

FRANLIGHT®

M&A A Mixed Bag In 1H 2025

The first half of 2025 has been a tough one for M&A activity. Many thought we'd start the year with a flurry of deals but those hopes were quickly dashed by a combination of inflation and new concerns about global tariffs. Buyers and sellers that were waiting for a wave of deregulation will also have to keep waiting as the Trump administration prioritizes other issues.

Some deals are getting done however. There are still buyers for the highest quality assets across all verticals. If a company can demonstrate that it has a solid balance sheet and decent free cash flow, a robust private credit market stands at the ready to provide financing for would-be buyers.

Some sponsors are using this interim period to reinforce their existing portfolios through reinforcements and smaller bolt-in acquisitions.

LINKS

[New listings of franchisors at - Franchisors4Sale®](#)

[New publically-held franchisors at Franchisor Folio®](#)

[Fresh industry news at Franchisor Equity News®](#)

[New suppliers to franchisors at Brets-List®](#)

[New blogs at SellBuyBlog®](#)

[New private equity ownership & listings at FranVestors®](#)

Within franchising, there are some green shoots. Transaction activity picked up in the summer with deals including Thompson Street's acquisition of Bubbakoos Burritos and Bain's pick up of restaurant platform Sizzling Platter. Harvest Partners also made an acquisition in the education sector of The Learning Experience an early education franchisor with more than 430 schools in the US and the UK.

Industry analysts suggest that the second half the year could see an uptick in transactions as sponsors near the end of their investment periods and buyers and sellers get more clarity on the state of tariffs and interest rates going forward.

FRANPOST®

Latest Updates:

[Franchisors4Sale®](#) has these recent seller additions:

- Adaptive Fitness Franchisor
- Restaurant and Bar Franchisor
- AutoService Franchisor
- Early Childhood Education Franchisor
- Casual BBQ Franchisor
- Casual Dining Franchisor

[Franchisor Equity News®](#) has these recent news updates:

- Sizzling Platter Sold To Bain
- Bubbakoo's Burritos Bought By Thompson Street
- The Learning Experience Sold To Harvest Partners
- Maid Brigade Picked Up By Riverside

FROM OUR FOUNDER



Thank you for reading the winter issue of our newsletter, which is a supplement to our website www.franchisorpipeline.com. If you have a franchisor for sale – or a franchisor looking for an investor – please contact me confidentially to obtain a free and anonymous listing, or to learn more about our website.

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