

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY · GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNORDEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS · BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 225, Sacramento, CA 95834P (916) 574-8900 | Toll-Free (888) 370-7589 | www.bppe.ca.gov



AFFIRMED CITATION ORDER

Citation Issued To: The Academy for Professional Development 3600 Sisk Road Suite 3B Office 6 Modesto, CA 95356 Institution Code: 87449530	Citation Number: 24250143
	Total Fine Amount: \$9,503.00
	Order of Abatement Included: Yes

Elizabeth Elias issues this affirmed 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 December 5, 2022, the Bureau renewed an Approval to Operate a Private Postsecondary Institution, Institution Code 87449530, to The Academy for Professional Development, hereinafter referred to as the "Institution". This Approval to Operate will expire on or about December 5, 2027, unless renewed.

DISCIPLINE HISTORY

- 2. The Institution has the following discipline history:
 - <u>Citation No. 2021025, issued on July 22, 2020</u>
 - Evidence of compliance; citation satisfied September 23, 2020
 - <u>Modified Settlement of Citation No. 2324002, issued on June 20,</u> 2024
 - Evidence of compliance; citation satisfied June 25, 2024

CITATION JURISDICTION

3. This administrative citation is issued to the Institution pursuant to the statutory provisions of 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 13, 2025, the Bureau issued Citation No. 24250143. On or about February 6, 2025, the Bureau received an appeal with a request for an informal conference. The informal conference was held on March 12, 2025. No new substantive facts were presented during the informal conference; therefore, the Bureau affirms Citation No. 24250143.

CAUSE FOR CITATION & ASSESSMENT OF FINE AND/OR ORDER OF ABATEMENT

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

Violation #1:

CEC section 94902(a) – General Enrollment Requirements and 5 CCR section 71920(b)(3) – Student Records

Cause for Citation: On or about April 25, 2024, the Bureau conducted an announced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff reviewed nine electronic student files and found that two of the student files reviewed failed to contain executed enrollment agreements.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$5,000.00.

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

The Bureau orders the Institution to ensure all student records follow the law pursuant to CEC section 94902 and 5 CCR section 71920. The Institution must submit a statement of attestation that they have corrected the violation and will ensure that all student records contain signed enrollment agreements. The statement of attestation must be signed and dated by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #2:

CEC section 94902(b)(1) and (b)(3) – General Enrollment Requirements and CEC section 94912 – Signature, Initials Required

Cause for Citation: On or about April 25, 2024, the Bureau conducted an announced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff reviewed nine electronic student files and determined that all nine student files reviewed failed to contain a School Performance Fact Sheet (SPFS) signed and dated by the Institution and student.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class B" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$1,001.00.

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

The Bureau orders the Institution to ensure all student records follow the law pursuant to CEC sections 94902 and 94912. The Institution must submit a statement of attestation that they have corrected the violation and will ensure that all student records contain signed and dated SPFS. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #3:

5 CCR section 71920(b)(1)(A) – Student Records and 5 CCR section 71930(a) – Maintenance of Records

Cause for Citation: On or about April 25, 2024, the Bureau conducted an announced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff reviewed nine electronic student files and found that two of three withdrawn student files reviewed failed to include proof of qualifications for admission to the institution establishing the student's ability to do college level work, such as a high school diploma or GED.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class B" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$1,001.00.

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

The Bureau orders the Institution to submit a statement of attestation that they will maintain required student records pursuant to 5 CCR sections 71920 and 71930. The statement of attestation must be signed and dated by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #4:

CEC section 94897(u) – Prohibited Business Practices

Cause for Citation: On or about April 25, 2024, the Bureau conducted an announced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5 (a). Bureau staff found that the Institution failed to adhere to its own admissions policy requiring either a high school diploma or GED for admission.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$2,501.00.

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

The Bureau orders the Institution to submit a statement of attestation that they have corrected the violation and will ensure that the institution adheres to its stated policies pursuant to CEC section 94897(u). The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

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 must be submitted to the Bureau within <u>30 days</u> from the date of issuance of this affirmed 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 – Tessa Barron 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 \$9,503.00 for the violations described above. Payment of the fines must be made to the Bureau within <u>30 days</u> from the date of issuance of this affirmed citation. To assist the Bureau in processing the payment of fines, please submit the enclosed Payment of Fine – Waiver of Appeal form.

Payment must be sent to the Bureau by mail at:

 Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Attn: Discipline Unit – Tessa Barron 1747 North Market, Blvd., Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

8. Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75040(d), the affirmed decision is considered final, unless a request for a hearing was filed timely.

If the Institution requested a hearing and no longer chooses to proceed with the hearing, the Institution may request to withdraw the request for a hearing. If the Institution has not requested to withdraw the hearing, a hearing will be set to hear the matter.

COMPLIANCE WITH FINE AND/OR ORDER OR ABATEMENT DISCLOSURE

9. Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75050, payment of 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 Tessa Barron, Citation Analyst by email at <u>Tessa.Barron@dca.ca.gov</u> or by phone at (916) 574-7791.

"Original Signature on File"

3/20/2025

Elizabeth Elias Deputy Bureau Chief of Enforcement Citation Date of Issuance

Enclosures:

- ➢ Payment of Fine
- > Withdrawal of Request for Administration Hearing
- > Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail