



SETTLEMENT OF MODIFIED CITATION ORDER

Citation Issued To:	Citation Number:
Le Lux Beauty and Academy	2324150
3445 5th Ave.	
San Diego, CA, 92103	Total Fine Amount: \$5,000.00
Institution Code:	Order of Abatement
Unapproved	Included: Yes

Elizabeth Elias issues this modified citation in her official capacity as Deputy Bureau Chief of Enforcement at the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, California Department of Consumer Affairs (hereinafter referred to as the "Bureau").

LICENSING HISTORY

1. On or about June 26, 2023, the Bureau determined that Le Lux Beauty and Academy (hereinafter referred to as the "Institution") is not currently approved by the Bureau to operate a private postsecondary institution.

DISCIPLINE HISTORY

2. The Institution has no prior discipline history.

CITATION JURISDICTION

3. This administrative citation is issued to the Institution pursuant to California Education Code (CEC) section 94936; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5 CCR) section 75020 et seq. for the violation(s) described below.

CITATION HISTORY

4. On or about January 18, 2024, the Bureau issued Citation No. 2324150. On or about February 6, 2024, the Bureau received an appeal with a request for an informal conference and administrative hearing. The Bureau held the informal conference on February 26, 2024, and the citation was modified as a result of the informal conference. The Institution requested the Bureau move forward with the appeal for an administrative hearing;

however, later requested settlement options in lieu of the administrative hearing. As settlement of the Modified Citation No. 2324150, the Institution agrees to withdraw its request for an Administrative Hearing and agrees to a Settlement of Modified Citation No. 2324150 as follows:

CAUSE FOR CITATION & MODIFIED ASSESMENT OF FINE AND/OR ORDER OF ABATEMENT

5. The Institution is in violation of the following Bureau laws and regulations:

Violation #1: CEC section 94886 – Approval to Operate Required

Cause for Citation: On or about May 8, 2023, the Bureau initiated an investigation based on information the Bureau received which alleged that the Institution is operating without Bureau approval.

A Bureau investigation substantiated allegation(s) that the Institution is operating as a private postsecondary educational institution in California without an approval to operate granted by the Bureau or valid exemption. Bureau investigators conducted an unannounced site visit and reviewed documents, statements, websites, and advertising to substantiate the allegation(s).

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020 (b), the Institution is issued a fine of \$25,000.00.

Administrative Fine: Modified. The administrative fine was reduced from \$25,000.00 \$12,500.00. Pursuant to a settlement agreement, the modified fine amount is further reduced from \$12,500.00 to \$5,000.00 with a 5-year repayment term.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020 the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution cease to operate as a private postsecondary educational institution, unless the institution qualifies for an exemption under CEC section 94874, or until such time an approval to operate is obtained from the Bureau.

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 149, the Institution shall cease unlawful advertising and shall notify the telephone company

furnishing services to disconnect the telephone numbers contained in any unlawful advertising.

- The Institution shall discontinue recruiting and/or enrolling students and cease all instructional services and advertising in any form or type of media, including: www.le-lux.com, and any other websites not identified here that are associated with the Institution.
- The Institution shall disconnect all telephone service numbers including, but not limited to: (619) 880-1411.

Further, the Institution shall provide a roster of each student currently enrolled at the Institution. The roster must include the names of the students, their contact information (including phone number, email address, and physical address), the programs in which they are enrolled, the amount paid for the programs.

The Institution shall submit a statement of attestation they have corrected all violations and have complied with the order of abatement. The statement of attestation shall be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Further, pursuant to CEC 94917 – Enforceability of Loans:

A note, instrument, or other evidence of indebtedness relating to payment for an educational program is void and not enforceable unless, at the time of execution of the note, instrument, or other evidence of indebtedness, the institution held an approval to operate or valid out-of-state registration with the bureau.

Therefore, the Institution shall not enforce any loans pursuant to CEC 94917.

Order of Abatement: Affirmed.

COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER OF ABATEMENT

6. In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936 and 5 CCR sections 75020 and 75040, the Bureau issues the order(s) of abatement described above. Evidence of compliance with the order of abatement and acceptance of the attached payment plan agreement must be submitted to the Bureau within <u>30 days</u> from the date of issuance of this modified citation. Evidence of compliance with the order of abatement may sent by mail or email to:

- Mail: Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Attn: Discipline Unit – Aurzella Izmarai-Karimi 1747 North Market, Blvd., Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834
- Email: <u>bppe.discipline@dca.ca.gov</u>
 - In the subject line, please include the Institution name and citation number.

COMPLIANCE WITH ASSESSMENT OF FINE

7. In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936, and 5 CCR section 75020 et seq., the Bureau hereby orders this assessment of fines in the total amount of 5,000.00 for the violations described above. Payment of the fines must be made to the Bureau within the duration of the agreed upon payment plan.

Payment(s) must be sent to the Bureau by mail at:

 Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Attn: Discipline Unit – Aurzella Izmarai-Karimi 1747 North Market, Blvd., Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

8. The Institution forfeits their right to appeal by withdrawing their appeal for an administrative hearing.

COMPLIANCE WITH FINE AND/OR ORDER OR ABATEMENT DISCLOSURE

9. Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75050, payment of the fine and/or compliance with any order of abatement does not constitute an admission of the violation charged and shall be represented as satisfactory resolution of the matter for the purposes of public disclosure.

Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75050, failure to comply with this citation order, its order of abatement, and/or administrative fine by the required due date is grounds for denial or discipline of an approval to operate. Where a citation is not contested and fine is not paid, the full amount of the assessed fine shall be added to the fee for renewal of the approval to operate. An approval to operate shall not be renewed without payment of the renewal fee and fine. The Bureau may also enforce the administrative fine as if it were a money judgment pursuant to CEC section 94936.

BUREAU CONTACT INFORMATION

10. If you have any questions regarding this Citation, please contact Aurzella Izmarai-Karimi, Citation Analyst by email at <u>Aurzella.Izmarai@dca.ca.gov</u> or by phone at (916) 574-7344.

"Original Signature on File"

9/16/2024

Elizabeth Elias Deputy Bureau Chief of Enforcement Citation Date of Issuance

Enclosures:

- > Payment of Fine
- > Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail