and related notes included in the report.

		As of January 31, 2018			
		Actual		As Adjusted	
				(unaudited	i)
Balance Sheet Data:					
Stockholders' equity:					
Common stock, \$0.001 par value: 250,000,000 autho	rized, 15,072,332 issued and 15,055,665				
outstanding; 250,000,000 shares authorized,	shares issued and outstanding, as adjusted;		15,072		
Additional paid-in capital			45,439,538		
Accumulated deficit			(70,000)	(70	0,000)
Total stockholders' equity			(29,107,262)		
Total capitalization		\$	16,277,348	\$	

The number of shares of our common stock in the table above excludes, as of January 31, 2018:

- 2,872,546 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of options outstanding under the Plan, at a weighted-average exercise price of approximately \$3.52 per share;
- 743,773 shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding warrants to purchase shares of our common stock with a weighted-average exercise price of \$4.08 per share; and
- 627,454 shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under the Plan.



#### General

#### UNDERWRITING

We have entered into an underwriting agreement with Roth Capital Partners, LLC. Subject to certain conditions, we have agreed to sell to the underwriter, and the underwriter has purchase, shares of our common stock.

The underwriter is offering the shares of common stock subject to its acceptance of the shares of common stock from us. The underwriter is obligated to take and pay for all of the shares of common stock if any such shares are taken. However, the underwriter is not required to take or pay for the shares of common stock covered by the underwriter's over-allotment option described below.

#### **Over-Allotment Option**

We have granted the underwriter an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to an aggregate of additional shares of common stock to cover over-allotments, if any, at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, less the underwriting discount. The underwriter may exercise this option solely for the purpose of covering over-allotments, if any, made in connection with the offering of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

#### **Discount, Commissions and Expenses**

The underwriter has advised us that it proposes to offer the shares of common stock to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to certain dealers at that price less a concession not in excess of \$ per share. The underwriter may allow, and certain dealers may reallow, a discount from the concession not in excess of \$ per share to certain brokers and dealers. After this offering, the public offering price, concession and reallowance to dealers may be changed by the underwriter. No such change shall change the amount of proceeds to be received by us as set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. The shares of common stock are offered by the underwriter as stated herein, subject to receipt and acceptance by them and subject to their right to reject any order in whole or in part. The underwriter has informed us that they do not intend to confirm sales to any accounts over which they exercise discretionary authority.

The following table shows the underwriting discount payable to the underwriter by us on a per share and aggregate basis in connection with this offering. Such amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriter's over-allotment option to purchase additional shares.

	Per Share	Total Without Exercise of Over-Allotment Option	Total With Full Exercise of Over-Allotment Option
Public offering price	\$	\$	\$
Underwriting discount	\$	\$	\$
Proceeds to us, before expenses	\$	\$	\$

We estimate that expenses payable by us in connection with this offering, other than the underwriting discounts and commissions referred to above, will be approximately \$ . We have agreed to reimburse the underwriter for certain out-of-pocket expenses up to a maximum of \$150,000.

In the event this offering is not consummated, we have agreed to negotiate in good faith with the underwriter to allow them to serve as our exclusive advisor in any financing transaction we undertake for a period of six month following April 12, 2018. Any such engagement would be pursuant to a separate agreement that provides for customary fees and other terms and conditions agreed upon betwee remup

#### Listing and Transfer Agent

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market and trades under the symbol "ASPU." The transfer agent of our common stock is Action Stock Transfer Corporation.

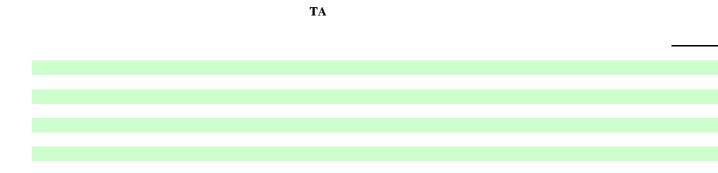
#### **Electronic Distribution**

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format may be made available on websites or through other online services maintained by the underwriter or by its affiliates. Other than this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format, the information on the underwriter's website and any information contained in any other website maintained by the underwriter is not part of this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus form a part, has not been approved and/or endorsed by us or any underwriter in its capacity as an underwriter, and should not be relied upon by investors.

#### Other

From time to time, certain of the underwriter and/or its affiliates have provided, and may in the future provide, various investment banking and other financial services for us for which services they have received and, may in the future receive, customary fees. In the course of their businesses, the underwriter and its affiliates may actively trade our securities or loans for their own account or for the accounts of customers, and, accordingly, the underwriter and its affiliates may at any time hold long or short positions in such securities or loans. Except for services provided in connection with this offering, the underwriter has not provided any investment banking or other financial services to us during the 180-day period preceding the date of this prospectus supplement and we do not expect to retain any underwriter to perform any investment banking or other financial services for at least 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement.





#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary only highlights the more detailed information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. It may not contain all of the information that is important to you. You should carefully read vtii "ng

#### CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus including the documents incorporated by reference contains forward-looking statements. All statements other than statements of historical facts, including statements regarding our future financial position, inan liti

### RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risks. Before purchasing the securities offered by this prospectus you should consider carefully the risk factors described below, as well as the risks, uncertainties and **um** we

Our marketing expenditures may not result in increased revenue or a "

### If we are unable to develop awareness among, and attract and retain, high quality learners to Aspen University, our ability to generate significant revenue or achieve profitability will be significantly impaired.

Building awareness of Aspen University and the programs we offer among working adult professionals is critical to our ability to attract prospective learners. If we are unable to successfully market and advertise our educational programs, Aspen University's ability to attract and enroll prospective learners in such programs could be adversely affected, and consequently, our ability to increase revenue or achieve profitability could be impaired. It is also critical to our success that we convert these prospective learners to enrolled learners in a cost-effective manner and that these enrolled learners remain active in our programs. Some of the factors that

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

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

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

Beginning in June 2014, our online classroom at Aspen University began employing the Desire2Learn learning management system named Brightspace, followed by USU in 2017. The system is a web-based portal that stores and delivers course content, provides interactive communication between students and faculty, and supplies online evaluation tools. We rely on third parties to host and help with the administration of it. We further rely on third parties, the D2L agreement and our internal staff for ongoing support and customization and integration of the system with the rest of our technology infrastructure. If D2L were unable or unwilling to continue to provide us with service, we may have difficulty maintaining the software required for our online classroom or updating it for future technological changes. Any failure to maintain our online classroom would have an adverse impact on our operations, damage our reputation and limit our ability to attract and retain students.

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

Possession and use of personal information in our operations subjects us to risks and costs that could harm our business. Aspen University and USU use a third-party to collect and retain large amounts of personal information regarding our students and their families, including social security numbers, tax return information, personal and family financial data and credit card numbers. We also collect and maintain personal information of our employees in the ordinary course of our business. Some of this personal information is held and managed by

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

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

In particular, third parties may attempt to develop competing programs or duplicate or copy aspects of our curriculum, online resource material, quality management and other proprietary content. Any such attempt, if successful, could adversely affect our business. Protecting the space of programs and other proprietary content is an interesting of the space of the spa

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

#### If we are subject to intelleY-uRj&jectRteT

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

Our operations are also subject to regulation due to our participation in Title IV Programs. Title IV Programs, which are administered by DOE, include loans made directly to students by DOE and several grant programs for students with economic need as determined in accordance with the Higher Education Act and DOE regulations. To participate in Title IV Programs, a school must receive and maintain authorization by the appropriate state education agencies, be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, and be certified as an eligible institution by DOE. Our growth strategy is partly dependent on being able to offer financial assistance through Title IV Programs as it may increase the number of potential students who may choose to enroll in our programs.

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

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

Aspen is headquartered in Colorado and is authorized by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to grant degrees, diplomas or certificates. USU is headquartered in California and is authorized by the California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education to grant degrees, diplomas or certificates. If Aspen were to lose its authorization from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, Aspen would be unable to provide educational services in Colorado and would lose its eligibility to participate in the Title IV Programs. If USU were to lose its authorization from the California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, it would be unable to provide educational services in the Title IV Programs. If USU were to lose its authorization from the California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, it would be unable to provide educational services in the Title IV Programs.

### Our failure to comply with regulations of various states could have a material adverse effect on our enrollments, revenues, and **results** not present the states of the st

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In addition, DOE's new distance education rule is scheduled to go into effect on July 1, 2018. The new rule requires us to (i) obtain author

- <u>Required warnings to students of new repayment rate</u>: One section of the postponed regulations applies only to for-profit institutions, requiring such institutions to disclose a new form of loan repayment rate in a variety of public materials, to serve as a warning to current and potential students, when the rate is too low. This repayment rate would be calculated based on the payment performance of an institution's students approximately five years after its students graduate or withdraw from the school.
- Forbidding mandatory arbitration clauses and class action waivers: The postponed regulations would prohibit an institution from incorporating a class action waiver provision, or a mandatory arbitration clause, in any agreement with students. If an institution's contracts currently contain a pre-dispute arbitration provision or a class waiver, the institution will be required to amend the agreement or provide a specific notice to students, using language provided by DOE that explains that those provisions have been changed.

If DOE determines that borrowers of FDL program loans who attended Aspen or USU have a defense to repayment of their FDL program loans based on our acts or omissions, the repayment liability to DOE could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. Cumulative letters of credit, at 10% of the amount of Title IV Program funds received by the institution during the most recently completed award year, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. Additionally, if DOE determines that our loan repayment rates are too low, having to issue warnings to current and prospective students describing the low repayment rate could have a material adverse effect on our enrollments, revenues, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

If we fail to maintain our institutional accreditation, we would lose our ability to participate in the tuition assistance programs of the U.Sld  $assa\,Sh\,Sh\,nsl\,34/stalhet$ U.Se46 In an Ip Ma(

USU currently is operating under a temporary provisional certification to participate in the Title IV Programs due to the change of ownership which occurred in December of 2017. The temporary provisional certification allows the school to continue to receive Title IV funding on a month-to-month basis as it did prior to the change of ownership while DOA reviews the change of ownership. Even if DOE certifies USU following the change of ownership, such certification will be provisional as is the case for all Title IV institutions undergoing a change of ownership. Under provisional certification, an institution must obtain prior DOE approval to add an educational program or make other significant changes and may be subject to closer scrutiny by DOE. In addition, if DOE determines that a provisionally certified institution is unable to meet its responsibilities to comply with the Title IV requirements, DOE may revoke the institution's certification to participate in the Title IV Programs without advance notice or opportunity to challenge the action.

Subsequent to a compliance audit covering the period from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, USU recognized that it had not fully complied with all requirements for calculating and making timely returns of Title IV funds (R2T4). USU was required to post an irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of 25% of the 2015 Title IV returns. An irrevocable letter of credit was established in favor of the Secretary of Education in the amount of \$71,634 as a result of this finding. In the 2016 compliance audit, USU had a material finding related to the same issue and was required to maintain the irrevocable letter of credit in the same amount. USU will be required to maintain these stabilized in the same amount. USU will be required to maintain the previous letter of credit established by USU has been replaced by one provided by AGI. The amount remains unchanged.

If DOE does not ultimately approve USU's certification to participate in Title IV Programs, USU students would no longer be able to receive Title IV Program funds, whi llt ieneed t ble m f ain

## If we fail to demonstrate "financial responsibility," Aspen and USU may lose their eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs or be required to post a letter of credit in order to maintain eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs.

To participate in Title IV Programs, an eligible institution must satisfy specific measures of financial responsibility prescribed by DOE, or post a letter of credit in favor of DOE and possibly accept other conditions, such as additional reporting requirements or regulatory oversight, on its participation in Title IV Programs. DOE may also apply its measures of financial responsibility to the operating company and ownership entities of an eligible institution and, if such measures are not satisfied by the operating company or ownership entities, require the institution to meet alternative standards for continued participation in the Title IV Programs. Any of these alternative standards would increase our costs of regulatory compliance. If we were unable to meet these alternative standards, we would lose our eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs. If we fail to demonstrate financial responsibility and thus lose our eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs, our students would lose access to Title IV Program funds for use in our institution, which would limit our potential for growth and adversely affect our enrollment, revenues and results of operations.

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

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

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

We rely on third-party assistance to comply with the complex administration of participation in Title IV Programs for each of our schools. A third-party assists us with administration of our participation in Title IV Programs, and if it does not comply with applicable regulations, we may be liable for its actions and we could lose our eligibility to participate in Title IV Programs. In addition, if the third-party servicer is no longer able to provide the services to us, we may not be able to replace it in a timely or cost-efficient manner, or at all, and we could lose our ability to comply with the requirements of Title IV Programs, which would limit our potential for growth and adversely affect our enrollment, revenues and results of operation.

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

A school participating in Title IV Programs may not provide any commission, bonus or other incentive payment based, directly or indirectly, on success in enrolling students or securing financial aid to any person involved in student recruiting or admission activities or in making decisions regarding the awarding of Title IV Program funds. If we pay a bonus, commission, or other incentive payment in violation of applicable DOE rules, we could be subject to sanctions, which could have a material adverse effect on our business. The incentive payment rule and related uncertainty as to how it will be interpreted also may influence our approach, or limit our alternatives, with respect to employment policies and practices and consequently may affect negatively our ability to recruit and retain employees, and as a result our business could be materially and adversely affected.

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

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

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

# If either institutional accrediting agency loses recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education or we fail to maintain institutional accreditation for Aspen and USU, we may lose our ability to participate in Title IV Programs.

Increased regulatory scrutiny of accrediting agencies and their accreditation of universities is likely to continue. While Aspen University and USU are each accredited by a DOE-recognized accrediting body, if DOE were to limit, suspend, or terminate either accreditor's recognition, that institution could lose its ability to participate in the Title IV Programs. If we were unable to rely on accreditation in such circumstances, among other things, our students and our institution would be ineligible to participate in the Title IV Programs, and such consequence would have a material adverse effect on enrollments, revenues and results of operations. In addition, increased scrutiny of accrediting agencies by the Secretary of Education in connection with DOE's recognition process may result in increased scrutiny of institutions by accrediting agencies.

Furthermore, based on continued scrutiny of the for-profit education sector, it is possible that accrediting bodies will respond by adopting additional criteria, standards and policies that are intended to monitor, regulate or limit the growth of for-profit institutions like Aspen and USU. Actions by, or relating to, an accredited institution, including any change in the legal status, form of controlling

# If we fail to obtain required DOE approval for new programs that prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation, it could materially and adversely affect our business.

Under the gainful employment regulation that went into effect on July 1, 2015, an institution may establish a new program's Title IV eligibility by updating the list of the institution's programs maintained by DOE. Significantly, an institution is prohibited from updating its list of eligible programs to include a gainful employment program, or a gainful employment program that is substantially similar to a failing or zone program that the institution voluntarily discontinued or became ineligible, that was subject to the three-year loss of eligibility until that three-year period expires. Depending on our program offerings, compliance with the GE Rule could cause delay or an inability to offer certain new programs and put our business at a competitive disadvantage. Compliance could also adversely affect our ability to timely offer programs of interest to our students and potential students and adversely affect our ability to increase our revenues. As a result, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

#### If we fail to comply with DOE's substantial misrepresentation rules, it could result in sanctions against our schools.

DOE may take action against an institution in the event of substantial misrepresentation by the institution concerning the nature of its educational programs, its financial charges or the employability of its graduates. DOE has expanded the activities that constitute a substantial misrepresentation. Under DOE regulations, an institution engages in substantial misrepresentation when the institution itself, one of its representatives, or an organization or person with which the institution has an agreement to provide educational programs, marketing, advertising, or admissions services, makes a substantial misrepresentation directly or indirectly to a student, prospective student or any member of the public, or to an accrediting agency, a state agency, or to the Secretary of Education. The regulations define misrepresentation as any false, erroneous or misleading statement, and they define a misleading statement as any statement that has the likelihood or tendency to deceive or confuse. The regulations define substantial misrepresentation as any misrepresentation on which the person to whom it was made could reasonably be expected to rely, or has reasonably relied, to the person's detriment. If DOE determines that an institution has engaged in substantial misrepresentation, DOE may revoke an institution's program participation agreement, impose limitations on an institution's participation in the Title IV Pem paal mP erticipation an uo

# The U.S. Congress continues to examine the for-profit postsecondary education sector which could result in legislation or additional DOE rulemaking that may limit or condition Title IV Program participation of proprietary schools in a manner that may materially and adversely affect our business.

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

#### **Other Risks**

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

Any of the following factors could affect the market price of our co Whd adver c,

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

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

# As a result of the limited number of shares outstanding, we believe that major financial institutions including mutual funds and large hedge funds may be reluctant to purchase shares of our common stock.

We have non-lative holow Aunthor the shares outstanding and our common stock does not normally trade actively. Our Chief Executive Officer believes, partly based upon conversations with potential investors that mutual funds and large hedge funds are unable to purchase outspanning the lack  $\delta$  Opene  $\delta$  h.  $\delta$ 

# USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we specify otherwise in an accompanying prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities by us to provide additional funds for working capital and other general corporate purposes. Any specific allocation of the net proceeds of an offering of securities will be determined at the time of such offering and will be described in the accompanying supplement to this prospectus.

#### DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

We are authorized to issue 250,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share.

#### **Common Stock**

We are authorized to issue 250,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share. The holders of common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted to a vote of shareholders, including the election of directors. There is no cumulative voting in the election of directors. In the event of our liquidation or dissolution, holders of common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities and the liquidation preferences of any outstanding shares of preferred stock. Holders of common stock have no preemptive rights and have no right to convert their common stock into any other securities and there are no redemption provisions applicable to our common stock.

The holders of common stock are entitled to any dividends that may be declared by the Board of Directors out of funds legally available for payment of dividends subject to the prior rights of holders of preferred stock and any contractual restrictions we have against the payment of dividends on common stock. We have not paid dividends on our common stock since inception and do not plan to pay dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future.

As of April 10, 2018, we had 15,131,437 shares of common stock outstanding. In addition, as of that date, there were 3,554,976 shares underlying our outstanding warrants and stock options. These numbers do not reflect conversion of our outstanding convertible debt since the number of shares issuable is, subject to a floor, based upon the future price as of each possible conversion date.

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General

# **Global Debt Securities and Book-Entry System**

If we decide to issue debt securities in the form of one or more global securities, then we would register the global securities in the name of the depository for the global securities or in the nominee of the depository, and the global securities would be delivered by the trustee to the depository for credit to the accounts of the holders of beneficial interest in the debt securities. Each global security would:

- be registered in the name of a depositary, or its nominee, that we would identify in a prospectus supplement;
- $\cdot$  be deposited with the depositary or nominee or custodian; and
- bear any **required** legends.

No global security may be exchanged in w i

#### **Conversion or Exchange Rights**

Debt securities offered hereby may be convertible into or exchangeable for shares of our common or preferred stock. The terms and conditions of such conversion or exchange will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such terms may include, among others, the following:

- the conversion or exchange price;
- the conversion or exchange period;
- · provisions regarding our ability or that of the holder to convert or exchange the debt securities;
- · events requiring adjustment to the conversion or exchange price; and
- · provisions affecting conversion or exchange in the event of our redemption of such debt securities.

#### **Covenants**

Unless otherwise indicated in a prospectus supplement, the debt securities would not have the benefit of any covenants that limit or restrict our business or operations, the pledging of our assets or the incurrence by us of indebtedness. We would describe in the applicable **prospectus** supplement any material covenants of a series of debt securities.

#### **Concerning the Trustee**

We would identify the trustee with respect to any series of debt securities in the prospectus supplement relating to the debt securities. You should note that if the trustee becomes a creditor of AGI, the indenture and the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 limit the rights of the trustee to obtain payment eewo

# CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF DELAWARE LAW AND OF OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS

# **Anti-takeover Provisions**

In general, Secti

### Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 145(a) of the DGCL, which AGI is subject to, provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joinpo

AGI carries directors and officers liability coverages designed to insure its officers and directors and those of its subsidiaries against certain liabilities incurred by them in the performance of their duties, and also providing for reimbursement in certain cases to AGI and its subsidiaries for sums paid to directors and officers as indemnification for similar liability.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to our directors, officers and controlling persons pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, AGI has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable.

### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities offered by this prospectus from time to time in one or more transactions, including without limitation:

- · through underwriters or dealers;
- · directly to purchasers;
- · in a rights offering;
- in "at the market" offerings, within the meaning of Rule 415(a)(4) of the Securities Act to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market on an exchange or otherwise;
- · through agents;
- · in block trades;
- · through a combination of any of these methods; or
- through any other method permitted by applicable law and described in a prospectus supplement.

In addition, we may issue the securities as a dividend or distribution to our existing stockholders or other security holders.

The prospectus supplement with respect to any offering of securities will include the following information:

- the terms of the offering;
- the names of any underwriters or agents;
- the name or names of any managing underwriter or underwriters;
- the purchase price or initial public offering price of the securities;
- the net proceeds from the sale of the securities;
- · any delayed delivery arrangements;
- any underwriting discounts, commissions and other items constituting underwriters' compensation;
- · any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers;
- · any commissions paid to agents; and
- any securities exchange on which the securities may be listed.

#### Sale through Underwriters or Dealers

If underwriters are used in the sale, the underwriters may resell the securities from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Underwriters may offer securities to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more firms acting as underwriters. Unless we inform you otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to certain conditions, and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the offered securities if they purchase any of them. The underwriters may change from time to time any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers.

We will specify the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents and the purchase price of the securities in a prospectus supplement relating to the securities.

In connection with the sale of the securities, underwriters may receive compensation from us or from purchasers of the securities, for whom they may act as agents, in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions. Underwriters may sell the securities to or through dealers, and these dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agents, which is not expected to exceed that customary in the types of transactions involved. Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts or commissions, under the Securities Act. The prospectus supplement will identify any underwriter or agent and will describe any compensation they receive from us.



# **Delayed Delivery Contracts**

If we so indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may authorize agents, underwriters or dealers to solicit offers from certain types of institutions to purchase securities from us at the e securitlers to sol

### LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Nason, Yeager, Gerson, White & Lioce, P.A., Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. A shareholder of this firm beneficially owns 126,481 shares of our common stock.

### EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements as of April 30, 2017 and 2016 incorporated by reference in this Prospectus have been audited by Salberg & Company, P.A., an independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon, and are incorporated by reference in this Prospectus in reliance on such reports given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

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shares



Aspen Group, Inc.

**Common Stock** 

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

# **Roth Capital Partners**

April , 2018