



**Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education**  
1747 N. Market Blvd. Ste 225 Sacramento, CA 95834  
P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818  
P (916) 574-8900 F (916) 263-1897 [www.bppe.ca.gov](http://www.bppe.ca.gov)



**APPEAL OF CITATION INFORMAL CONFERENCE**  
**DECISION: CITATION MODIFIED**

June 10, 2020

Santa Monica Montessori Institute, Incorporated, Owner  
Santa Monica Montessori Institute, Inc.  
1909 Colorado Avenue  
Santa Monica, CA 90404

<b>Date of Issuance</b>	<b>Citation Number</b>	<b>Institution Code</b>
June 10, 2020	1920207	1906311

On May 14, 2020, an informal telephone conference was held in the matter of Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement No. 1920207 (Citation) against Santa Monica Montessori Institute, Incorporated, Owner of Santa Monica Montessori Institute, Inc. (Institution). In attendance were Leeza Rifredi, Deputy Bureau Chief, Pamela Crisman, Owner and Joshua Driskell, Attorney.

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code, section 125.9; California Education Code, section 94936; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, section 75020 and section 75040, the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) renders the following decision relative to your appeal of the Citation No. 1920207.

It is the decision of the Deputy Bureau Chief that on May 14, 2020, Citation No. 1920207 is modified and makes the following change(s):

**VIOLATION CODE SECTIONS**

<b>#</b>	
1.	<p><b>5, CCR Section 74110 (a-d) – Annual Report</b></p> <p><i>“(a) The annual report required by section 94934 of the Code shall include the information required by section 94929.5 and 94934 for all educational programs offered in the prior calendar year. (b) In addition to the information required by section 94934 and this section provided under penalty of perjury, the institution shall have annual financial statements prepared for the institution’s prior fiscal year and signed under penalty of perjury, and shall submit a hard copy under separate cover of such statements in conjunction with its annual report. The form, content and mode of preparation of financial statements shall comply with Section 74115 of this Division. The Bureau may request that the institution immediately make available for inspection to a representative of the Bureau, these financial statements at the offices of the institution. (c) An institution shall file its annual report by December 1st. The Bureau may extend the period for filing if the institution demonstrates evidence of substantial need but in no case longer than 60 days. The institution shall not change the date of its filing its annual report because of a change in the fiscal year without the Bureau’s approval. (d) The annual report shall be electronically filed by submitting the information required by section 94934 of the Code and this section via the online form provided on the Bureau’s website, electronically attaching, as directed, the School Performance Fact Sheet, the enrollment agreement, and the school catalog”.</i></p>

**CEC Section 94934(a)(1-9) - Annual Report**

*“(a) As part of the compliance program, an institution shall submit an annual report to the bureau, under penalty of perjury, signed by a responsible corporate officer, by July 1 of each year, or another date designated by the bureau, and it shall include the following information for educational programs offered in the reporting period:*

*(1) The total number of students enrolled by level of degree or for a diploma.*

*(2) The number of degrees, by level, and diplomas awarded.*

*(3) The degree levels and diplomas offered.*

*(4) The Student Performance Fact Sheet, as required pursuant to Section 94910.*

*(5) The school catalog, as required pursuant to Section 94909.*

*(6) The total charges for each educational program by period of attendance.*

*(7) A statement indicating whether the institution is, or is not, current in remitting Student Tuition Recovery Fund assessments.*

*(8) A statement indicating whether an accrediting agency has taken any final disciplinary action against the institution.*

*(9) Additional information deemed by the bureau to be reasonably required to ascertain compliance with this chapter”.*

**As of November 14, 2019, the Bureau has not received an Annual Report for the year 2017 from the Institution.**

**Order of Abatement:**

The Bureau orders the Institution to submit its Annual Report in accordance with 5, CCR section 74110 (a-d) and CEC section 94934(a)(1-9). The Institution shall submit the following:

**2017 Annual Report**

- Complete and submit the 2017 Annual Report via the Bureau’s Online Annual Report Submission Portal website at [https://bppe.ca.gov/annual\\_report/](https://bppe.ca.gov/annual_report/).
- A hard copy of the financial statements for year-end 2017 must be submitted via regular mail to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95833.

**Reason for modification:** New substantive facts were presented at the conference. The Order of Abatement has been satisfied.

**Assessment of Fine**

The fine for this violation is \$5,000.00

**The administrative fine for this violation has been modified from \$5,000.00 to \$500.00.**

PENALTY – ASSESSMENT OF A FINE

**Payment of the administrative fine is due within 30 days from the date of this decision.** Please complete the Payment of Fine form. Payment must be made to the Bureau by check, or money order. Please include the citation number on the payment of the fine assessment. Payment of the administrative fine shall not constitute an admission of the violation(s) charged and shall be represented as satisfactory resolution of the matter for purposes of public disclosure. Payments may be mailed to:

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

APPEAL OF CITATION

You *do not* have the right to request another Informal Conference to appeal this modified Citation. If you did not initially request an Administrative Hearing within 30 days from when the original citation was issued, you can no longer request one.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION AND FINE ASSESSMENT

This modified Citation is effective on **June 10, 2020**. The payment is due by **July 10, 2020**.

Failure to pay the administrative fine within the time allowed is grounds for denial of an application for an approval to operate or discipline. The Bureau will promptly take all appropriate action to enforce the Modified 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 decision or desire further information, please contact Cheryl Lardizabal, Citation Analyst, at (916) 574-8968 or at Cheryl.Lardizabal@dca.ca.gov.

“Original signature on file”

“6/10/2020”

---

**Christina Villanueva**  
**Discipline Manager**

---

**Date**

Enclosures

- Payment of Fine – Waiver of Appeal Rights
- Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail