



ORDER SUSPENDING APPROVAL TO OPERATE DEGREE GRANTING PROGRAMS

To: American Vision University
155. N. Riverview Dr.
Anaheim Hills, CA 92808

INSTITUTION CODE: 72482364

ORDER NUMBER: BPPE24-0077

ORDER MAILING DATE: February 21, 2024

ORDER EFFECTIVE DATE: February 26, 2024

DUE DATE TO REQUEST INFORMAL OFFICE CONFERENCE: March 27, 2024

Elizabeth Elias, as the designee of the Bureau Chief of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau), hereby issues this Order Suspending Approval to Operate Degree Granting Programs of the above institution (Order).

Pursuant to California Education Code (CEC) section 94885.5 and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5 CCR) section 71410, this Order is hereby issued to Olix Global, Inc., owner of American Vision University (Institution), located at 155 N. Riverview Dr., Anaheim Hills, CA 92808 for the violations described below.

Timeline of Relevant Events

On April 22, 2016, the Bureau received the initial accreditation plan from the Institution that indicated it would seek accreditation with the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC).

On November 27, 2018, the Institution, an unaccredited degree granting institution, received a provisional approval to operate two (2) degree programs under Institution Code 72482364. The provisional approval was granted in accordance with CEC section 94885.5. The provisional approval letter issued by the Bureau indicated that pre-accreditation must be achieved by November 26, 2020, and full accreditation must be achieved by November 27, 2023.

On June 30, 2020, the Bureau mailed the Institution a Visiting Committee empanelment letter to review the Institution's progress towards accreditation.

On July 1, 2020, the Bureau received an updated Accreditation Benchmark Table from the Institution that confirmed it was still in the accreditation process.

On September 21, 2020, the Bureau provided the Institution a copy of the Visiting Committee Report which states the Institution is unable to meet its stated accreditation goals in the time allotted and provided suggested corrections to achieve accreditation.

On November 2, 2020, the Institution notified the Bureau by email that it achieved pre-accreditation status.

On December 14, 2022, and September 27, 2023, the Bureau mailed the Institution a letter requesting further information regarding the Institution's ongoing accreditation status.

On October 27, 2023, the Institution requested an extension of time to achieve accreditation and notified the Bureau that it withdrew its application with DEAC.

On November 27, 2023, the Institution provided the Bureau with an explanation of why it withdrew its application with DEAC and progress made towards a new application with DEAC.

On January 18, 2024, the Bureau notified the Institution in writing that the request for extension was denied because the Institution failed to satisfy CEC section 94885.5(d). The Bureau also notified the Institution that the time to achieve accreditation had expired on November 27, 2023.

Basis for Suspension

Pursuant to CEC section 94885.5(b)(3), the Institution was required to submit evidence of having achieved accreditation by November 27, 2023. As defined by CEC section 94813 "Accredited" means "an institution is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education."

On October 27, 2023, the Institution notified the Bureau via email that it withdrew its application from the DEAC but intends to resume pursuing accreditation with DEAC.

On January 18, 2024, the Bureau notified the Institution that its degree granting programs were automatically suspended as of November 27, 2023, because it withdrew its application with DEAC, and failed to achieve accreditation by the November 27, 2023 deadline. The Institution did not submit sufficient evidence to demonstrate that it was making strong progress toward obtaining accreditation with an accrediting agency, did not show active steps the Institution is taking to comply with CEC section 94885.5, and failed to provide documentation from an accrediting agency demonstrating the Institution's likely ability to meet the requirements of CEC section 94885.5.

ORDER

In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94885.5 and 5 CCR sections 71410 and 74250, the Bureau hereby orders the following:

The provisional approval to operate issued to American Vision University is automatically suspended as to its degree programs. The Bureau will not lift the suspension until the Institution complies with the requirements of CEC section 94885.5 by submitting evidence to the Bureau of having achieved accreditation.

1. You must immediately **cease enrolling new students** in all of your degree programs.

2. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Order, you must submit a **degree program closure plan** to the Bureau with all of the following:
 - a. The date the Institution stopped enrolling new students in the degree program.
 - b. A list of contact information for all students currently enrolled in each degree program.
 - c. A **teach-out plan** with information on the arrangements you have made for students to complete their educational programs at another institution. **The Institution shall not teach-out its own students.** The teach-out plan must: (1) provide the name and location of the institution(s) providing the teach-out; (2) include a plan for the disposition of student records per CEC section 94927.5; (3) be compliant with the refund provisions of CEC section 94927; and (4) include a copy of the notification to be provided to students identified in item #4 below.
3. You must notify, in writing, all currently enrolled students within five (5) business days of the effective date of this Order of the following:
 - a. That the Institution has received a notice of suspension from the Bureau and may no longer offer degree programs.
 - b. The teach-out plan, which shall provide, at minimum, the following information: (1) the name and location of the institution(s) that is providing the teach-out, (2) the date upon which instruction at the teach-out institution(s) will begin, (3) how and when payments will be made to the new institution and any relevant financial information, and (4) a contact person at the new institution(s).
 - c. That the student has a right to choose not to participate in the teach-out, and instead seek a refund for any classes the student is currently enrolled in or has not yet completed.
 - d. The Institution must submit a copy of the notification to students to the Bureau within ten (10) business days of the effective date of this Order.
4. Any student may seek a refund on a pro rata basis if the Bureau determines that the school has made provision for students enrolled at the time of default to complete a comparable educational program at another institution at no additional charge to the students beyond the amount of the total charges in the original enrollment agreement. If the Institution does not make that provision, a total refund of all institutional charges shall be made to students. The Institution must provide refunds within 45 days of the request by a student.
5. Failure of the Institution to comply with the requirements of this Order will be considered a violation and subject to action by the Bureau.

APPEAL OF ORDER

You may request an appeal of this Order before the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs, or his or her designee. (5 CCR section 71410.)

This suspension is automatic per CEC section 94885.5(c). The Institution shall not operate its degree program during any appeal.

If you wish to appeal this Order, you must do so within 30 days from the effective date of the Order. *Unless you sign a written request for an appeal and deliver it to the Bureau within 30 days from the effective date of the Order, you will be deemed to have waived your right to appeal this matter to the Department of Consumer Affairs.*

Upon timely receipt of your request for an appeal, an informal conference will be arranged within 30 days, or as extended at your request or by the Bureau for good cause. Upon request and approval, the person approved to operate the Institution and/or representative may participate in the informal conference.

Please submit your request to:

Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
Attn: Nicole Pedersen
1747 N. Market Blvd., Ste. 225
Sacramento, CA 95834

Failure by an Institution to comply with the Order above may result in further enforcement action. The Bureau will promptly take all appropriate action to enforce this Order.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding this Order or can verify that you submitted evidence to the Bureau of accreditation candidacy or pre-accreditation, please contact Nicole Pedersen, Enforcement Analyst, at 916-232-0510 or Nicole.Pedersen@dca.ca.gov.

“Original Signature on File”

February 21, 2024

Elizabeth Elias
Enforcement Chief

Date

Enclosures

- Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail