



**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)



## **CITATION: ASSESSMENT OF FINE AND ORDER OF ABATEMENT**

To: Heritage Enterprises, Inc., Owner  
Valley College of Medical Careers  
8399 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Ste. 200  
West Hills, CA 91304

**INSTITUTION CODE: 1921141**

**CITATION NUMBER: 1920268**

**CITATION ISSUANCE/SERVICE DATE: April 1, 2020**

**DUE DATE: May 1, 2020**

**FINE AMOUNT: \$ 5,050.00**

**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 Heritage Enterprises, Inc., Owner of Valley College Medical Careers (Institution) located at 8399 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Ste. 200, West Hills, CA 91304, 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 July 9, 2019, Bureau staff conducted an unannounced Compliance inspection at the Institution. Bureau staff requested the Institution staff to provide the supporting documentation for the data reported on the 2016/2017 School Performance Fact Sheet (SPFS). Institution staff stated they did not maintain an electronic copy of the documentation and were unable to provide it to Bureau staff.

Furthermore, all institutions are required to submit a Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) Assessment Reporting Form to the Bureau no later than the last day of the month following the close of the quarter.

Pursuant to CEC section 94923(a) The Student Tuition Recovery Fund relieves or mitigates economic loss suffered by a student while enrolled in an institution not exempt from this article pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with section 94874), who, at the time of his or her enrollment, was a California resident or was enrolled in a California residency program, prepaid tuition, and suffered economic loss.

The Bureau sends notifications/reminders to all approved institutions 30 prior to close of each quarter.

As of April 1, 2020, the Institution has not submitted the STRF Assessment Reporting Form for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2019.

In addition, all institutions are required to pay 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 5, CCR section 74006(a) and (b) and CEC section 94930.5 (d)(1)(A) An Institution shall submit to the Bureau an annual fee for each campus designated by the Institution as a main campus location in California, in an amount equal to 0.45 percent of the 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).

As of April 1, 2020, the Bureau has not received the annual fee and late payment penalty fee for the 2019 calendar year from the Institution.

VIOLATION(S)

#	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><b>Violation:</b>  <b>5, CCR Section 74112(m)(1-9) – Uniform Data – Annual Report, Performance Fact Sheet</b>  <i>“(m) Documentation supporting all data reported shall be maintained electronically by the institution for at least five years from the last time the data was included in either an Annual Report or a Performance Fact Sheet, and shall be provided to the Bureau upon request; and the data for each program shall include at a minimum:</i>  <i>(1) the list of job classifications determined to be considered gainful employment for the educational program;</i>  <i>(2) student name(s), address, phone number, email address, program completed, program start date, scheduled completion date, and actual completion dates;</i>  <i>(3) graduate’s place of employment and position, date employment began, date employment ended, if applicable, actual salary, hours per week, and the date employment was verified;</i>  <i>(4) for each employer from which employment or salary information was obtained, the employer name(s) address and general phone number, the contact person at the employer and the contact’s phone number and email address, and all written communication with employer verifying student’s employment or salary;</i>  <i>(5) for students who become self-employed, all documentation necessary to demonstrate self-employment;</i>  <i>(6) a description of all attempts to contact each student. or employer;</i>  <i>(7) any and all documentation used to provide data regarding license examinations and examination results;</i>  <i>(8) for each student determined to be unavailable for graduation or unavailable for employment, the identity of the student, the type of unavailability, the dates of unavailability, and the documentation of the unavailability; and</i>  <i>(9) the name, email address, phone number, and position or title of the institution's representative who was primarily responsible for obtaining the students' completion, placement, licensing, and salary and</i></p>

wage data, the date that the information was gathered, and copies of notes, letters or emails through which the information was requested and gathered.”

The Institution failed to provide supporting documentation to substantiate the data reported on the 2016/2017 SPFS. Institution staff stated that the Institution’s documentation to substantiate the data is not maintained electronically, therefore they were unable to provide copies for Bureau staff to review.

**Order of Abatement:**

The Bureau orders the Institution to submit the supporting documentation to substantiate the data reported for the 2016/2017 SPFS. In addition, the Bureau orders the Institution to submit an established policy, or procedure, of how the Institution will maintain future compliance per 5, CCR section 74112(m)(1-9).

**Assessment of Fine**

The fine for this violation is \$5,000.00

2.

**Violation:**

**5, CCR Section 76130 (a-e)- Collection and Submission of Assessments**

*“(a) A qualifying institution shall collect the assessment from each student in an educational program at the time it collects the first payment from or on behalf of the student at or after enrollment. The assessment shall be collected for the entire period of enrollment, regardless of whether the student pays the institutional charges in increments.*

*(b) A qualifying institution shall complete the STRF Assessment Reporting Form (Rev. 2/10) and remit it with the STRF assessments collected from students to be received by the Bureau no later than the last day of the month following the close of the quarter as follows:*

*(1) April 30 for the first quarter,*

*(2) July 31 for the second quarter,*

*(3) October 31 for the third quarter, and*

*(4) January 31 for the fourth quarter. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or State or federal holiday, the due date shall be extended to the next regular business day for the Bureau.*

*If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or State or federal holiday, the due date shall be extended to the next regular business day for the Bureau.*

*(c) The STRF Assessment Reporting Form shall contain the following information:*

*(1) Total number of students who signed enrollment agreements for educational programs during the reporting period; and*

*(2) Total number of students eligible for STRF who signed enrollment agreements for educational programs during the reporting period; and*

*(3) The total number of students who signed their enrollment agreement during the reporting period, were eligible for STRF, and who made their first payment during the reporting period; and*

*(4) The total number of students who signed their enrollment agreement in a previous reporting period, were eligible for STRF, and who made their first payment during the current reporting period; and*

*(5) Total amount of institutional charges after rounding each student's institutional charges to the nearest \$1,000, for all eligible STRF students whose STRF assessment was collected in the reporting period; and*

*(6) Current contact telephone number of the person preparing the form; and*

*(7) A declaration dated and signed under penalty of perjury by the person preparing the form that the form and any attachments are true and correct.*

*(d) In the event of a school closure, any collected assessments shall be remitted to the Bureau within seven days following the cessation of instruction.*

*(e) Submission of all prior reports and assessments required by this section is a condition of renewal.”*

The Institution has failed to submit STRF Assessment Reporting Form for the following quarter:

- Fourth Quarter of 2019.

On December 19, 2019, the Institution was notified via mail at 8399 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Suite 200, West Hills, CA 91304, that the STRF Assessment Reporting Form for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2019 was due. As of April 1, 2020, the Bureau has not received the STRF Assessment Reporting Form from the Institution.

**Order of Abatement:**

The Bureau orders that the Institution submit the delinquent STRF Assessment Reporting Form with the STRF Assessments collected from students for the quarter listed above. The information provided shall comply with “Record Keeping Requirements” Pursuant to 5, CCR section 76140.

**Assessment of Fine**

The fine for this violation is \$50.00

3.

**Violation:**

**5, CCR Section 74006(a) and (b) - Annual Fee**

*“(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. (b) An institution shall pay its annual fee in addition to any other applicable fees.*

**CEC Section 94930.5 (d)(1)(A) - Fee Schedule**

*(d) (1) In addition to any fees paid to the bureau pursuant to subdivisions (a) to (c), inclusive, each institution that is approved to operate pursuant to this chapter shall remit both of the following:*

*(A) An annual fee for each campus designated by the institution as a main campus location in California, in an amount equal to 0.45 percent of the 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).”*

**CEC Section 94931(a) - Late Payment**

*“(a) A fee that is not paid on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> calendar day after the due date for the payment of the fee shall be subject to 25 percent late payment penalty fee.”*

The Institution has failed to pay its annual fee and late payment penalty fee for calendar year 2019.

On January 2, 2020, the Institution was notified (Invoice# 900347442) via mail at 8399 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Suite 200, West Hills, CA 91304, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2019 was due on February 1, 2020.

On March 18, 2020, the Institution was notified via mail at 8399 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Suite 200, West Hills, CA 91304, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2019 was due on February 1, 2020.

As of April 1, 2020, the Bureau has not received the annual fee or late payment penalty fee from the Institution.

	<p><b><u>Order of Abatement:</u></b> The Bureau orders the Institution to submit its annual fees for calendar year 2019 in accordance with 5, CCR section 74006(a)(b) and CEC section 94930.5(d)(1)(A) and (B). In addition, the Institution must pay all late payment penalty fees.</p> <p><b><u>Assessment of Fine</u></b> The fine for this violation is <u>\$00.00</u></p>
	<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$5,050.00</b>

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 **\$5,050.00** for the violations described above. **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 **May 1, 2020**, 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 **April 1, 2020**. Payment of the administrative fine and evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement shall be due by **May 1, 2020**. 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:**

Gabriella Perez, 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 Gabriella Perez, Citation Analyst, at (916) 574-8969 or Gabriella.Perez@dca.ca.gov.

“Original signature on file”

“4/1/2020”

\_\_\_\_\_  
**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