



Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
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CITATION: ASSESSMENT OF FINE AND ORDER OF ABATEMENT

To: Columbia International College, Inc., Owner
Columbia International College
6303 Owensmouth Avenue, 10th Floor, Suite 996
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

INSTITUTION CODE: 42058873

CITATION NUMBER: 2021201

CITATION ISSUANCE/SERVICE DATE: March 4, 2021

DUE DATE: April 3, 2021

FINE AMOUNT: \$ 50,000.00

ORDER OF ABATEMENT INCLUDED: Yes

Christina Villanueva issues this Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement (Citation) in her official capacity as Discipline Manager of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) of the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

CITATION

A Citation is hereby issued to Columbia International College, Inc., Owner of Columbia International College. (Institution) located at 6303 Owensmouth Avenue, 10th Floor, Suite 996, Woodland Hills, CA 91367, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9; California Education Code (CEC) sections 94936 and 94932; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5, CCR) section 75020 for the violations described below.

BACKGROUND

On December 12, 2019, the Bureau issued Citation Number 1920157 for failing to submit Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) Assessment Reporting forms and the 2017 Annual Report, as well as for failing to pay the annual fee for calendar year 2019. As of March 4, 2021, the citation remains currently outstanding.

On August 7, 2020, the Bureau issued an Order Suspending Approval to Operate Degree Granting Programs No. 1006207 to the Institution with an effective date of August 12, 2020. On October 7, 2020, and November 17, 2020, Bureau staff reviewed the Institution's website and found that the Institution was still advertising its degree programs in violation of 5, CCR Section 74250(d).

Additionally, on September 17, 2020, the Bureau issued Citation Number 2021085 for failing to submit STRF Assessment Reporting forms and for failing to allow the Bureau to conduct an Unannounced Compliance Inspection. As of March 4, 2021, the citation is remains outstanding.

Lastly, all institutions are required to pay the annual fee within 30 days of the date on which the Institution originally receives its approval to operate and each year thereafter on the anniversary of the date of the original approval. An institution shall pay its annual fee in addition to any other applicable fees.

Pursuant to CEC section 94930.5 (g), Effective July 1, 2018, the annual fee for each campus described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) shall be in an amount equal to 0.55 percent of that campus' total gross revenue derived from students in California, but not to be less than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) and not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) for each campus.

As of March 4, 2021, the Bureau has not received the annual fee nor the late payment penalty for the calendar year 2020 from the Institution.

VIOLATION

#	Below you will find the California Education Code (CEC) and/or Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5, CCR code) section(s) of law you are charged with violating.
1.	<p><u>Violation:</u> CEC Section 94868. To Offer to the Public <i>"To offer to the public" means to advertise, publicize, solicit, or recruit."</i></p> <p>CEC Section 94897 (i)(3) Prohibited Business Practices <i>"An institution shall not do any of the following:</i> <i>(i) Use a name in any manner improperly implying any of the following:</i> <i>(3) The institution grants degrees, if the institution does not grant degrees."</i></p> <p>5, CCR Section 74250 (d)- Unaccredited Degree-Granting Institutions That Are Automatically Suspended <i>"(d) Failure of any institution to comply with the requirements of this section will be considered a violation and subject to action by the Bureau."</i></p> <p style="color: red;">On August 7, 2020, the Bureau issued an Order Suspending Approval to Operate Degree Granting Programs Order No. 1006207 (Order), to the Institution with an effective date of August 12, 2020.</p> <p style="color: red;">On September 21, 2020, Bureau staff informed the Institution via email that the Institution may not continue or offer degree programs to the public and to remove all degree program advertising from the marketplace. Additionally, Bureau staff requested that the Institution reply to the email to indicate their understanding of the message. On September 22, 2020, the Institution replied to the email stating that, "We will do accordingly."</p> <p style="color: red;">On October 7, 2020, and November 17, 2020, Bureau staff reviewed the Institution's website and found that the Institution was still advertising and offering its suspended degree programs.</p> <p style="color: red;">As of March 4, 2021, the Institution continues to advertise and offer the suspended degree programs.</p> <p><u>Order of Abatement:</u> The Bureau orders the Institution to abide by the Suspension Order issued on August 7, 2020 and to cease advertising and offering the suspended degree programs. The Institution shall submit documentation and information as outlined in the Order Suspending the Degree programs.</p> <p><u>Assessment of Fine</u> The fine for this violation is <u>\$50,000.00</u></p>

<p>2. Violation: 5, CCR Section 74006(a) and (b) - Annual Fee <i>"(a) An institution's annual fee is due within 30 days of the date on which the institution originally receives its approval to operate and each year thereafter on the anniversary of the date of the original approval.</i> <i>(b) An institution shall pay its annual fee in addition to any other applicable fees."</i></p> <p>CEC Section 94930.5 (g) - Fee Schedule <i>"Effective July 1, 2018, the annual fee for each campus described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) shall be in an amount equal to 0.55 percent of that campus' total gross revenue derived from students in California, but not to be less than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) and not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) for each campus."</i></p> <p>CEC Section 94931(b) - Late Payment <i>"(b) A fee that is not paid on or before the 90th calendar day after the due date for the payment of the fee shall be subject to 35 percent late payment penalty fee."</i></p> <p><u>2020 Annual and Late Payment Penalty Fee</u> The Institution has failed to pay its annual fee and late payment penalty fee for the calendar year 2020.</p> <p>On September 1, 2020, the Institution was notified (Invoice # 900352202) via mail at 6303 Owensmouth Avenue 10th Floor, Woodland Hills, CA 91367, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2020 was due on October 1, 2020.</p> <p>On November 16, 2020, the 1st Delinquency Notice (Invoice # 900353963) was sent via mail at 5023 N. Parkway Calabasas, Calabasas, CA, 91302, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2020 was due on October 1, 2020.</p> <p>On January 15, 2021, the 2nd Delinquency Notice (Invoice # 900353963) was sent via mail at 5023 N. Parkway Calabasas, Calabasas, CA, 91302, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2020 was due on October 1, 2020.</p> <p>As of March 4, 2021, the Bureau has not received the annual fee and the late payment penalty for the calendar year 2020 from the Institution.</p> <p><u>Order of Abatement:</u> The Bureau orders the Institution to submit its annual fees for calendar year 2020 in accordance with 5, CCR section 74006(a)(b) and CEC section 94930.5(g). In addition, the Institution must pay all late payment penalty fees.</p> <p><u>Assessment of Fine</u> The fine for this violation is \$00.00</p>
<p>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$50,000.00</p>

ASSESSMENT OF A FINE

In accordance with CEC section 94936; and 5, CCR sections 75020 and 75030, the Bureau hereby orders this assessment of fine in the amount of **\$50,000.00** for the violations described above.

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Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement
Columbia International College, Inc. Owner of
Columbia International College
Institution Code: 42058873

Payment must be made, to the Bureau, within 30 days from the date of service of the Citation.

COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER OF ABATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936 and 5, CCR section 75020 the Bureau hereby issues the order(s) of abatement described above. **Evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement must be submitted, to the Bureau, within 30 days from the date of service of the Citation.**

APPEAL OF CITATION

You have the right to contest this Citation through an informal conference with the Bureau; and/or through an administrative hearing in accordance with Chapter 5 (Commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

If you wish to contest this Citation, you must submit the 'Notice of Appeal of Citation – Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing' form (enclosed) within 30 days from the date of service of the Citation. *If you do not request an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing within 30 days from the service of the Citation, you will not be able to request one at a later time.*

Unless a written request for an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing is signed by you and delivered to the Bureau by **April 3, 2021**, you will be deemed to have waived or forfeited your right to appeal this matter.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION

If you do not request an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing, this Citation shall become effective on **March 4, 2021**. Payment of the administrative fine and evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement shall be due by **April 3, 2021**. Your payment of the administrative fine shall not constitute an admission of the violation(s) charged.

If a hearing is requested, you will not be required to comply with this Citation until 30 days after a final order is entered against you.

Payment of the administrative fine and/or written request for appeal must be mailed to:

Nicole Mitchell, Discipline Citation Program
Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 225
Sacramento, CA 95834

Failure for an applicant or institution to abate the violation(s) listed above or to pay the administrative fine within the time allowed may result in denial of an application for an approval or renewal to operate; disciplinary action, and/or collection action. The Bureau will promptly take all appropriate action to enforce this Citation and recover the civil penalties prescribed therein or found to be due after a hearing.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding this Citation, or desire further information, please contact Nicole Mitchell, Citation Analyst, at Nicole.Mitchell@dca.ca.gov.

“Original signature on file”

“3/4/2021”

Christina Villanueva
Discipline Manager

Date

Enclosures

- Applicable Laws Violated
- Statement of Rights: Appeal Process Information Sheet
- Notice of Appeal of Citation: Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing
- Payment of Fine – Waiver of Appeal
- Declaration of Service by Certified and First- Class Mail