

# DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION 1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 225, Sacramento, CA 95834 • (916) 574-8900 | Toll-Free (888) 370-7589 | www.bppe.ca.gov



# Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Notice of Advisory Committee WebEx Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 18, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

**NOTE**: Pursuant to the provisions of Government Code section 11133, neither a public location nor teleconference locations are provided.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR OBSERVATION:

WEBCAST: Webcast of the meeting will be available at 9:30 a.m. on August 18, 2022, and viewable at <a href="https://thedcapage.blog/webcasts">https://thedcapage.blog/webcasts</a>.

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The Advisory Committee Meeting is open to the public. Members of the public may, but are not obligated to, provide their names or personal information as a condition of observing or participating in the meeting. When signing into the WebEx platform, participants may be asked for their name and email address. Participants who choose not to provide their names will need to provide a unique identifier such as their initials or another alternative, so that the meeting moderator can identify individuals who wish to make public comment; participants who choose not to provide their email address may utilize a fictitious email address like in the following sample format: XXXXX@mailinator.com.

The Advisory Committee Meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Richie Barnard at (279) 666-5875, by emailing <a href="mailto:richie.barnard@dca.ca.gov">richie.barnard@dca.ca.gov</a> or sending a written request to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818. Providing the request at least five business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

<u>Discussion and action may be taken on any item on the agenda.</u> The time and order of agenda items are subject to change at the discretion of the Chair. In the event a quorum of the committee is unable to attend the meeting, or the committee is unable to maintain a quorum once the meeting is called to order, the members present may, at the chair's discretion, continue to discuss items from the agenda and make recommendations to the full committee at a future meeting.

Government Code section 11125.7 provides the opportunity for the public to address each agenda item during discussion or consideration by the committee or prior to the committee taking any action on said item. Members of the public will be provided appropriate opportunities to comment on any issues before the Advisory Committee, but the chair may, at her discretion, apportion available time among those who wish to speak. If public comment is not specifically requested, members of the public should feel free to request an opportunity to comment. Individuals may present to the Advisory Committee on items not on the agenda, however, the committee can neither discuss nor take official action on these items at the time of the same meeting (Government Code sections 11125, 11125.7(a)). The Advisory Committee plans to webcast this meeting at <a href="https://thedcapage.blog/webcasts">https://thedcapage.blog/webcasts</a>. Webcast availability cannot, however, be guaranteed due to limited resources or technical difficulties. The meeting will not be cancelled if webcast is not available. Using the WebEx link will allow for participation and observation with closed captioning.

# **Agenda**

The public may provide appropriate comment on any issue before the Advisory Committee at the time the item is discussed. If public comment is not specifically requested, members of the public should feel free to request an opportunity to comment.

- 1. Welcome, Introductions, and Establishment of a Quorum
- 2. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda (Note: The Advisory Committee may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting (Government Code Sections 11125 and 11125.7(a))
- 3. Review and Approval of May 17, 2022, Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- 4. Remarks by a Representative of the Department of Consumer Affairs, which may include updates pertaining to the Bureau's Operations, Human Resources, Department's Administrative Services, Enforcement, Information Technology, Communications and Outreach, as well as Regulatory and Policy Matters
- 5. Adoption of Advisory Committee Handbook
- 6. Status Update and Discussion related to the following Regulatory Matters:
  - a. Annual Report/Labor Market Outcome Data Reporting (5 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Sections 74110, California Education Code (CEC) Section 94892.6, Assembly Bill (AB) 1340 (2019))
  - b. Educational Programs Less than 32 hours (5 CCR Section 70000(I), 71810. CEC Section 94837)
  - c. Substantive Changes (amend 5 CCR section 71650; add sections 71652 and 71653, CEC Section 94894(i)-(k), Senate Bill (SB) 802 (2021))
  - d. Denial of Out-of-State Application (5 CCR section 71397, CEC section 94801.5(a), AB 1344 (2019))

- 7. Legislative Update: SB 1433
- 8. Bureau Operations Update and Discussion related to the following:
  - a. IT System Project
  - b. Licensing Report
  - c. Quality of Education Report
  - d. Annual Report Update
  - e. Compliance and Discipline Report
  - f. Complaint and Investigation Report
  - g. Office of Student Assistance and Relief (OSAR) Report
  - h. Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) Report
- 9. Bureau Response to Institutional Closures and Associated Costs
- 10. Future Agenda Items
- 11. Adjournment

# WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

# **Committee Member Roster**

# Joseph Holt, Chair

- Institutional Representative (Appointed by DCA Director)

# Margaret Reiter, Vice-Chair

- Consumer Advocate (Appointed by Senate Committee on Rules)

### Kansen Chu

- Public Member (Appointed by Speaker of the Assembly)

# Melanie Delgado

- Consumer Advocate (Appointed by DCA Director)

# Leigh Ferrin

- Consumer Advocate (Appointed by Speaker of the Assembly)

# **Tess Dubois-Carey**

- Institutional Representative (Appointed by DCA Director)

# Senator Richard Roth (Sarah Mason)

- Non-Voting, Ex Officio Member (Appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules)

# **Assemblymember Jose Medina (Kevin Powers)**

- Non-Voting, Ex Officio Member (Appointed by Speaker of the Assembly)

# Agenda Item 2

# PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(Note: The Committee may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting (Government Code Sections 11125 and 11125.7(a).)

# REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MAY 17, 2022, ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

# ATTACHMENT:

Advisory Committee Draft Meeting Minutes from May 17, 2022



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# Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 17, 2022

# WebEx Meeting

### **Advisory Committee Members in Attendance**

- 1. Kansen Chu
- 2. Melanie Delgado
- 3. Tess Dubois-Carey
- 4. Leigh Ferrin
- 5. Joseph Holt
- 6. Kevin Powers (on behalf of Assemblymember Jose Medina)
- 7. Margaret Reiter
- 8. David Vice

# **Committee Members Absent**

Senator Richard Roth

# <u>Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) and Department of Consumer Affairs</u> (DCA) Staff in Attendance

Deborah Cochrane, Bureau Chief
Leeza Rifredi, Bureau Deputy Chief
Linh Nguyen, DCA Legal Counsel
Daniel Rangel, Bureau Enforcement Chief
Ebony Santee, Bureau Licensing Chief
Scott Valverde, Office of Student Assistance and Relief Chief
Yvette Johnson, Bureau Administration Chief
Joanna Murray, Bureau Acting Education Administrator
Michele Alleger, Bureau Compliance Manager
David Dumble, Bureau Legislative/Regulation Specialist
Sean O'Connor, DCA Chief of Project Delivery and Administrative Services
Brianna Miller, DCA Board and Bureau Relations
Gregory Pruden, DCA Legislative Manager
Taylor Schick, DCA Fiscal Officer

# Agenda #1 - Welcome, Introductions, and Establishment of a Quorum

Committee Chair, Joseph Hot called the meeting to order.

### Agenda #2 - Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

No public comment.

# Agenda #3 - Review and Approval of February 23, 2022, Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

# <u>Public Comment</u>

No Public Comment.

David Vice moved to approve February 23, 2022, meeting minutes; Leigh Ferrin seconded the motion.

#### <u>Vote</u>

(Kansen Chu: Aye; David Vice: Aye; Melanie Delgado: Aye; Leigh Ferrin: Aye; Joseph Holt: Aye; Margaret Reiter: Aye; Tess Dubois-Carey: Abstain) The motion passed.

# Agenda #4 - Remarks by Representative of the Department of Consumer Affairs

Brianna Miller, DCA Board and Bureau Relations, provided an update on the Department of Consumer Affairs (Department).

Ms. Miller reported there is legislation, AB 1733, that would permanently allow boards and bureaus to meet remotely while also providing both virtual and physical options for members of the public to participate. She noted that the bill was not heard in the Policy Committee before the deadline and will not move forward this year. She added that DCA is requesting that boards and bureaus share with the DCA Legislative Affairs Office any positions taken on AB 1733 and/or problems based on obtaining a quorum now that meetings are back to being held in person.

Ms. Miller announced the release of DCA's Enlighten Licensing Report. She explained that the report is an innovative and collaborative project slated to streamline and enhance licensing processes by utilizing the knowledge and expertise of subject matter experts within DCA boards and bureaus.

Ms. Miller reported that effective March 2, 2022, Tonya Corcoran began serving as DCA's first Compliance and Equity Officer. She explained that Ms. Corcoran's role is to oversee DCA's SOLID Training and Planning, Organizational Improvement Office, and Internal Audits office.

# **Public Comment**

No public comment.

# <u>Agenda #5 – Bureau Operations Update and Discussion</u>

#### Update on the Bureau's IT System Project

Sean O'Connor, DCA Chief of Project Delivery and Administrative Services, provided an update on the Bureau's IT system project.

Mr. O'Connor reported that the following major software releases have been implemented: online non-accredited application for approval, online consumer complaint form, back-office consumer complaint processing, back-office compliance inspection processes, and conversion of all investigation, discipline, inspection, and licensing data.

Mr. O'Connor stated that the project is projected to come in under budget.

Mr. O'Connor outlined current project activities. He stated that the Bureau staff are participating with project staff and the vendor in the final phases of user acceptance and data conversion. He added that the final phase is focused on converting the rest of the licensing applications the Bureau utilizes.

Mr. O'Connor explained that when refinements or changes are needed to the system the team interacts closely with subject matter experts and Bureau leadership to determine whether implementation of those refinements should be included with the software launch. He added that there will be an opportunity to continually improve the system based on internal and external user feedback. He noted that there are a robust set of maintenance and operation resources.

Ms. Reiter asked if the new system includes a new list of complaint categories to differentiate types of complaints. She requested the list of new categories if available. Mr. O'Connor responded that the system has a tremendous amount of data items that are associated with complaints. He added that reports can be generated out of the system based on trends. Mr. Holt asked for the effective date for the new expanded data fields in the new complaint system. Mr. O'Connor stated some enforcement functionality was launched in late 2020 and the remaining in July 2021.

Ms. Ferrin asked how easy it would be for the Bureau to add new category fields in the system. Mr. O'Connor stated it will be technically feasible to add new data fields.

Mr. Holt asked what methods are utilized to get stakeholder feedback. Mr. O'Connor replied that before launch an external-user focus group may be conducted to obtain constructive feedback, and that informal feedback is expected from a variety of users following the launch of the software. He added that post-launch formal surveys may be utilized to collect feedback.

Ms. Reiter asked if any website improvements are included within the scope of the IT system project. Mr. O'Connor stated the one website function included is an updated license search. He noted that one new feature of the search is the inclusion of when a school was last inspected and the results of inspections. Ms. Cochrane noted that there are plans to make a survey available on the website for users to provide feedback on the usability of the website.

# **Public Comment**

Angela Perry provided a public comment.

# **Licensing Report**

Ebony Santee, Bureau Licensing Chief, reported on the Licensing Unit. She outlined Attachment 5(b).

Mr. Holt asked if there are any database measures indicating how much time passes waiting on an institution to respond to an incomplete application as opposed to internal application processing times. Ms. Santee responded that there are internal benchmarks that could potentially provide more detail into processing times. Mr. Holt stated it would be helpful to have that information in future reports.

Mr. Holt pointed out instances during the application process when the Bureau requests that an institution provide a certain type of documentation from an accreditor and the accreditor tells an institution it does not have that specific documentation. Ms. Cochrane noted that the Bureau has raised this issue to the legislature. She provided an example of when an accreditor does not find a change substantive and thus the Bureau would not need to consider that change substantive.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment.

# **Quality of Education Report**

Joanna Murray, Bureau Acting Education Administrator, reported on the Quality of Education Unit. She outlined Attachment 5(c).

Mr. Holt suggested narrowing the report to include a single table that highlights institutions that are still in process of seeking accreditation.

Ms. Reiter suggested a report at the conclusion of the extension provided by Senate Bill (SB) 1247 that shows the number of institutions that had degree programs suspended.

# **Public Comment**

No public comment.

# Annual Report (AR) Report

Leeza Rifredi, Bureau Deputy Chief, reported on the Annual Report (AR) Unit. She explained that the Unit is currently prioritizing getting annual report information on the website faster. She added that there is a focus on obtaining timely reports from institutions and ensuring compliance. She noted this allows for real-time assessments of the financial stabilities of institutions.

Ms. Rifredi reported that the Bureau is looking to do some reclassifications within the Unit to bring in staff with data analysis expertise to help in expanding research and utilization of data.

Ms. Reiter asked if there was an update on the number of institutions that previously did not submit an annual report on time. Ms. Rifredi stated she did not have an update on the number of institutions but indicated that referrals for citations had been made for institutions that have not submitted timely reports.

Mr. Holt asked about the AR unit's process for referring institutions for citation. Ms. Rifredi stated that the AR unit sends the referrals to the Discipline Unit for citation when an annual report has not been submitted timely.

Mr. Holt asked if there will be any new improved technical tools for institutions submitting annual reports at the launch of the new IT system. Ms. Rifredi stated that is not part of the current launch.

#### Public Comment

No public comment.

# Compliance and Discipline Report

Michele Alleger, Bureau Compliance Manager, reported on the Compliance and Discipline Unit. She outlined Attachment 5(e).

Ms. Reiter asked about the inspection cancellations listed in the report. Ms. Alleger stated that those inspections were attempted but canceled because the institution was unavailable. She noted that staff tries to contact the school, and when contact is unsuccessful an enforcement referral is sent to the Discipline Unit.

Mr. Vice suggested adding information on what types of institutions have canceled inspections. Ms. Ferrin added that the first page in the Compliance and Discipline Unit report is most helpful but could include additional information on the causes of cancellations.

Mr. Powers asked if it would be beneficial to the Bureau if virtual inspections were authorized. Ms. Alleger stated that in-person inspections are preferable when possible.

# **Public Comment**

No public comment.

### Complaint and Investigation Report

Daniel Rangel, Bureau Enforcement Chief over complaints and investigations, reported on the Complaint and Investigation Unit. He outlined Attachment 5(f).

Ms. Reiter commented that it might be helpful to break down the number of total complaints received and the number of total schools receiving complaints to highlight instances of schools receiving a high number of complaints.

Ms. Reiter asked to see in future reports the top five closure reasons that involve some type of resolution for the student as opposed to the current top five closures that did not result in student resolution or corrective action.

# <u>Public Comment</u>

No public comment.

### Office of Student Assistance and Relief (OSAR) Report

Scott Valverde, OSAR Chief, reported on the OSAR Unit. He outlined Attachment 5(g).

Ms. Delgado commented that foster youth students could greatly benefit from knowing about the services OSAR provides. She asked if any outreach with social services had been conducted to reach that student population. Mr. Valverde stated there have been some outreach efforts with those groups in the past, and that he appreciated the recommendation to follow up with those outreach efforts.

# **Public Comment**

Angela Perry provided a public comment.

# Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) Report

Yvette Johnson, Bureau Administration Chief, provided a report on STRF. She covered Attachment 5(h).

Ms. Reiter suggested for future meetings reporting on the percentage of student claims that originated from a school closing and what percentage of claims came from other situations.

Mr. Holt recommended updating the large impact closure chart to only include school closures that occurred within the past 5 years or a timeframe relevant to the impact the closure has on the fund. Ms. Reiter suggested keeping at least 5 years of data on the chart to understand the number of students impacted and the outcomes.

# **Public Comment**

No public comment.

#### Agenda Item #6 - Status Update and Discussion related to the following Regulatory Matters

David Dumble, Bureau Legislative/Regulation Specialist, provided a status update on Bureau regulatory matters.

Mr. Dumble reported that the AB 1340 proposed regulations (Annual Report and Labor Market Outcome Data Reporting (California Code of Regulations (CCR) Sections 74110 and CEC Section 94892.6)) are moving ahead on schedule. He stated that the comment period will end on May 19, 2022. He noted that the Bureau is planning outreach efforts to notify institutions of upcoming compliance changes embodied in this regulation for the anticipated effective date of December 1, 2022.

Mr. Holt asked about the requirement for certification of the data system's readiness to receive the data. Mr. Dumble stated that the data transfer system has been certified.

Mr. Dumble reported that SB 802 added four categories considered a substantive change requiring Bureau pre-approval. He continued that two of the changes required the Bureau to create new forms. He stated those two changes include a change of participation in Federal Title IV financial aid and a change from clock hours to credit hours. He added that the forms have been created and are incorporated by reference in the regulatory package. He stated that a third change regarding the number of credit hours needed to complete a program will be reported to the Bureau through the Change in Educational Objectives form that already exists. He noted a change in regulation CCR section 71650 that expressly states changes to clock or credit hours should be reported on that form. He continued that the fourth change added by SB 802 involves changing the distance education learning management system which will be incorporated by updating the Change in Instructional Delivery form as part of the Bureau's 2023 regulatory agenda.

Mr. Dumble reported on the Denial of Out-of-State Application (California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 71397, CEC section 94801.5(a), AB 1344 (2019)) regulatory proposed changes. He referenced Attachment 6b(ii) in the meeting packet.

Mr. Vice asked for clarification on the phrase "reasonable discretion" in the proposed regulation. Linh Nguyen, DCA Legal Counsel, responded that phrase is used in AB 1344. He noted that even if a statute does not state "reasonable discretion," "reasonableness" is implied in various statutes. Ms. Cochrane added that AB 1344 focused on the risk posed to California students enrolling in out-of-state institutions. She clarified that the Out-of-State Registration form had to be updated to require an institution to complete the form and that Attachment 6b(ii) in the meeting packet is specifically how to address the information provided to the Bureau through the form.

Mr. Holt asked if the purpose of an informal conference following a denial is to allow the institution an opportunity to discuss the rationale for the denial. Mr. Dumble stated it provides the institution an opportunity to remedy issues. Mr. Nguyen added the conference provides the institution an opportunity to present its side before the Bureau moves forward with a decision.

# **Public Comment**

No public comment.

# Agenda Item #7 - Status Update and Discussion related to the Bureau's Sunset Review and Finances

Gregory Pruden, DCA Legislative Manager, provided an update on the Bureau's Sunset Review. He explained that SB 802 granted the Bureau an additional year of authorization through January 1, 2023. He continued that SB 1433 was introduced in February 2022 and is the Bureau's sunset bill. He noted that, as of the meeting date, SB 1433 only makes changes to CEC sections 94933 and 94936, related to prospective harm, and does not currently extend the

Bureau's sunset date. He noted that the bill is currently in the Senate Committee on Appropriations where it has been released on suspense file and will be taken up on May 19, 2022.

Mr. Pruden explained that the Bureau put forward several policy ideas for the legislature to consider during the sunset review. He noted that the policy idea regarding gaps in prohibited business practices was mentioned in an analysis by the Senate Committee on Higher Education. He continued that DCA and the Bureau look forward to working with the legislature on these ideas and the sunset date extension as SB 1433 progresses through the legislative process.

Mr. Pruden reported that the Governor's May revise proposes \$24 million in General Fund money for the Bureau.

Taylor Schick, DCA Fiscal Officer, provided an update on the Bureau's financial status. He referenced the proposed \$24 million in General Fund resources. He clarified that the resources would supplement the Bureau's existing revenues by \$14 million in FY 2023, \$6 million in FY 2024, and \$4 million in FY 2025, allowing the Bureau to maintain operation for an additional three fiscal years without fee changes. He further noted that the proposed General Fund resources would allow the Bureau to repay the loan borrowed from the Bureau of Automotive Repair to avoid incurring additional interest charges.

Mr. Powers stated the intent to have additional policy language in SB 1433, including an extension of the sunset date, before it moves out of the Senate. He anticipates that Assembly committees will analyze more policy than is currently in the bill.

Mr. Holt asked if a legislative change would be required to use General Fund to support Bureau operations on an ongoing basis. Mr. Schick stated that it would.

### **Public Comment**

Angela Perry provided a public comment.

# <u>Agenda Item #8 - Addressing Suspected Human Trafficking in Private Postsecondary</u> Education Institutions

Ms. Murray provided a report on suspected human trafficking in private postsecondary education institutions. She outlined the memo in the meeting packet titled Addressing Suspected Human Trafficking in Private Postsecondary Education Institutions.

Ms. Delgado asked if the Bureau sought advice from the Polaris Project. Ms. Murray stated the Bureau collaborated with Polaris in researching resources.

Ms. Delgado commented that there is only so much the Bureau can do to address this issue within its scope and asked if there is a gap in the Bureau's ability to do more to protect

students. Ms. Murray stated that the current focus is on helping staff recognize signs of human trafficking.

Ms. Reiter commented that the more the Bureau can collaborate with other agencies, the more effective the Bureau can be at addressing issues beyond its scope.

Ms. Ferrin suggested collaborating with other agencies such that other agencies could notify the Bureau if they become aware of potential issues at an institution.

Mr. Holt asked if occurrences of suspected human trafficking before the Bureau's general awareness were reported retroactively. Ms. Murray replied that some staff including herself were able to directly refer past occurrences of suspicion to the Department of Justice.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment.

### Agenda Item #9 - Proposed Modifications to Advisory Committee Handbook

Ms. Cochrane reported on the proposed modifications to the Advisory Committee handbook. She referenced the attachment in the meeting packet titled Amendments to the Advisory Committee Handbook for the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education.

Mr. Holt asked if there will be an annual or bi-annual review of the handbook. Ms. Cochrane stated that the current review is based on a single legislative mandate. Mr. Holt suggested adding in the handbook a review of the handbook every 5 years.

Ms. Reiter suggested the possibility of adding to the handbook required training on the Open Meeting Act.

Mr. Holt suggested deferring a vote on the handbook until the next meeting.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment

### <u>Agenda #10 – Suggestions for Future Agenda Items</u>

Ms. Reiter requested that the Bureau perform a financial analysis on the cost of school closures to determine the need for a bond. Ms. Ferrin seconded the request.

Ms. Reiter suggested discussing the relationship between federal complaint handling and the Bureau's state authorization contract process to include complaint resolution data from state authorization contracted institutions.

Ms. Reiter suggested discussing the implications of programs under 32 hours no longer needing approval. She noted that approved schools offering less than 32-hour programs with no oversight and also programs over 32 hours could lead to students assuming all programs are covered by Bureau oversight.

Ms. Reiter requested a discussion on what information is currently available or could be available on the Bureau website.

Ms. Reiter requested information on how far back in time data in SAIL goes.

Ms. Reiter suggested considering whether the Bureau should have a Sunset date.

Ms. Reiter requested that Bureau staff provide forward modeling on the new STRF Assessment rate.

Ms. Ferris suggested a discussion on the triaging of complaints at intake to determine if the Committee could help identify data points or provide guidance in the process.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment.

# <u> Agenda #11 – Adjournment</u>

The meeting adjourned at 1:32.

# Agenda Item 4

# REMARKS BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

(Note: May include updates pertaining to the Bureau's Operations, Human Resources, Department's Administrative Services, Fees, Enforcement, Information Technology and BreEZe, Communications and Outreach, as well as Regulatory and Policy Matters)

# Agenda Item 5

# ADOPTION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE HANDBOOK

# Department of Consumer Affairs Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education



# **Advisory Committee Handbook**

Gavin Newsom, Governor
State of California

Lourdes M. Castro Ramirez, Secretary

Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency

Kimberly Kirchmeyer, Director

Department of Consumer Affairs

Deborah Cochrane, Bureau Chief

Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education

Last Revised 05/6/2022

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# **Introduction**

The Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau or BPPE) regulates private postsecondary education in the State of California. The Bureau's Advisory Committee (BAC or Committee) was created to advise the Bureau with respect to issues relating to private postsecondary education and administering the Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009 (the Act).

The purpose of this handbook is to provide guidance to Committee Members regarding general processes and procedures involved with their position on the BPPE Advisory Committee. It also serves as a useful source of information for new Committee Members as part of the induction process. This handbook is additive to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and the Administrative Procedure Act. It is subject to review and adoption by the Advisory Committee during years in which the Bureau undergoes strategic planning, or more frequently as desired by Committee Members.

The Bureau is one of the boards, bureaus, commissions, and committees within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), which is part of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency under the aegis of the Governor. DCA is responsible for consumer protection and representation through the regulation of licensed professions and the provision of consumer services. The DCA also provides administrative oversight and support services to boards and bureaus alike. The Bureau is unlike a board in that a board has appointed board members who oversee the entity and has policy autonomy and sets its own policies, procedures, and initiates its own regulations. The Bureau does not have policy autonomy and works collaboratively within DCA on policies, procedures, and regulations.

Protection of the public shall be the highest priority for the Bureau in exercising its licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. Whenever the protection of the public is inconsistent with other interests sought to be promoted, the protection of the public shall be paramount (Ed, Code, § 94875.).

# **About the Department of Consumer Affairs**

The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) is one of 11 departments under the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency. DCA consists of 37 regulatory boards, bureaus, committees, and programs and is the State of California's leading consumer protection entity. Collectively, DCA's various programs provide licensing guidelines and oversight for more than 3.5 million professionals in over 250 different categories. The mission of DCA is to develop a marketplace where consumers can be assured of safe, quality service from a qualified business. DCA protects and serves California consumers while ensuring a competent marketplace. To support this effort, DCA fosters relationships with consumer and public interest groups, the business and professional community, law

enforcement, and other government agencies

#### DCA's Mission

We protect California consumers by providing a safe and fair marketplace through oversight, enforcement, and licensure of professions.

#### DCA's Vision

Together, empowering California consumers.

### DCA's Values

- Accountability
- Communication
- Diversity
- Employees
- > Integrity
- Leadership
- Service
- Transparency

# **About the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education**

The Bureau processes licensing applications, conducts compliance inspections, and responds to complaints for the more than 1,000 approved private postsecondary educational institutions in California. The Bureau also investigates complaints, combats unlicensed activity, and administers the Student Tuition Recovery Fund which is used to reimburse students harmed by school closure. The Bureau's Office of Student Assistance & Relief (OSAR) provides outreach and support to prospective, current, and former students of private postsecondary institutions.

# **BPPE's Mission**

The Bureau protects students and consumers through the oversight of California's private postsecondary educational institutions by conducting qualitative reviews of educational programs and operating standards, proactively combating unlicensed activity, impartially resolving student and consumer complaints, and providing support and financial relief to harmed students.

### **BPPE's Vision**

To be the national leader in regulating private postsecondary institutions and promote a landscape of postsecondary educational opportunities that maximize Californians' opportunity to receive a quality education.

# **BPPE's Values**

- Consumer Protection. The Bureau will make effective and informed decisions in the best interest and for the safety of consumers.
- Accountability and Effectiveness. The Bureau will take ownership and responsibility for its actions and results.
- Quality and Integrity. The Bureau will deliver consistently high-quality service, information, and support that reflects excellence and professionalism.
- ➤ Inclusivity and Transparency. The Bureau will be open to all voices and perspectives, actively encouraging the sharing of ideas and information throughout the organization and with the public and being receptive to new ideas.

# **About the Advisory Committee**

# Role of the Committee

The Committee's role is to provide input to the Bureau Chief on matters relating to private postsecondary education and the administration of the Act. This includes reviewing the fee schedule, licensing and enforcement provisions, and advising on regulations.

# **Authority**

Per California Education Code Section 94880:

- (a) There is *within the bureau* a 12-member advisory committee....
- (c) The advisory committee shall examine the oversight functions and operational policies of the bureau and advise the bureau with respect to matters relating to private postsecondary education and the administration of this chapter, including annually reviewing the fee schedule and the equity of the schedule relative to the way institutions are structured, and the licensing and enforcement provisions of this chapter. The advisory committee shall make recommendations with respect to policies, practices, and

regulations relating to private postsecondary education, and shall provide any assistance as may be requested by the bureau.

(d) The bureau shall actively seek input from, and consult with, the advisory committee regarding the development of regulations to implement this chapter prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of its regulations, and provide the advisory committee with sufficient time to review and comment on those regulations. The bureau shall take into consideration and respond to all feedback provided by members of the advisory committee.

Find the full text of the Act online at http://www.bppe.ca.gov/lawsregs/ppe\_act.shtml.

# **Purpose**

The Committee advises the Bureau Chief on issues related to private postsecondary education. The Committee helps the Bureau Chief evaluate possibilities for regulating postsecondary education and visualize the "big picture" of education in California. Committee members offer unique perspectives, identify relevant issues, and suggest action, all while maintaining consumer protection as the Bureau's top priority. Committee members should be concerned primarily with formulating advisory recommendations regarding Bureau policies and practices, rather than recommendations concerning the means for carrying out a specific course of action. Committee members do not become involved in the details of program delivery. Strategies for the day-to-day management of programs, operations, and staff shall be the responsibility of the Bureau Chief. The Advisory Committee members assist the Bureau when they provide the statutory assistance deemed most useful to support the Bureau's mission:

This chapter establishes the functions and responsibilities of the bureau, for the purposes of Section 6 of Chapter 635 of the Statutes of 2007. The bureau shall regulate private postsecondary educational institutions through the powers granted, and duties imposed, by this chapter. In exercising its powers, and performing its duties, the protection of the public shall be the bureau's highest priority. If protection of the public is inconsistent with other interests sought to be promoted, the protection of the public shall be paramount. (Ed. Code, § 94875.)

# **Bureau Advisory Committee Recommendations**

Individual opinions and insight of the Committee members are useful in informing the Bureau's work as members represent a range of perspectives. As a deliberative

assembly, the advisory Committee is also able to provide group Committee recommendations when a "collective will" is considered most helpful.

A deliberative assembly is a group of people, having or assuming freedom to act in concert, meeting to determine, in full and free discussion, courses of action to be *taken in the name of the entire group.* 

Ultimately, it is the majority taking part in the assembly who decide the general will, but only following upon the opportunity for a deliberative process of full and free discussion." (Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised (11<sup>th</sup> ed.), p. 1)

Roberts Rules of Order introduce the parliamentary process to this Committee and has long been recognized as a fair and expeditious way to provide a collective recommendation:

Parliamentary procedure enables the overall membership of an organization—expressing its **general will** through the assembly of its members—both to establish and empower an effective leadership as it wishes, and at the same time to retain exactly the degree of direct control over it's affairs that it chooses to reserve to itself."

The application of parliamentary law is the best method yet devised to enable assemblies of any size, with due regardfor every member's opinion, to arrive **at the general will** on the maximum number of questions of varying complexity in a minimum amount of time and under all kinds of internal climate ranging from total harmony to hardened or impassioned division of opinion.(RONR (11th ed.), p. li-lii)

# **Committee Meeting Procedures**

All committees, bureaus and programs under the DCA, including this Advisory Committee must meet in accordance with the provisions set forth by the <u>Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.</u> The Committee will use Robert's Rules of Order, to the extent that it does not conflict with state law (i.e., Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act), as a guide when conducting the meetings.

# **Open Meetings**

The Bagley-Keene Act of 1967, officially known as the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, implements a provision of the <u>California Constitution</u> declaring that "the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies shall be open to public scrutiny," and explicitly mandates open meetings for <u>California</u> State agencies, committees, and commissions. The Bagley-Keene Act facilitates accountability and transparency of government activities and protects the rights of citizens to participate in State government deliberations. This is similar to California's Brown Act of 1963, which provides open meeting provisions for county and local government agencies.

The Bagley-Keene Act requires the Committee to provide adequate notice of meetings to be held to the public as well as provides an opportunity for public comment on items discussed during meetings. The Bagley-Keene Act requires meetings be conducted in an open session, except where closed session is specifically noted.

Resources: DCA's Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act Guide

### **Members**

The California Legislature and the DCA director appoint the Committee's 12 members.

| Committee Position  | Appointed By   |
|---|--|
| Consumer Advocate   | Senate Committee on Rules  |
| Public Member   | Senate Committee on Rules  |
| Consumer Advocate   | Speaker of the Assembly  |
| Public Member   | Speaker of the Assembly  |
| Consumer Advocate   | DCA Director   |
| Institutional Representative (3 positions)                      | DCA Director   |
| Past Student of Private Postsecondary Institution (2 positions) | DCA Director   |
| Non-Voting, Ex Officio Member (2 positions)                     | Chair of the Policy Committee of the Assembly and Senate with Jurisdiction over Legislation Relating to the Bureau, or Designee Appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and/or the Chair of the Senate Committee on Rules |

# **Appointments**

Committee appointees serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Individuals interested in serving on the Committee can contact the Bureau Chief for information on positions appointed by the director of the DCA or visit the DCA's <a href="Months Board">Board</a> <a href="Months Board">Member Resources webpage</a>.

# **Schedule**

The Committee meets quarterly. The Bureau announces Committee meetings on its website, <a href="www.bppe.ca.gov">www.bppe.ca.gov</a>, prior to each meeting. Committee meetings are typically held at DCA in Sacramento, California.

# **Preparation for Meetings**

Committee members best fulfill their role when they are prepared for meetings. To be ready for a Committee meeting, it is suggested that members:

- Read the meeting materials. Review the meeting's agenda and regulations related to the issues on the schedule and analyze any materials received.
- Review the last meeting's minutes.
- In line with consumer protection, consider how the issues at hand affect California consumers and the Bureau.
- Identify topics to discuss. Bring issues that are relevant to private postsecondary education to the attention of the Committee and the Bureau Chief.
- Prepare to overcome differences with colleagues. Each member of the Committee
  offers their own unique perspective—that is why they are part of the Committee.
  Members may not agree with everyone, but their role as a Committee member is to
  ensure a balance of opinions. A thought out and well-reasoned approach offers the
  most benefit to the Bureau and to California consumers.
- Be willing to listen to speakers who visit the meeting.
- Give consideration to new ideas.

# **Making a Motion at Meetings**

A BAC member must make a motion to provide an advisory recommendation whenever the Advisory Committee is considering making a recommendation concerning an issue regarding private postsecondary education or any other course of action.

When making a motion, BAC members are encouraged to speak slowly and clearly. BAC members who opt to second a motion must remember to repeat the motion in question. Additionally, it is important to remember that once a motion has been made and seconded, it is inappropriate to make a second motion until the initial one has been resolved.

The basic process of a motion is as follows:

 An agenda item is presented and thoroughly discussed. Note: In some instances, a motion can be made after an item has been presented but before discussion.

- The Chair opens a forum for a BAC member to make a motion to adopt, modify, or reject the discussed item.
- A BAC member makes a motion to the Committee.
- Another BAC member seconds this motion.
- The Chair opens discussion and additional comment from BAC members.
- The Chair solicits comment from the public.
- The Chair puts forth the motion to a vote.
- The vote of each BAC member is recorded via roll call vote.
- Upon completion of the voting, the Chair will announce the result of the vote (e.g. "the motion [to submit BAC recommendation \_\_\_\_ to the Bureau] is adopted" or "the motion fails").

# MEMBER POLICIES AND RULES OF CONDUCT

The Committee is comprised of both public and professional members with the intention that, together, the Committee can collectively protect the public and advise the Bureau by providing Advisory recommendations that are the product of full and fair debate and compromise.

### **Rules of Conduct**

Committee members' actions shall serve to uphold the principle that the BAC and Bureau's primary mission is to serve the public.

Committee members shall recognize the role and responsibilities of all BAC members.

Committee members shall adequately prepare for BAC responsibilities.

Committee members shall be responsive to the DCA and Bureau staff.

Committee members shall maintain the confidentiality of non-public documents and information.

Committee members shall be fair, nonpartisan, impartial, and unbiased in their role.

Committee members shall not use their BAC positions for personal, familial or financial gain.

### **Conflict of Interest**

No BAC member may make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use their official position to influence a governmental decision in which they know or have reason to know they have a financial interest. Any BAC member who has a financial interest shall disqualify themselves from making or attempting to use their official position to influence the decision. Any BAC member who feels they are entering into a situation where there is a potential for a conflict should immediately consult the Bureau's legal counsel.

# **Contact with Applicants and Licensees**

BAC members shall not intervene on behalf of a candidate or an applicant for licensure for any reason. Nor shall they intervene on behalf of a licensee. All inquiries regarding licenses, applications, and enforcement matters should be referred to the Bureau Chief.

# **Resignation of Committee Members**

In the event a BAC member chooses to resign, the member shall submit a letter to their appointing authority (Legislature or DCA Director) with the effective date of resignation. The resigning BAC member also needs to send a copy of this letter to the Bureau Chief.

# Compensation

Committee members are volunteers and do not receive compensation for their time. Pursuant to State law Committee members do receive reimbursement for:

- Out-of-pocket expenses authorized by the volunteer coordinator; and
- Authorized travel expenses such as, but not limited to, mileage, parking, and airfare.

# **Member Onboarding and Training**

# **Onboarding**

As Advisory Committee members under DCA, BAC members must submit the following no later than 30 days after their swearing-in:

Oath of Office – signed and dated

Volunteer Service Agreement

Payee Data Record (STD.204)

**Emergency Contact Information** 

Authorization to Use Privately Owned Vehicles on State Business (STD.261)

Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy Memo and Acknowledgement Form

Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Certificate of Completion (see "Required Trainings" below for more information)

Non-Discrimination Policy and Complaint Procedures Policy Memo and Acknowledgement Form

Submit all original forms to:

Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
C/O Deputy Bureau Chief
1747 N. Market Blvd. Ste. 225
Sacramento, CA 95834

# **Required Trainings**

As DCA advisory Committee members, BAC members must complete the following required trainings within 30 days of their swearing-in:

# Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act Training

 How to complete: The Deputy Bureau Chief will contact new members on how to complete this training.

# Sexual Harassment Prevention Training

 Background: To ensure compliance with Assembly Bill 1825 (Chapter 933, Statutes of 2004), all DCA advisory committee members are required to complete Sexual Harassment Prevention Training every two years.  The training is online, interactive and can be completed at your convenience. Training available via the Learning Management System (LMS): https://dca.csod.com

# **Ethics Training**

 The training is online, interactive and can be completed at your convenience. State Officials Ethics Training Course available at: http://oag.ca.gov/ethics

# **Committee Leadership and Subcommittees**

# **Committee Leadership**

The BAC shall elect annually from among its members a Chair and Vice Chair. A member shall not serve for more than a combined two years in the Chair position and a combined two years in the Vice Chair position.

If an office becomes vacant during the year, an election shall be held at the next meeting. Elected officers shall then serve the remainder of the term.

# **Leadership Roles and Responsibilities**

#### Chair

- Committee Business: Conducts the BAC's business in a professional manner and with appropriate transparency. At meetings, shall use Roberts Rules of Order as a guide and shall adhere to the provisions of the Open Meeting Act. Presides at BAC meetings.
- Committee Meeting Agendas: Develops agendas for meetings in coordination with the Bureau Chief.
- Committee Vote: Conducts roll call vote.
- Committee Affairs: Ensures that BAC matters are handled properly, including responsibilities, tasks, and orientation of new members.

 Subcommittees: Establishes subcommittees, as necessary, including standing and special subcommittees. Provides guidance to the Vice Chair regarding their roles and responsibilities.

### Vice Chair

- Committee Business: Performs all the duties and responsibilities of the Chair when the Chair is absent.
- Subcommittees: Seeks volunteers for subcommittees and coordinates individual BAC member assignments, in consultation with the Chair. Ensures each subcommittee has a chairperson, and coordinates with the subcommittee chairs to ensure their responsibilities and tasks are carried out.

### **Subcommittees**

The Chair and Vice Chair will provide leadership and guidance over subcommittees, including the establishment of standing and special subcommittees as necessary. The Vice Chair, in consultation with the Chair, shall seek volunteers for subcommittees, coordinate individual BAC member assignments, and determine the composition of the subcommittees. In determining the composition of each subcommittee, the Vice Chair shall solicit interest from the BAC members during a public meeting. Appointment of non-BAC members to a subcommittee is subject to the approval of the vote by the BAC and Bureau Chief consent.

# **Applicable Statutes and Regulations**

# **Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act**

Committee meetings must comply with the rules of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. The following are the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act's key points, as set out in the Government Code (GC):

- Committee meetings are open to the public, including meetings conducted as a teleconference (GC section 11123).
- The Bureau must notify the public of Committee meetings at least 10 days before the meeting. The notice must include a meeting agenda (GC section 11125.5).

For more information about the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, read the *Guide to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act* at

http://www.dca.ca.gov/publications/bagleykeene meetingact.pdf.

The full text of the Open Meeting Act is available online at <a href="http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/">http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/</a>. It is contained in the Government Code, sections 11120 - 11132.

# **Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009**

The Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009 establishes the Bureau and sets forth laws that private postsecondary institutions must follow. It is found in the California Education Code, Title 3, Division 10, Part 59, Chapter 9. It is also available online at <a href="http://www.bppe.ca.gov/lawsregs/ppe">http://www.bppe.ca.gov/lawsregs/ppe</a> act.shtml.

# California Code of Regulations

Title 5, Division 7.5 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) contains the regulations promulgated by the Bureau to regulate the administration of the Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009. This section of the CCR is available online at <a href="http://www.bppe.ca.gov/lawsregs/regs.shtml">http://www.bppe.ca.gov/lawsregs/regs.shtml</a>.

#### Robert's Rules of Order

The Eleventh edition, referred to as *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* (RONR), supersedes all earlier editions as the parliamentary authority in organizations that have adopted *Robert's Rules of Order*. More information from the Official Website of Roberts Rules of Order can be found at: <a href="https://www.robertsrules.com/default.html">https://www.robertsrules.com/default.html</a>.

# STATUS UPDATE AND DISCUSSION RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS:

- a. Annual Report/Labor Market Outcome Data Reporting (5 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Sections 74110, California Education Code (CEC) Section 94892.6, Assembly Bill (AB) 1340 (2019))
- **b.** Educational Programs Less than 32 hours (5 CCR Section 70000(1), 71810. CEC Section 94837)
- c. Substantive Changes (amend 5 CCR section 71650; add sections 71652 and 71653, CEC Section 94894(i)-(k), Senate Bill (SB) 802 (2021))
- **d.** Denial of Out-of-State Application (5 CCR section 71397, CEC section 94801.5(a), AB 1344 (2019))

# California Code of Regulations Title 5. Education Division 7.5. Private Postsecondary Education Chapter 1. Bureau Administration Article 1. General Provisions

## PROPOSED REGULATORY LANGUAGE CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS UNDER 32 HOURS IN LENGTH

Legend—added text indicated by underline, deletion by strikethrough

70000. Provisions.

(\* \* \* \*)

- (I) "Educational program" means a planned sequence of related courses or modules, or a single course or module if not offered as a component of a planned sequence of related courses or modules, that provides education, training, skills, or experience, or a combination of these.
  - (1) A single course, workshop, seminar, continuing education course, or other instruction that consists of 32 hours of instruction or less is not an "educational program" unless it is designed to lead to employment.
  - (2) A program is designed to lead to employment if it is any one of the following:
    - (A) Eligible for federal or state funds that support career training, including but not limited to the Workforce and Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA);
    - (B) On the Education Training Provider List of the Employment Development Department;
    - (C) Leads to employment or a career, either as attested to by the institution or as offered to the public, as that term is defined in California Education Code section 94868, meaning as advertised, publicized, or used to solicit or recruit;
    - (D) Designed to instruct students in the skills and knowledge necessary to satisfy the qualifications for licensure;
    - (E) Part of a set of programs that collectively lead to employment; or
    - (F) Required as a condition of continued employment to meet the definition of "Gainfully Employed" under 5 CCR section 74112(d)(3)(B)(iii).

- (lm) "Financial aid officer" means any person involved in administering the participation of the institution or any of its students in any federal or state student loan or grant program, including any person who assists students to apply for, disburses the proceeds of, or regularly explains student rights and obligations under, loans or grants subject to any federal or state program.
- (mn) "Full time study" means the equivalent of, if measured in credit hours, 24 semester or trimester, or 36 quarter hours, or if measured in clock hours, 900 hours, to be completed within 30 weeks of instruction.
- (<u>no</u>) "Innovative method of instruction" or "unique method of instruction" means a new method of instruction, not previously generally recognized by accredited and approved degree granting institutions, as a reasonable approach to teaching a specific curriculum.
- (ep) "Institution director" means the person who is responsible for administering the daily operations of the institution and has supervisorial authority over all other administrators and instructors.
- (pq) "Instructor" means a person who is responsible to conduct one or more classes or components of an institution's educational program.
- (qr) "Mission" means an institution's stated educational reasons to exist. A mission statement contains all of the following characteristics:
- (1) The mission includes the institution's broad expectations concerning the education that students will receive, including the acquisition of the body of knowledge presented in the educational program, the development of intellectual, analytical, and critical abilities, and the fostering of values such as a commitment to pursue lifelong learning; and
- (2) The mission relates to the educational expectations of the institution's students, faculty and community that the institution serves.
- (<u>rs</u>) "Objectives" are the goals and methods by which the institution fulfills its mission and transforms it into measurable student learning outcomes for each educational program.
- (st) "Pre-accreditation" or "candidacy" as used in sections 94885.1 and 94885.5 of the Code means that an institution has submitted a completed application for initial accreditation with the required fee, which was accepted by the accreditor.
- (t<u>u)</u> "Prior experiential learning" or "college level learning experience" means learning of a postsecondary nature as documented learning from a related profession, college level equivalent tests, military training or other college level equivalent experience.

- (<u>uv</u>) "Provisional approval" means approval of a degree program or the institution for no more than a five-year period while the owner of a Bureau-approved institution seeks to satisfy the requirement for institutional accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education pursuant to section 94885(b) of the Code.
- $(\underline{vw})$  "Quarter" means at least 10 weeks of instruction or its equivalent as described in subdivision (w) (2) of this section.
- $(\underline{wx})$  "Quarter unit" means either of the following:
- (1) At least ten (10) hours of college or university level instruction during a quarter plus a reasonable period of time outside of instruction which an institution requires a student to devote to preparation for planned learning experiences, such as preparation for instruction, study of course material, or completion of educational projects; or
- (2) Planned learning experiences equivalent to the learning and preparation described in paragraph (1) as determined by duly qualified faculty responsible for evaluating learning outcomes for the award of unit credits.
- (xy) "Recreational Education" means education offered for the purpose of teaching the fundamentals, skills or techniques of sports or games.
- $(\underline{yz})$  "Semester" means at least 15 weeks of instruction or its equivalent as described in subdivision (z) (2) of this section.
- (zaa) "Semester unit" means either of the following:
- (1) At least fifteen (15) hours of college or university level instruction during a semester plus a reasonable period of time outside of instruction which an institution requires a student to devote to preparation for planned learning experiences, such as preparation for instruction, study of course material, or completion of educational projects; or
- (2) Planned learning experiences equivalent to the learning and preparation described in paragraph (1) as determined by duly qualified faculty responsible for evaluating learning outcomes for the award of unit credits.
- (aaab) "Significant equipment" means equipment that is necessary for achieving the stated educational objectives.
- (abac) "Tuition" means the cost for instruction normally charged on a per unit or per hour basis. It does not include itemized fees paid to the Bureau or the cost of textbooks, supplies, transportation, or equipment.

(acad) "Unit" or "unit of credit" means a measure of college or university level instruction that is evaluated by duly qualified faculty.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 94803, 94877, 94885, 94885.1 and 94885.5, Education Code. Reference: Sections 94818, 94830, <u>94837</u>, 94844, 94885, 94885.1, 94885.5 and 94923, Education Code.

## 2. Amend Section 71810, Article 2, Chapter 3, Division 7.5 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations

71810. Catalog.

(\* \* \* \*)

(c) An institution that includes in its catalog one or more offerings that do not meet the definition of an educational program under section 70000(I) shall list those non-covered offerings in a separate section of the catalog with this disclosure on each page on which such offerings are listed(or using the singular form if there is only one such offering) conspicuously, prominently, and made easily readable by type size, normal capitalizing and punctuation, spacing, and short line length, such as in the format shown here, stating:

#### "Important Information

- The course offerings on this page are short courses of 32 hours or less and are not meant to prepare you for a job.
- The Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education regulates this institution but does not regulate these short courses.
- These courses do not have to meet the legal standards for educational programs under California's law, the Private Postsecondary Education Act.
- You will not be eligible for a refund from California's Student Tuition Recovery Fund if the course turns out not to provide the education described, or if the school stops the course before you can finish it."

Note: Authority cited: Sections 94803, 94877 and 94885, Education Code. Reference: Sections <u>94837</u>, 94885 and 94909, Education Code.

| Title  | Status Summary   | ACM                       | DCA       | Agency                 | Public Comment  | OAL       | Final     |
|--|--|---------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
|  |  | (text only)               |           |                        | (full package)  |           |           |
| Annual Reports Submissions and Labor Market Identification Data  | Completed 7/11/22.   | 8/26/2021                 | 2/7/2022  | 2/25/2022<br>5/16/2022 | 3/15/22-5/19/22 | 5/27/2022 | 7/11/2022 |
| Out-of-State Institution Registration (Form and Determinations)  | Combined package resubmitted to DCA.   | 8/26/2021;<br>2/23/2022   | 7/14/2022 |                        |                 |           |           |
| Verification of Exempt Status Application  | On hold temporarily pending signature discussions.   | 8/26/2021                 | 5/19/2022 |                        |                 |           |           |
| Ability-to-Benefit Repeal  | Package resubmitted to DCA.  | 2/23/2022                 | 8/8/2022  |                        |                 |           |           |
| Exemption of Programs Under 32 Hours   | Text resubmitted to DCA on 6/30/22 (disclosure requirement added). Finalizing fiscal analysis. | 2/23/2022                 |           |                        |                 |           |           |
| Reporting of Substantive Changes: 3 Applications (Clock-to-Credit Hour, Title IV Participation, Increase/Decrease in Program Length) |  | 5/17/2022                 |           |                        |                 |           |           |
| Reporting of Substantive Change: Distance Education Learning Management System   | Internal discussions.  | Anticipated<br>11/15/2022 |           |                        |                 |           |           |

### Agenda Item 7

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: SB 1433** 

#### **Introduced by Senator Roth**

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Berman)

February 18, 2022

An act to amend Sections 94933 and 94936 of 94801.5, 94869, 94885, 94887, 94894, 94897, 94899, 94909, 94917, 94933, 94934.5, 94935, 94936, 94944, and 94950 of, and to add Sections 94801.7, 94885.7, 94918.5, 94926.5, and 94949.8 to, the Education Code, relating to private postsecondary—education. education, and making an appropriation therefor.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1433, as amended, Roth. Private postsecondary education: California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009.

#### **Existing**

(1) Existing law establishes the California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009, which provides for student protections and regulatory oversight of private postsecondary educational institutions, as defined, in the state. The The act is enforced by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education within the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Existing law, among other things, requires an out-of-state private postsecondary educational institution, as defined, to comply with specified requirements, including, among others, providing the bureau with certain information required for initial registration.

This bill would exempt from this requirement a higher education institution that does not award degrees and that solely provides educational programs for total charges of \$2,500 or less when no part

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of the total charges is paid from state or federal student financial aid programs, as specified.

The bill would authorize the bureau to establish through regulation thresholds of California-based activity that constitute limited physical presence, with those institutions subject to registration requirements defined through regulation, as provided.

(2) The act exempts specified private postsecondary educational institutions from all, or a portion of, its provisions, but requires those institutions that are subject to its provisions to apply for and obtain an approval to operate, as specified. Existing law defines "to operate" as establishing, keeping, or maintaining any facility or location in this state where, or from which, or through which, postsecondary educational programs are provided. Existing law requires prior authorization for certain changes to an approval to operate, including, among others, a change in ownership.

This bill would also include in the definition of "to operate" enrolling California residents in postsecondary educational programs in an institution based outside of California via distance education. The bill would authorize the bureau to deny an application for an approval to operate institutions that would be owned by, have persons in control of, or employ institution managers that had knowledge of, should have known, or knowingly participated in any conduct that was the cause for revocation or unmitigated discipline at another institution. The bill would additionally require prior bureau authorization for a change in institution manager or person in control, as defined.

The bill would authorize an institution that qualifies as a public institution of higher education, that is operated by another state, and that maintains a physical presence in this state to apply for an approval to operate from the bureau, as provided.

(3) The act requires, except as provided, institutions covered by the act that offer a degree to receive accreditation by an accreditation agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or have an accreditation plan, approved by the bureau, for the institution to become fully accredited within 5 years of the bureau's issuance of a provisional approval to operate to the institution, as specified.

For institutions that are approved by means of accreditation and accredited by an agency that loses recognition by the United States Department of Education, this bill would require an application for approval to operate an institution unaccredited to be submitted to the bureau within 6 months of the agency's loss of recognition, as provided.

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When an institution offering at least one degree program has ceased to be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, the bill would require the institution to notify the bureau immediately, and would require the institution's approval to operate degree programs to become provisional as of the date that the institution ceases to be accredited, as provided. The bill would require an institution with a provisional approval to operate degree programs to, among other things, submit an accreditation plan, to be approved by the bureau, for the institution to become fully accredited within 5 years of the date of its provisional approval to operate degree programs, as specified.

(4) Existing law prohibits an institution that is subject to the act from, among other things, promising or guaranteeing employment, or otherwise overstating the availability of jobs upon graduation.

This bill would additionally prohibit these institutions from, among other things, committing fraud against, or making an untrue or misleading statement to, a student or prospective student under the institution's authority or the pretense or appearance of the institution's authority.

(5) If an institution offers an educational program in a profession, occupation, trade, or career field that requires licensure in this state, existing law requires the institution to have an educational program approval from the appropriate state licensing agency to conduct that educational program in order that a student who completes the educational program, except as provided, is eligible to sit for any required licensure examination.

This bill would additionally require an institution offering an educational program requiring approval from another state licensing agency that subsequently loses that approval to have their approval to operate the program automatically suspended by the bureau. The bill would require the institution to notify the bureau within 10 days of its loss of approval and to cease offering the program within 30 days of the loss of the approval, except as specified.

(6) Under existing law, a note, instrument, or other evidence of indebtedness relating to payment for an educational program is not enforceable by an institution unless, at the time of execution of the note, instrument, or other evidence of indebtedness, the institution held an approval to operate.

This bill instead would make a note, instrument, or other evidence of indebtedness relating to payment for an educational program void and

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not enforceable unless, at the time of execution of the note, instrument, or other evidence of indebtedness, the institution held an approval to operate or a valid out-of-state registration with the bureau, as provided.

(7) Existing law requires an institution to notify the bureau in writing of its intention to close at least 30 days before closing and requires the notice to be accompanied by a closure plan, as specified.

The bill would automatically terminate an institution's approval to operate on the date of closure or when the bureau verifies its exemption from the act. The bill would require the bureau to select a date of closure when an institution does not identify a date of closure. The bill would prohibit a terminated license from being reinstated.

(8) The act requires the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education bureau to investigate and conduct site inspections of institutions, as provided. The act requires, if If the bureau determines finds after an investigation that an institution is not in compliance with has violated the act or the bureau's regulations, existing law requires the bureau to issue a citation to the institution, and to take other actions, including providing the institution with the opportunity to remedy noncompliance or revoking the institution's approval to operate, as the bureau deems appropriate based on the severity of the institution's violations, and the harm caused to students. The act authorizes the bureau to include an order to compensate students for harm in a citation. Existing law repeals the act on January 1, 2023.

This bill would instead authorize the bureau to include in a citation to an institution an order to compensate students for harm that resulted or may have resulted from an institution's violations. The bill would also require the bureau to take those other enforcement actions as the bureau deems appropriate based on the severity of the institution's violations, and the harm that results or may result to students from the institution's violations.

Existing law requires bureau staff who, during an inspection of an institution, detect a violation of the act or regulations adopted pursuant to the act, that are a minor violation as determined by the bureau, to issue a notice to comply before leaving the institution. Existing law prohibits issuing a notice to comply for any minor violation that is corrected immediately in the presence of bureau staff.

This bill instead would require bureau staff to issue the notice to comply at the conclusion of the inspection and would prohibit issuing a notice to comply for any minor violation that is corrected before the conclusion of the inspection.

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(9) Existing law requires the bureau to cite any person, and subjects that person to a fine of up to \$100,000, for operating an institution without proper approval to operate issued by the bureau.

This bill would specify that the maximum fine for unlicensed activity is separate and does not include fines for other violations or refunds ordered.

(10) The act establishes the Student Tuition Recovery Fund, requires the bureau to adopt regulations governing the administration and maintenance of the fund, and continuously appropriates moneys in the fund to the bureau for specified purposes. Existing law repeals the act on January 1, 2023.

This bill would extend the act until January 1, 2027. By extending the operation of a continuously appropriated fund, the bill would make an appropriation.

#### **Under**

(11) Under existing law, the act specifies conduct by regulated institutions that, if undertaken, is a crime.

Because this bill would extend the application of those criminal provisions, it would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no-yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 94801.5 of the Education Code, as 2 amended by Section 2 of Chapter 153 of the Statutes of 2020, is 3 amended to read:
- 4 94801.5. (a) An out-of-state private postsecondary educational institution shall register with the bureau, pay a fee pursuant to Section 94930.5, and comply with all of the following:
- 7 (1) The institution shall provide the bureau with all of the following information information, as applicable, for consideration of initial registration by the bureau pursuant to paragraph (2).
- 10 (A) Evidence of institutional accreditation.

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(B) Evidence that the institution is approved to operate in the state where the institution maintains its main administrative location.

- (C) The agent for service of process consistent with Section 94943.5.
- (D) A copy of the institution's catalog and, if the institution uses enrollment agreements, a copy of a sample enrollment agreement.
- (E) Whether or not the institution, or a predecessor institution under substantially the same control or ownership, had its authorization or approval revoked or suspended by a state or by the federal government, or, within five years before submission of the registration, was subject to an enforcement action by a state or by the federal government that resulted in the imposition of limits on enrollment or student aid, or is subject to such an action that is not final and that was ongoing at the time of submission of the registration.
- (F) Whether or not the institution, or a controlling officer of, or a controlling interest or controlling investor in, the institution or in the parent entity of the institution, had been subject to any education, consumer protection, unfair business practice, fraud, or related enforcement action by a state or federal agency within five years before submitting the registration. If so, the institution shall provide the bureau a copy of the operative complaint with the registration.
- (G) Whether or not the institution is currently on probation, show cause, or subject to other adverse action, or the equivalent thereof, by its accreditor or has had its accreditation revoked or suspended within the five years before submitting the registration.
- (H) Whether or not the institution, within five years before submitting the registration, has settled, or been adjudged to have liability for, a civil complaint alleging the institution's failure to provide educational services, including a complaint alleging a violation of Title IX of the federal Education Amendments of 1972 (Public Law 92-318) or a similar state law, or a complaint alleging a violation of a law concerning consumer protection, unfair business practice, or fraud, filed by a student or former student, an employee or former employee, or a public official, for more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). The institution shall provide the bureau a copy of the complaint filed by the

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plaintiff and a copy of the judgment or settlement agreement for any such judgment or settlement, and the bureau shall consider, pursuant to paragraph (2), all material terms and aspects of the settlement, including, for example, whether a student plaintiff remained enrolled or reenrolled at the institution.

- (I) Any additional documentation the bureau deems necessary for consideration in the registration process.
- (2) When considering whether to approve, deny, or condition initial registration based upon the information provided by an institution pursuant to paragraph (1), the bureau shall do all of the following:
- (A) Not consider any individual submission made under paragraph (1) to be solely determinative of the institution's eligibility for registration but, exercising its reasonable discretion, approve, reject, or condition registration based upon a review of all of the information provided to it under paragraph (1).
- (B) Provide an institution with reasonable notice and opportunity to comment before the bureau regarding any determination to deny, condition, or reject initial registration before that determination becomes final. After the determination becomes final, the institution may seek review of the bureau's decision through an action brought pursuant to Section 1085 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (C) Require the initial registration, if approved, to memorialize that the institution agrees, as a condition of its registration, to be bound by this section and that its registration may be rejected, conditioned, or revoked for failure to comply with this section, as provided by subdivision (b). The agreement shall be signed by a responsible officer of the institution.
- (3) An institution that is registered with the bureau and enrolls a student residing in California shall report in writing to the bureau, within 30 days, the occurrence of any of the following:
- (A) The institution has its authorization or approval revoked or suspended by a state or by the federal government, or has been subject to an enforcement action by a state or by the federal government that resulted in the imposition of limits on enrollment or student aid.
- (B) The institution or a controlling officer of, or a controlling interest or controlling investor in, the institution or in the parent entity of the institution is subject to any education, consumer

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protection, unfair business practice, fraud, or related enforcement action by a state or federal agency. If so, the institution shall provide the bureau a copy of the operative complaint.

- (C) The institution is currently on probation, show cause, or subject to other adverse action, or the equivalent thereof, by its accreditor or the accreditation of the institution is revoked or suspended.
- (D) The institution settles, or is adjudged to have liability for, a civil complaint alleging the institution's failure to provide educational services, including a complaint alleging a violation of Title IX of the federal Education Amendments of 1972 (Public Law 92-318) or a similar state law, or a complaint alleging a violation of a law concerning consumer protection, unfair business practice, or fraud, filed by a student or former student, an employee or former employee, or a public official, for more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). The institution shall provide to the bureau a copy of the complaint filed by the plaintiff and a copy of the judgment or settlement agreement for any such judgment or settlement, and the bureau shall consider, pursuant to subdivision (b), all material terms and aspects of the settlement, including, for example, whether a student plaintiff remained enrolled or reenrolled at the institution.
- (4) The requirements of the Student Tuition Recovery Fund, established in Article 14 (commencing with Section 94923), and regulations adopted by the bureau related to the fund, for its students residing in California.
- (5) The institution shall provide disclosures pursuant to the requirements for the Student Tuition Recovery Fund, established in Article 14 (commencing with Section 94923), and regulations adopted by the bureau related to the fund, for its students residing in California.
- (b) (1) Upon receipt of any of the notifications in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), the bureau shall, within 30 days of receiving the notice, request the institution to explain in writing why the institution should be permitted to continue to enroll California residents. If the bureau, after reviewing the information submitted in response to the request and after consultation with the Attorney General, issues a written finding that there is no immediate risk to California residents from the institution continuing to enroll new students, the institution shall be permitted, pending completion of

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a review by the bureau, to continue to enroll new students or the bureau may, in its discretion, limit enrollments.

- (2) Any institution under review pursuant to paragraph (1) may have its registration revoked by the bureau if, after further review, the bureau issues a written finding that there is a substantial risk posed to California residents by the institution continuing to enroll California residents.
- (3) An institution shall have the right to reasonable notice and opportunity to comment to and before the bureau regarding any determination to revoke registration or to limit enrollment before that determination becomes final. An institution may seek review of a bureau order limiting new student enrollment or revoking registration under this subdivision through an action brought pursuant to Section 1085 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (4) Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as preventing the bureau from revoking an institution's registration on any other grounds specified in this chapter. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting or impairing the ability of an institution registered pursuant to this section or eligible to register pursuant to this section from applying to be an approved institution pursuant to this chapter.
- (c) (1) This section does not apply to a higher education institution that grants undergraduate degrees, graduate degrees, or both, and that is either formed as a nonprofit corporation and is accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, or is a public institution of higher education.
- (2) This section does not apply to a higher education institution that does not award degrees and that solely provides educational programs for total charges of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) or less when no part of the total charges is paid from state or federal student financial aid programs. The bureau may adjust this charge threshold based upon the California Consumer Price Index and post notification of the adjusted charge threshold on its internet website as the bureau determines, through the promulgation of regulations, that the adjustment is consistent with the intent of this chapter.
- (d) An institution described in subdivision (a) that fails to comply with this section is not authorized to operate in this state. Any institution whose registration is denied or revoked is

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authorized to reapply for registration after 12 months have elapsed
 from the date of the denial or revocation of registration.

- (e) A registration with the bureau pursuant to this section shall be valid for five years.
- (f) The bureau shall develop through emergency regulations effective on and after July 1, 2021, a registration form. The adoption of these regulations shall be deemed to be an emergency and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, or general welfare for purposes of Sections 11346.1 and 11349.6 of the Government Code. These emergency regulations shall become law through the regular rulemaking process by January 1, 2022.
- (g) The bureau shall disclose on its internet website a list of institutions registered pursuant to this section through reasonable means and disclose a designated email address for California residents to send a complaint to the bureau about an institution registered pursuant to this section. Complaints received through this email address shall be investigated in the same manner as complaints received by the bureau for institutions approved to operate pursuant to this chapter, but bureau enforcement in response to such complaints against institutions registered pursuant to this section shall be governed by subdivision (b).
  - (h) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2022.
- SEC. 2. Section 94801.7 is added to the Education Code, immediately following Section 94801.5, to read:
- 94801.7. (a) The bureau may establish through regulation thresholds of California-based activity that constitute limited physical presence, with those institutions subject to registration requirements defined through regulation, and minimal levels of California-based activity that do not require institutional approval by, nor registration with, the bureau. All institutions operating in the state and subject to approval or registration requirements shall comply with Section 94897.
- (b) An institution is considered to have a physical presence in the state if it offers instruction or core academic support services from a physical location owned, operated, or rented by or on behalf of the institution in California.
- 38 SEC. 3. Section 94869 of the Education Code is amended to 39 read:

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94869. "To operate" means to establish, keep, or maintain any facility or location in this state where, or from which, or through which, postsecondary educational programs are provided, provided, or to enroll California residents in postsecondary educational programs in an institution based outside of the state via distance education.

- SEC. 4. Section 94885 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 94885. (a) The bureau shall adopt by regulation minimum operating standards for an institution that shall reasonably ensure that all of the following occur:
- (1) The content of each educational program can achieve its stated objective.
- (2) The institution maintains specific written standards for student admissions for each educational program and those standards are related to the particular educational program.
- (3) The facilities, instructional equipment, and materials are sufficient to enable students to achieve the educational program's goals.
- (4) The institution maintains a withdrawal policy and provides refunds.
- (5) The directors, administrators, and faculty are properly qualified.
- (6) The institution is financially sound and capable of fulfilling its commitments to students.
- (7) That, upon satisfactory completion of an educational program, the institution gives students a document signifying the degree or diploma awarded.
- (8) Adequate records and standard transcripts are maintained and are available to students.
- (9) The institution is maintained and operated in compliance with this chapter and all other applicable ordinances and laws.
- (b) Except as provided in Section 94885.1, an institution offering a degree must satisfy one of the following requirements:
- (1) Accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, with the scope of that accreditation covering the offering of at least one degree program by the institution.
- 39 (2) An accreditation plan, approved by the bureau, for the 40 institution to become fully accredited within five years of the

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bureau's issuance of a provisional approval to operate to the institution. institution's degree programs. The provisional approval to operate to an unaccredited degree-offering institution for the unaccredited institution to operate degree programs shall be in compliance with Section 94885.5.

(c) For institutions that are approved by means of accreditation and accredited by an agency that loses recognition by the United States Department of Education, an application for approval to operate an institution unaccredited shall be submitted to the bureau within six months of the agency's loss of recognition. The application shall include an accreditation plan for the institution to become fully accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education within five years of the bureau's issuance to the institution of a provisional approval to operate degree programs. If the institution fails to submit the required application and accreditation plan within six months of its accreditor's loss of recognition, the institution shall cease to hold a valid approval to operate. The bureau shall review the submitted application and accreditation plan and issue the institution a provisional approval to operate degree programs within 18 months of the accreditor's loss of recognition or deny the application, at which time the institution shall cease to hold a valid approval to operate. An unaccredited institution with a provisional approval to operate degree programs shall comply with Section 94885.5, except for paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 94885.5. The institution shall not seek bureau approval for additional degree programs until the institution regains accreditation.

SEC. 5. Section 94885.7 is added to the Education Code, to read:

94885.7. (a) When an institution offering at least one degree program has ceased to be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, the institution shall notify the bureau immediately, but no more than seven days after it ceases to be accredited. The institution's approval to operate degree programs shall become provisional as of the date that the institution ceases to be accredited.

(b) An institution that has had its approval to operate degree programs become provisional shall satisfy the following

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requirements in order to maintain its provisional approval to operate degree programs from the bureau:

- (1) The institution shall not seek bureau approval for additional degree programs until the institution regains accreditation.
- (2) Within six months of its approval to operate degree programs becoming provisional, the institution shall submit an accreditation plan, to be approved by the bureau, for the institution to become fully accredited within five years of the date of its provisional approval to operate degree programs. The plan shall include, at a minimum, identification of an accreditation agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, from which the institution plans to seek accreditation, and outline the process by which the institution will achieve accreditation candidacy or pre-accreditation within two years, and full accreditation within five years, of its provisional approval to operate degree programs.
- (3) The institution shall submit to the bureau all additional documentation the bureau deems necessary to determine if the institution will become fully accredited within five years of its approval to operate degree programs being deemed provisional.
- (c) An institution that satisfies the requirements of subdivision (b) shall comply with both of the following:
- (1) Notify students seeking to enroll in the institution, in writing, before the execution of the student's enrollment agreement, that the institution's approval to operate a degree program is contingent upon the institution being subsequently accredited.
- (2) Within the first two years of the institution's approval to operate degree programs being deemed provisional, a visiting committee, empaneled by the bureau pursuant to Section 94882, shall review the institution's documentation of provisional approval and its accreditation plan, and make a recommendation to the bureau regarding the institution's progress toward achieving full accreditation.
- (d) (1) The bureau shall, upon the timely submission of sufficient evidence that an unaccredited institution is making strong progress toward obtaining accreditation, grant an institution's request for an extension of time, not to exceed five years in total, to meet the requirements of this section.
- (2) Evidence submitted to the bureau pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include, but is not limited to, an amended accreditation plan adequately identifying why pre-accreditation, accreditation

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candidacy, or accreditation outlined in the original plan submitted to the bureau was not achieved, active steps the institution is taking to comply with this section, and documentation from an accrediting agency demonstrating the institution's likely ability to meet the requirements of this section.

- (3) The bureau may establish policies and procedures to comply with the requirements of this subdivision. Establishment of these policies and procedures are exempt from Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340), Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 11370), Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400), and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.
- (e) Any institution that fails to comply with the requirements of this section by the dates provided shall have its provisional approval to operate degree programs automatically suspended on the applicable date. The bureau shall issue an order suspending the institution's provisional approval to operate degree programs and that suspension shall not be lifted until the institution complies with the requirements of this section or has its accreditation reinstated. An institution with a suspended provisional approval to operate degree programs shall not enroll new students in any of its degree programs and shall execute a teach-out plan for its enrolled students.
- (f) (1) This section does not prohibit an institution from voluntarily ceasing to pursue accreditation. An institution that voluntarily ceases to pursue accreditation shall immediately notify the bureau in writing of the institution's intent to stop offering its degree programs and shall comply with all other applicable laws and regulations. Upon the bureau's receipt of the notification, the institution's approval to operate degree programs is deemed voluntarily surrendered.
- (2) An institution offering both degree and nondegree programs that has its provisional approval to operate degree programs suspended or that voluntarily ceases to pursue accreditation may continue to offer its nondegree programs and is subject to all other laws and regulations.
- (3) An institution that is pursuing accreditation under this section shall not make a change in ownership, change in control, or change in business organization form pursuant to Sections 94893 and 94894 until the institution obtains full accreditation.

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1 SEC. 6. Section 94887 of the Education Code is amended to 2 read:

94887. An approval to operate shall be granted only after an applicant has presented sufficient evidence to the bureau, and the bureau has independently verified the information provided by the applicant through site visits or other methods deemed appropriate by the bureau, that the applicant has the capacity to satisfy the minimum operating standards. The bureau shall deny an application for an approval to operate if the application does not satisfy those standards. The bureau may deny an application for an approval to operate institutions that would be owned by, have persons in control of, or employ institution managers that had knowledge of, should have known, or knowingly participated in any conduct that was the cause for revocation or unmitigated discipline at another institution.

- SEC. 7. Section 94894 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 94894. The following changes to an approval to operate are considered substantive changes and require prior authorization:
- (a) A change in educational objectives, including an addition of a new diploma or a degree educational program unrelated to the approved educational programs offered by the institution.
- (b) A change in-ownership. ownership, institution manager, or person in control.
  - (c) A change in control.
  - (d) A change in business organization form.
- (e) A change of location.
- 28 (f) A change of name.

- (g) A significant change in the method of instructional delivery.
- (h) An addition of a separate branch more than five miles from the main or branch campus.
- (i) An increase or decrease of 25 percent or more in the number of clock hours or credit hours required for successful completion of the program.
- (j) Participation in federal student financial aid programs authorized by Title IV of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1070 et seq.).
- 38 (k) A change in the academic measurement of an educational program from clock hours to credit hours.

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1 (*l*) A change in the distance education learning management 2 system.

- 3 SEC. 8. Section 94897 of the Education Code is amended to 4 read:
  - 94897. An institution shall not do any of the following:
  - (a) Use, or allow the use of, any reproduction or facsimile of the Great Seal of the State of California on a diploma.
  - (b) Promise or guarantee employment, or otherwise overstate the availability of jobs upon graduation.
  - (c) Advertise concerning job availability, degree of skill, or length of time required to learn a trade or skill unless the information is accurate and not misleading.
  - (d) Advertise, or indicate in promotional material, without including the fact that the educational programs are delivered by means of distance education if the educational programs are so delivered.
  - (e) Advertise, or indicate in promotional material, that the institution is accredited, unless the institution has been accredited by an accrediting agency.
  - (f) Solicit students for enrollment by causing an advertisement to be published in "help wanted" columns in a magazine, newspaper, or publication, or use "blind" advertising that fails to identify the institution.
  - (g) Offer to compensate a student to act as an agent of the institution with regard to the solicitation, referral, or recruitment of any person for enrollment in the institution, except that an institution may award a token gift to a student for referring an individual, provided that the gift is not in the form of money, no more than one gift is provided annually to a student, and the gift's cost is not more than one hundred dollars (\$100).
  - (h) Pay any consideration to a person to induce that person to sign an enrollment agreement for an educational program.
  - (i) Use a name in any manner improperly implying any of the following:
  - (1) The institution is affiliated with any government agency, public or private corporation, agency, or association if it is not, in fact, thus affiliated.
    - (2) The institution is a public institution.
- 39 (3) The institution grants degrees, if the institution does not 40 grant degrees.

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(j) In any manner make an untrue or misleading change in, or untrue or misleading statement related to, a test score, grade or record of grades, attendance record, record indicating student completion, placement, employment, salaries, or financial information, including any of the following:

(1) A financial report filed with the bureau.

- (2) Information or records relating to the student's eligibility for student financial aid at the institution.
- (3) Any other record or document required by this chapter or by the bureau.
- (k) Willfully falsify, destroy, or conceal any document of record while that document of record is required to be maintained by this chapter.
- (*l*) Use the terms "approval," "approved," "approval to operate," or "approved to operate" without stating clearly and conspicuously that approval to operate means compliance with state standards as set forth in this chapter. If the bureau has granted an institution approval to operate, the institution may indicate that the institution is "licensed" or "licensed to operate," but may not state or imply either of the following:
- (1) The institution or its educational programs are endorsed or recommended by the state or by the bureau.
- (2) The approval to operate indicates that the institution exceeds minimum state standards as set forth in this chapter.
- (m) Direct any individual to perform an act that violates this chapter, to refrain from reporting unlawful conduct to the bureau or another government agency, or to engage in any unfair act to persuade a student not to complain to the bureau or another government agency.
- (n) Compensate an employee involved in recruitment, enrollment, admissions, student attendance, or sales of educational materials to students on the basis of a commission, commission draw, bonus, quota, or other similar method related to the recruitment, enrollment, admissions, student attendance, or sales of educational materials to students, except as provided in paragraph (1) or (2):
- (1) If the educational program is scheduled to be completed in 90 days or less, the institution shall pay compensation related to a particular student only if that student completes the educational program.

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(2) For institutions participating in the federal student financial aid programs, this subdivision shall not prevent the payment of compensation to those involved in recruitment, admissions, or the award of financial aid if those payments are in conformity with federal regulations governing an institution's participation in the federal student financial aid programs.

- (o) Require a prospective student to provide personal contact information in order to obtain, from the institution's Internet Web site, internet website, educational program information that is required to be contained in the school catalog or any information required pursuant to the consumer information requirements of Title IV of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965, and any amendments thereto.
- (p) Offer an associate, baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral degree without disclosing to prospective students—prior to before enrollment whether the institution or the degree program is unaccredited and any known limitation of the degree, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
- (1) Whether a graduate of the degree program will be eligible to sit for the applicable licensure exam in California and other states.
- (2) A statement that reads: "A degree program that is unaccredited or a degree from an unaccredited institution is not recognized for some employment positions, including, but not limited to, positions with the State of California."
- (3) That a student enrolled in an unaccredited institution is not eligible for federal financial aid programs.
- (q) In any manner commit fraud against, or make an untrue or misleading statement to, a student or prospective student under the institution's authority or the pretense or appearance of the institution's authority.
- (r) Charge or collect any payment for institutional charges that are not authorized by an executed enrollment agreement.
  - (s) Violate Section 1788.93 of the Civil Code.
- (t) Require a prospective, current, or former student or employee to sign a nondisclosure agreement pertaining to their relationship to, or experience with, the institution.
- 38 (u) Fail to maintain policies related to compliance with this chapter or adhere to the institution's stated policies.

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1 SEC. 9. Section 94899 of the Education Code is amended to 2 read:

- 94899. (a) If an institution offers an educational program in a profession, occupation, trade, or career field that requires licensure in this state, the institution shall have an educational program approval from the appropriate state licensing agency to conduct that educational program in order that a student who completes the educational program, except as provided in Section 94905, is eligible to sit for any required licensure examination.
- (b) An institution offering an educational program requiring approval from another state licensing agency that subsequently loses that approval shall have their approval to operate the program automatically suspended by the bureau by operation of law. The institution shall notify the bureau within 10 days of its loss of approval to offer the educational program, and shall cease offering the program within 30 days of the loss of the approval to offer the educational program, or by an earlier date as required by the other state licensing agency. Reinstatement of the approval to operate may be made at any time following the suspension by providing proof satisfactory to the bureau that the license is properly approved and in compliance with all bureau requirements.
- SEC. 10. Section 94909 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 94909. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (d), before enrollment, an institution shall provide a prospective student, either in writing or electronically, with a school catalog containing, at a minimum, all of the following:
- (1) The name, address, telephone number, and, if applicable, internet website address of the institution.
- (2) Except as specified in Article 2 (commencing with Section 94802), a statement that the institution is a private institution and that it is approved to operate by the bureau.
  - (3) The following statements:
- (A) "Any questions a student may have regarding this catalog that have not been satisfactorily answered by the institution may be directed to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education at (address), Sacramento, CA (ZIP Code), (internet website address), (telephone and fax numbers)."
- 39 (B) "As a prospective student, you are encouraged to review 40 this catalog before signing an enrollment agreement. You are also

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encouraged to review the School Performance Fact Sheet, which must be provided to you before signing an enrollment agreement."

- (C) "A student or any member of the public may file a complaint about this institution with the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education by calling (toll-free telephone number) or by completing a complaint form, which can be obtained on the bureau's internet website (internet website address)."
- (D) "The Office of Student Assistance and Relief is available to support prospective students, current students, or past students of private postsecondary educational institutions in making informed decisions, understanding their rights, and navigating available services and relief options. The office may be reached by calling (toll-free telephone number) or by visiting (internet website address)."
  - (4) The address or addresses where class sessions will be held.
- (5) A description of the programs offered and a description of the instruction provided in each of the courses offered by the institution, the requirements for completion of each program, including required courses, any final tests or examinations, any required internships or externships, and the total number of credit hours, clock hours, or other increments required for completion.
- (6) If the educational program is designed to lead to positions in a profession, occupation, trade, or career field requiring licensure in this state, a notice to that effect and a list of the requirements for eligibility for licensure.
  - (7) Information regarding the faculty and their qualifications.
- (8) A detailed description of institutional policies in the following areas:
- (A) Admissions policies, including the institution's policies regarding the acceptance of credits earned at other institutions or through challenge examinations and achievement tests, and a list describing any transfer or articulation agreements between the institution and any other college or university that provides for the transfer of credits earned in the program of instruction. If the institution has not entered into an articulation or transfer agreement with any other college or university, the institution shall disclose that fact.
- (B) Cancellation, withdrawal, and refund policies, including an explanation that the student has the right to cancel the enrollment agreement and obtain a refund of charges paid through attendance

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at the first class session, or the seventh day after enrollment, whichever is later. The text shall also include a description of the procedures that a student is required to follow to cancel the enrollment agreement or withdraw from the institution and obtain a refund consistent with the requirements of Article 13 (commencing with Section 94919).

- (C) Probation and dismissal policies.
- (D) Attendance policies.

- (E) Leave-of-absence policies.
- (9) The schedule of total charges for a period of attendance and an estimated schedule of total charges for the entire educational program.
- (10) A statement reporting whether the institution participates in federal and state financial aid programs, and if so, all consumer information that is required to be disclosed to the student pursuant to the applicable federal and state financial aid programs.
- (11) A statement specifying that, if a student obtains a loan to pay for an educational program, the student will have the responsibility to repay the full amount of the loan plus interest, less the amount of any refund, and that, if the student has received federal student financial aid funds, the student is entitled to a refund of the moneys not paid from federal student financial aid program funds.
- (12) A statement specifying whether the institution has a pending petition in bankruptcy, is operating as a debtor in possession, has filed a petition within the preceding five years, or has had a petition in bankruptcy filed against it within the preceding five years that resulted in reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. Sec. 1101 et seq.).
- (13) If the institution provides placement services, a description of the nature and extent of the placement services.
- (14) A description of the student's rights and responsibilities with respect to the Student Tuition Recovery Fund. This statement shall specify that it is a state requirement that a student who pays the student's tuition is required to pay a state-imposed assessment for the Student Tuition Recovery Fund. This statement shall also describe the purpose and operation of the Student Tuition Recovery Fund and the requirements for filing a claim against the Student Tuition Recovery Fund.
- (15) The following statement:

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"NOTICE CONCERNING TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDITS AND CREDENTIALS EARNED AT OUR INSTITUTION

The transferability of credits you earn at (name of institution) is at the complete discretion of an institution to which you may seek to transfer. Acceptance of the (degree, diploma, or certificate) you earn in (name of educational program) is also at the complete discretion of the institution to which you may seek to transfer. If the (credits or degree, diploma, or certificate) that you earn at this institution are not accepted at the institution to which you seek to transfer, you may be required to repeat some or all of your coursework at that institution. For this reason you should make certain that your attendance at this institution will meet your educational goals. This may include contacting an institution to which you may seek to transfer after attending (name of institution) to determine if your (credits or degree, diploma, or certificate) will transfer."

- (16) A statement specifying whether the institution, or any of its degree programs, are accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education. If the institution is unaccredited and offers an associate, baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral degree, or is accredited and offers an unaccredited program for an associate, baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral degree, the statement shall disclose the known limitations of the degree program, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
- (A) Whether a graduate of the degree program will be eligible to sit for the applicable licensure exam in California and other states or become certified or registered as required for the applicable profession, occupation, trade, or career field in California.
- (B) A degree program that is unaccredited or a degree from an unaccredited institution is not recognized for some employment positions, including, but not limited to, positions with the State of California.
- 39 (C) That a student enrolled in an unaccredited institution is not 40 eligible for federal financial aid programs.

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(b) If the institution has a general student brochure, the institution shall provide that brochure to the prospective student before enrollment. In addition, if the institution has a program-specific student brochure for the program in which the prospective student seeks to enroll, the institution shall provide the program-specific student brochure to the prospective student before enrollment.

- (c) An institution shall provide the school catalog to any person upon request. In addition, if the institution has student brochures, the institution shall disclose the requested brochures to any interested person upon request.
- (d) An accredited institution is not required to provide a School Performance Fact Sheet to a prospective student who is not a California resident, not residing in California at the time of the student's enrollment, and enrolling in an accredited distance learning degree program offered by the institution, if the institution complies with all federal laws, the applicable laws of the state where the student is located, and other appropriate laws, including, but not limited to, consumer protection and student disclosure requirements.
- SEC. 11. Section 94917 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 94917. A note, instrument, or other evidence of indebtedness relating to payment for an educational program is *void and* not enforceable by an institution unless, at the time of execution of the note, instrument, or other evidence of indebtedness, the institution held an approval to operate. operate or valid out-of-state registration with the bureau.
- SEC. 12. Section 94918.5 is added to the Education Code, immediately following Section 94918, to read:
- 94918.5. (a) The bureau's administration of this article or Article 13 (commencing with Section 94919) shall not preclude the authority of the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation over, and application of the California Consumer Financial Protection Law to, any "covered persons" as defined by subdivision (f) of Section 90005 of the Financial Code, including, but not limited to, private postsecondary educational institutions.
- *(b)* Nothing in this chapter shall constitute regulation of an 40 institution's financial product or service pursuant to subparagraph

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1 (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 90009 of the 2 Financial Code, or shall otherwise be construed to limit the 3 Department of Financial Protection and Innovation's jurisdiction 4 with respect to an institution's financial product or service.

- (c) An institution subject to this chapter shall not be considered "acting under the authority" of its status with the bureau pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 90002 of the Financial Code when offering financial products or services.
- 9 SEC. 13. Section 94926.5 is added to the Education Code, to 10 read:
  - 94926.5. (a) An institution's approval to operate is automatically terminated on the date of closure or when its exemption from this chapter has been verified by the bureau.
- 14 (b) An institution that does not identify a date of closure shall have one selected by the bureau.
  - (c) A terminated license shall not be reinstated. SECTION 1.
- 18 SEC. 14. Section 94933 of the Education Code is amended to 19 read:
  - 94933. The bureau shall provide an institution with the opportunity to remedy noncompliance, impose fines, place the institution on probation, or suspend or revoke the institution's approval to operate, in accordance with this article, as it deems appropriate based on the severity of an institution's violations of this chapter, and the harm that results or may result to students.
  - SEC. 15. Section 94934.5 of the Education Code is amended to read:
  - 94934.5. (a) An institution with an approval to operate that knows that it is being investigated by an oversight entity other than the bureau shall report that investigation, including the nature of that investigation, to the bureau *in writing* within 30 days of the institution's first knowledge of the investigation. An institution with an approval to operate that is the subject of a judgment by, a regulatory action by, increased oversight or monitoring by, or a settlement with, any oversight entity other than the bureau shall report it to the bureau within 30 days. Failure to comply with this section may subject the institution to an administrative citation pursuant to Section 94936.

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(b) For the purposes of this section, "investigation" means any inquiry into possible violations of any applicable laws or accreditation standards.

- (c) For the purposes of this section, "oversight entity" means all of the following:
- (1) Any federal or state entity that provides financial aid to students of the institution or approves the institution for participation in a financial aid program.

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- (1) Any state or federal attorney general's office or department of justice. governmental agency.
  - (3) Any regulator that approves the operation of the institution.
- (4) The federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau or the federal Securities and Exchange Commission. 14

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16 (2) Any accrediting agency.

- (3) Any-state professional licensing entity that exercises any programmatic or institutional approval over the institution.
- SEC. 16. Section 94935 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 94935. (a) Bureau staff who, during an inspection of an institution, detect a violation of this chapter, or regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter, that is a minor violation as determined by the bureau, pursuant to regulations adopted by January 1, 2011, shall issue a notice to comply before leaving the institution. at the conclusion of the inspection. The bureau shall establish a voluntary informal appeal process, by regulation, within one year of the enactment of this chapter.
- (b) An institution that receives a notice to comply shall have no more than 30 days from the date of inspection to remedy the noncompliance.
- (c) Upon achieving compliance, the institution shall sign and return the notice to comply to the bureau.
- (d) A single notice to comply shall be issued listing separately all the minor violations cited during the inspection.
- (e) A notice to comply shall not be issued for any minor violation that is corrected immediately in the presence of the bureau staff. before the conclusion of the inspection. Immediate

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compliance may be noted in the inspection report, but the institution shall not be subject to any further action by the bureau.

- (f) A notice to comply shall be the only means the bureau shall use to cite a minor violation discovered during an inspection. The bureau shall not take any other enforcement action specified in this chapter against an institution that has received a notice to comply if the institution remedies the violation within 30 days from the date of the inspection.
- (g) If an institution that receives a notice to comply pursuant to subdivision (a) disagrees with one or more of the alleged minor violations listed in the notice to comply, an institution shall send the bureau a written notice of disagreement. The agency may take administrative enforcement action to seek compliance with the requirements of the notice to comply.
- (h) If an institution fails to comply with a notice to comply within the prescribed time, the bureau shall take appropriate administrative enforcement action.

SEC. 2.

SEC. 17. Section 94936 of the Education Code is amended to read:

- 94936. (a) As a consequence of an investigation, which may incorporate any materials obtained or produced in connection with a compliance inspection, and upon a finding that the institution has committed a violation of this chapter or that the institution has failed to comply with a notice to comply pursuant to Section 94935, the bureau shall issue a citation to an institution for violation of this chapter, or regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.
  - (b) The citation may contain any of the following:
- (1) An order of abatement that may require an institution to demonstrate how future compliance with this chapter or regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter will be accomplished.
- (2) Notwithstanding Section 125.9 of the Business and Professions Code, an administrative fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation. The bureau shall base its assessment of the administrative fine on:
- 36 (A) The nature and seriousness of the violation.
- 37 (B) The persistence of the violation.
  - (C) The good faith of the institution.
- 39 (D) The history of previous violations.
- 40 (E) The purposes of this chapter.

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(F) The potential harm to students.

- (3) An order to compensate students for harm that resulted or may have resulted, including a refund of moneys paid to the institution by or on behalf of the student, as determined by the bureau.
- (c) (1) The citation shall be in writing and describe the nature of the violation and the specific provision of law or regulation that is alleged to have been violated.
- (2) The citation shall inform the institution of its right to request a hearing in writing within 30 days from service of the citation.
- (3) If a hearing is requested, the bureau shall select an informal hearing pursuant to Article 10 (commencing with Section 11445.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code or a formal hearing pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.
- (4) If a hearing is not requested, payment of the administrative fine is due 30 days from the date of service, and shall not constitute an admission of the violation charged.
- (5) If a hearing is conducted and payment of an administrative fine is ordered, the administrative fine is due 30 days from when the final order is entered.
- (6) The bureau may enforce the administrative fine as if it were a money judgment pursuant to Title 9 (commencing with Section 680.010) of Part 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (d) All administrative fines shall be deposited in the Private Postsecondary Education Administration Fund.
- SEC. 18. Section 94944 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 94944. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the bureau shall cite any person, and that person shall be subject to a fine not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), for operating an institution without proper approval to operate issued by the bureau pursuant to this chapter. The maximum fine for unlicensed activity is separate and not inclusive of fines for other violations or refunds ordered.
- SEC. 19. Section 94949.8 is added to the Education Code, immediately following Section 94949.73, to read:
- 39 94949.8. (a) An institution that qualifies as a public institution 40 of higher education pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 94858.5,

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that is operated by another state, and that maintains a physical
 presence in this state may apply for an approval to operate from
 the bureau.

- (b) (1) With regard to a public institution of higher education approved pursuant to this section, the bureau shall administer and enforce this chapter, and the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter, in the same manner and to the same extent as if such institutions were private postsecondary educational institutions, as defined in Section 94858.
- (2) A public institution of higher education approved pursuant to this section is subject to the provisions of, and the regulations adopted pursuant to, this chapter in the same manner and to the same extent as if it was a private postsecondary educational institution, as defined in Section 94858, including the provisions related to fees, annual reports, compliance inspections, and the Student Tuition Recovery Fund.
- (c) As necessary or appropriate, the bureau shall publish public guidance regarding the application of this chapter and the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter to a public institution of higher education approved pursuant to this section. The bureau's development and publication of any such guidance is exempt from the requirements of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The bureau shall, on or before July 1, 2024, amend any regulations that conflict with this section.
- SEC. 20. Section 94950 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 94950. This chapter shall remain in effect only until January 1, <del>2023,</del> 2027, and as of that date is repealed.

30 SEC. 3.

SEC. 21. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.

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2 REVISIONS:
3 Heading—Line 2.
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#### BUREAU OPERATIONS UPDATE RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- a. IT Systems Project
- b. Licensing Report
- c. Quality of Education Report
- d. Annual Report Update
- e. Compliance and Discipline Report
- f. Complaint and Investigation Report
- g. Office of Student Assistance and Relief (OSAR) Report
- h. Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) Report

## Agenda Item 8a

## IT SYSTEMS PROJECT

## Agenda Item 8b

## LICENSING REPORT

## Licensing Applications Status as of July 1, 2022 for Fiscal Year 21/22

| Туре                      | Received<br>FY 21/22 | Pending<br>Assignment<br>(Queue) | Under<br>Review | Total<br>Pending | Approved | Withdrawn<br>or<br>Abandoned | Denied | Total<br>Closed | Average<br>Days to<br>Approve <sup>a</sup> |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------|-----------------|--|
| New Full Approval         | 27                   | 18                               | 41              | 58               | 25       | 10                           | 3      | 38              | 490  |
| New Accreditation         | 30                   | 0                                | 7               | 7                | 23       | 12                           | 0      | 35              | 122  |
| Renewal Full              | 83                   | 0                                | 118             | 118              | 49       | 4                            | 2      | 55              | 384  |
| Renewal Accreditation     | 73                   | 0                                | 35              | 35               | 82       | 1                            | 0      | 83              | 199  |
| Changes Full              | 143                  | 0                                | 56              | 56               | 126      | 21                           | 6      | 153             | 181  |
| Changes Accreditation     | 196                  | 0                                | 33              | 33               | 190      | 34                           | 0      | 224             | 113  |
| Verification of Exemption | 247                  | 0                                | 28              | 28               | 214      | 2                            | 77     | 297             | 53   |
| Out of State Registration | 71                   | 0                                | 7               | 7                | 65       | 6                            | 0      | 71              | 42   |
| Totals:                   | 870                  | 18                               | 325             | 342              | 774      | 90                           | 88     | 956             | 198  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Average Days to Approve is calculated from time assigned to analyst.

#### **Oldest Pending Full Applications** (as of 7/1/2022)

| • | ·                                   |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Oldest Full Apps in Queue:              | 6/22/2021 Application is incomplete |
| Oldest Full Apps Under Review:          | 1/30/2019 #31957                    |
| Oldest Renewal Full Apps Under Review:  | 4/10/2017 #30098 Disipline issues   |
| Median Date of Full Apps in Queue:      | 5/2/2022                            |

| Total Number of Schools by Location Type & Approval Type |              |             |                            |                          |  |  |
|--|--------------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| Location Type  | Mains        | Branches    | Satellites                 | Total                    |  |  |
| Location Type  | 965          | 365         | 512                        | 1,842                    |  |  |
|  | ABMA         | Full (Non-  | Canaditian al <sup>a</sup> |                          |  |  |
| Approval Type  | (Accredited) | Accredited) | Conditional                | Provisional <sup>b</sup> |  |  |
|  | 414          | 528         | 1                          | 22                       |  |  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Conditional Approvals are issued for a period up to six months when minor deficiencies exist but the institution is substantially in compliance with the requirements of the laws and regulations (California

88 Approved Out of State Registrations as of 7/1/2022

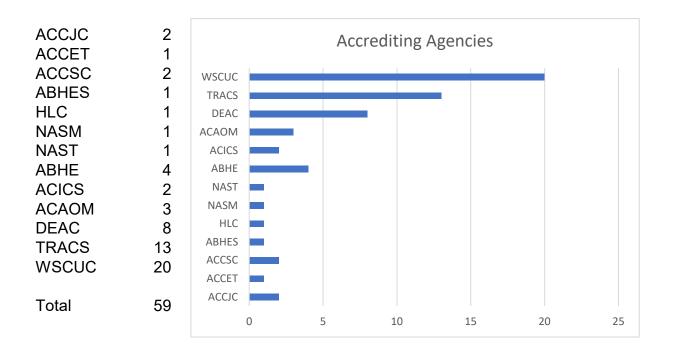
<sup>\* 22</sup> applications pending new term of accreditation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Provisional Approvals are issued to unnaccredited instititions seeking approval to offer one or more degree programs and must satisfy the requirements under California Education Code section 94885.5.

## Agenda Item 8c

## QUALITY OF EDUCATION REPORT

#### SB 1247 Institutions that Achieved Accreditation & Accreditor Chosen



**ABHE**: Association for Biblical Higher Education

ABHES: Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools

**ACAOM**: Accrediting Commission for Accupuncture & Oriental Medicine

ACCJC: Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges

**ACCET**: Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training

ACCSC: Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges

**ACICS**: Accrediting Commission for Independent Colleges and Schools

**HLC**: Higher Learning Commission

**DEAC**: Distance Education Accrediting Commission **NASM**: National Association of Schools of Music **NAST**: National Association of Schools of Theater

**TRACS**: Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools

**WSCUC**: WASC Senior College and University Commission

#### **STATUS OF SB 1247 INSTITUTIONS**

## CEC 94885.1 Schools (Approved to Offer Degree Programs as of Jan 1, 2015)

| Closed or Approval Expired    | 49       |   |
|-------------------------------|----------|---|
| Exempt                        | 19       |   |
| Surrendered Degree Program(s) | 22       |   |
| Currently Suspended           | 4        |   |
| Accredited                    | 45       |   |
| On Approved Extension         | <u>3</u> | Extensions to September & December 2022 |
| TOTAL                         | 142      |   |

## **CEC 94885.5 Schools (Provisionally Approved to Offer Degree Programs)**

| Closed                        | 12 |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Exempt                        | 2  |
| Surrendered Degree Program(s) | 10 |
| Currently Suspended           | 7  |
| Accredited                    | 14 |
| Pursuing Accreditation        | 31 |
|                               |    |
| Total                         | 76 |

Number of institutions since 2015 whose degree programs were suspended:

2015 - 11

2016 - 0

2017 - 13

2018 - 1

2019 - 6

2020 - 12

2021 - 3 2022- 2

## Agenda Item 8d

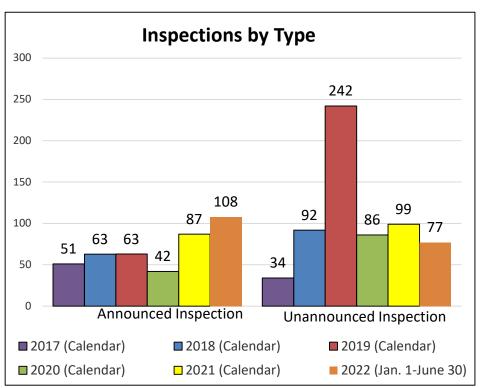
## ANNUAL REPORT UPDATE

## Agenda Item 8e

## COMPLIANCE AND DISCIPLINE REPORT

| COMPLIANCE STATS AS OF June 30, 2022 |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Compliance<br>Stats                  | 2017<br>(Calendar) | 2018<br>(Calendar) | 2019<br>(Calendar) | 2020<br>(Calendar) | 2021<br>(Calendar) | <b>2022</b><br>(Jan. 1 -<br>June 30) |  |
| Total Completed Inspections          | 85                 | 155                | 305                | 128                | 186                | 185                                  |  |
| ACI - Announced Inspections          | 51                 | 63                 | 63                 | 42                 | 87                 | 108                                  |  |
| UCI - Unannounced Inspections        | 34                 | 92                 | 242                | 86                 | 99                 | 77                                   |  |
| Notice To Comply Issued              | 47                 | 65                 | 49                 | 11                 | 17                 | 35                                   |  |
| Enforcement Referral Issued          | 36                 | 56                 | 93                 | 26                 | 60                 | 71                                   |  |
| Inspections Cancelled *              | N/A**              | 7                  | 18                 | 12                 | 13                 | 11                                   |  |

- \*Causes for Cancellations:
- (1) The school closed during inspection process.
- (2) The school surrendered approval.
- (3) The school refused to allow inspection resulting in further action.
- (4) The school was not at the physical location listed in SAIL.
- (5) The renewal to operate was denied.
- \*\*Not Applicable because this data was not being collected in 2017.



2017 (Calendar) Total Inspections: 85
2018 (Calendar) Total Inspections: 155
2019 (Calendar) Total Inspections: 305
2020 (Calendar) Total Inspections: 128
2021 (Calendar) Total Inspections: 186
2022 (Jan. 1 - June 30) Total Inspections: 185

#### 2017 (Calendar) Percentages: Announced: 60.0 Unannounced: 40.0

#### 2018 (Calendar) Percentages:

Announced: 40.6 Unannounced: 59.4

#### 2019 (Calendar) Percentages:

Announced: 20.7 Unannounced: 79.3

#### 2020 (Calendar) Percentages:

Announced: 32.8 Unannounced: 67.2

#### 2021 (Calendar) Percentages:

Announced: 46.8 Unannounced: 53.2

#### 2022 (Jan.1 - June 30) Percentages:

Announced: 58.4 Unannounced: 41.6

#### **BPPE COMPLIANCE STATS**



|  | 2017<br>(Calendar) | 2018<br>(Calendar) | 2019<br>(Calendar) | 2020<br>(Calendar) | 2021<br>(Calendar) | 2022<br>(Jan.1 - June<br>30) |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Announced Compliance Inspection (ACI)              | 51                 | 63                 | 63                 | 42                 | 87                 | 108                          |
| Unannounced Compliance<br>Inspection (UCI)         | 34                 | 92                 | 242                | 86                 | 99                 | 77                           |
| Total Compliance Inspections Completed (ACI + UCI) | 85                 | 155                | 305                | 128                | 186                | 185                          |
| Notice to Comply (NTC)                             | 47                 | 65                 | 49                 | 11                 | 17                 | 35                           |
| Enforcement Referral (ER)                          | 36                 | 56                 | 93                 | 26                 | 60                 | 71                           |

## **Statement of Issues**

| Actions   | 2018<br>(Calendar) | 2019<br>(Calendar) | 2020<br>(Calendar) | 2021<br>(Calendar) | 2022<br>(Jan. 1-June 30) |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| In-House Default: Denial Upheld                             | 6                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Proposed Decision: Denial Upheld                            | 2                  | 5                  | 0                  | 2                  | 0                        |
| Proposed Decision: Conditional Approval Granted             | 0                  | 1                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Stipulated Settlement: Denial Upheld (School Closure)       | 1                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Stipulated Settlement: Conditional Approval Granted         | 1                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Withdrawn: Approval Granted (Mitigation cured deficiencies) | 11                 | 13                 | 7                  | 3                  | 0                        |
| Withdrawn: Denial Upheld (School withdrew appeal)           | 7                  | 6                  | 6                  | 1                  | 2                        |
| Withdrawn: Exempt Institution                               | 1                  | 1                  | 2                  | 2                  | 0                        |
| Totals:   | 29                 | 26                 | 15                 | 8                  | 2                        |

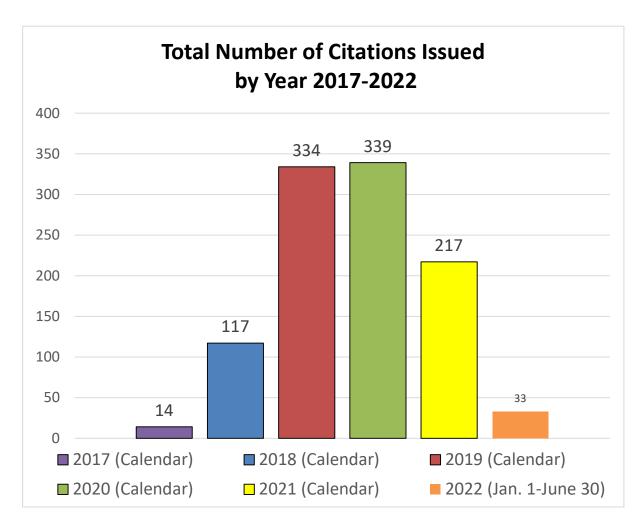
## **Accusations**

| Actions                                     | 2018<br>(Calendar) | 2019<br>(Calendar) | 2020<br>(Calendar) | 2021<br>(Calendar) | 2022<br>(Jan. 1-June 30) |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Default: Revocation                         | 1                  | 0                  | 5                  | 6                  | 2                        |
| PC 23                                       | 1                  | 1                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Proposed Decision: Probation Granted        | 0                  | 1                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Proposed Decision: Revocation               | 1                  | 0                  | 1                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Rejected by DAG                             | 0                  | 3                  | 0                  | 2                  | 0                        |
| Stipulated Settlement Probation             | 0                  | 5                  | 1                  | 1                  | 0                        |
| Stipulated Surrender                        | 2                  | 4                  | 4                  | 4                  | 0                        |
| Stipulated Settlement - Public<br>Reproval  | 0                  | 0                  | 1                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Withdrawn By Bureau: Citation Issued        | 1                  | 1                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Withdrawn by Bureau: Violations<br>Resolved | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 1                        |
| Withdrawn by Bureau: Renewal Granted        | 2                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                        |
| Totals:                                     | 8                  | 15                 | 12                 | 13                 | 3                        |

| Automatic Suspensions | 2018       | 2019       | 2020       | 2021       | 2022             |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
|                       | (Calendar) | (Calendar) | (Calendar) | (Calendar) | (Jan. 1-June 30) |
| Automatic Suspensions | 1          | 4          | 13         | 3          | 2                |

| Emergency Decisions | 2018       | 2019       | 2020       | 2021       | 2022             |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
|                     | (Calendar) | (Calendar) | (Calendar) | (Calendar) | (Jan. 1-June 30) |
| Emergency Decisions | 4          | 1          | 1          | 0          | 1                |

| Pending with AG as of 06/30/2022 | Total<br>Transmitted | Total Served of Transmitted |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Accusations                      | 13                   | 10                          |
| Statement of Issues              | 3                    | 3                           |
| Totals:                          | 16                   | 13                          |



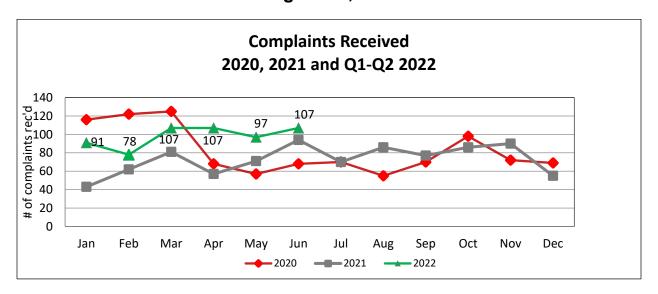
|                            | 2017<br>(Calendar) | 2018<br>(Calendar) | 2019<br>(Calendar) | 2020<br>(Calendar) | 2021<br>(Calendar) | 2022<br>(Jan. 1-June<br>30) |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Citations Issued           | 14                 | 117                | 334                | 339                | 217                | 33                          |
| Number of Schools<br>Cited | 14                 | 115                | 308                | 333                | 217                | 33                          |

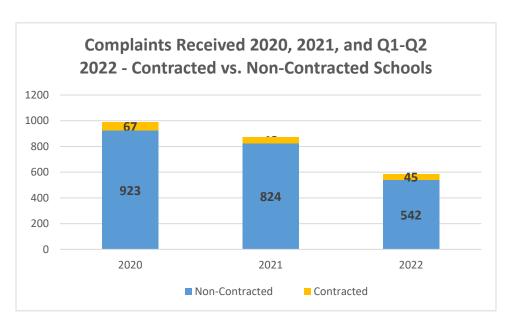
# For the past five years, the most common violations for which citations are issued are:

- -Operating an unapproved institution (unlicensed activity).
- -Failure to submit Annual Fee and/or Student Tuition Recovery Fund Assessment.
- -Failure to submit Annual Report and/or School Performance Fact Sheet.

## Agenda Item 8f

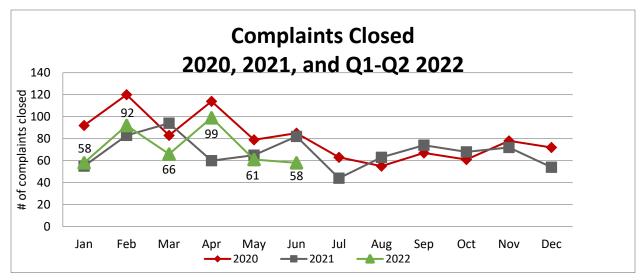
## COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATION REPORT

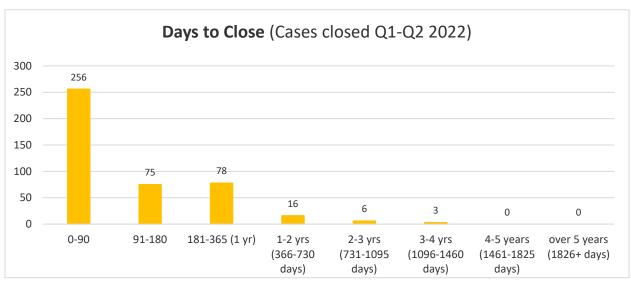


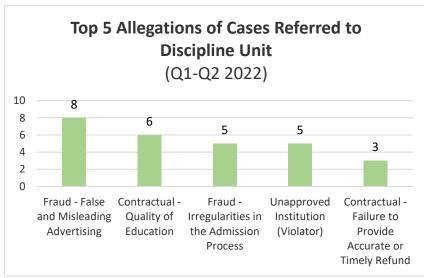


| Q1-Q2 Complaints                   |     |  |  |
|------------------------------------|-----|--|--|
|                                    |     |  |  |
| Total complaints received          | 587 |  |  |
| Total schools receiving complaints | 398 |  |  |

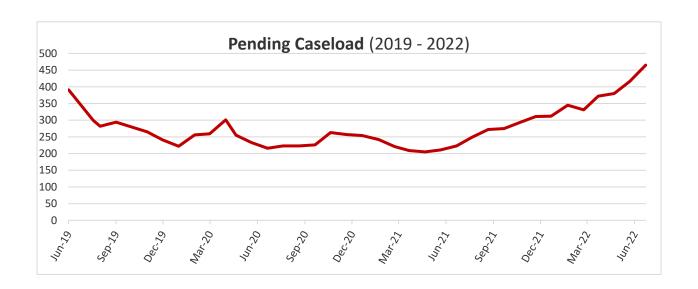
| Q1-Q2 Contracted School Complaints      |    |
|---|----|
| Contracted complaints received          | 45 |
| Contracted schools receiving complaints | 17 |







| Closed At | Investigation | All      |
|-----------|---------------|----------|
| Intake    | Closures      | Closures |
| # Closed  | # Closed      | # Closed |
| 158       | 274           | 434      |



#### PENDING CASELOAD AS OF 6/30/22

| PENDING CASELOAD AS OF 6/30/22 |      |         |                               |             |     |       |
|--------------------------------|------|---------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----|-------|
|                                | PENI | PENDING |                               | EXT-STUDENT |     | GENT  |
| CASE AGE                       | #    | %       | #                             | %           | #   | %     |
| 0-90                           | 217  | 46.7%   | 133                           | 45.5%       | 69  | 53.1% |
| 91-180                         | 111  | 23.9%   | 62                            | 21.2%       | 32  | 24.6% |
| 181-365 (1 yr)                 | 114  | 24.5%   | 87                            | 29.8%       | 27  | 20.8% |
| 1-2 yrs<br>(366-730 days)      | 19   | 4.1%    | 9                             | 3.1%        | 2   | 1.5%  |
| 2-3 yrs<br>(731-1095 days)     | 1    | 0.2%    | 0                             | 0.0%        | 0   | 0.0%  |
| 3-4 yrs<br>(1096-1460 days)    | 2    | 0.4%    | 0                             | 0.0%        | 0   | 0.0%  |
| 4-5 years<br>(1461-1825 days)  | 1    | 0.2%    | 1                             | 0.3%        | 0   | 0.0%  |
| over 5 years<br>(1826+ days)   | 0    | 0.0%    | 0                             | 0.0%        | 0   | 0.0%  |
| TOTAL                          | 465  | 100%    | 292                           | 100%        | 130 | 100%  |
|                                |      |         | 63% of pending 28% of pending |             |     |       |

## Student Impact Outcomes (January – June 2022)

- > Total of \$33,768.66 in refunds to students or to their federal student aid account.
- > Students received degree, diploma, proofs-of-training, certificate, license, and transcripts.
- > Students re-enrolled in program.
- > Students referred for Student Tuition Recovery Fund.
- Students placed in externships.
- Provided assistance to student with teaching credentialing requirement.
- Compliance obtained or school policy updated.

## Agenda Item 8g

## OFFICE OF STUDENT ASSISTANCE AND RELIEF (OSAR) REPORT

## Office of Student Assistance and Relief

## **Student Outreach Report**

Calendar Year

(Data as of June 30, 2022)



#### **CHART A: INFORMED CHOICE OUTREACH AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

| Student Outreach Activity  | Event Type                              | Event Date | Event Location            | Total Students Served |
|--|---|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Beale Air Force Base Virtual Workshop                | Virtual Student Workshop / Presentation | 1/20/2022  | Yuba County, CA           | 13                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Travis Air Force Base Virtual Workshop               | Virtual Student Workshop / Presentation | 1/21/2022  | Travis Air Force Base, CA | 27                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>March Air Reserve Base Virtual Workshop              | Virtual Student Workshop / Presentation | 1/26/2022  | Riverside County, CA      | 6                     |
| Steps to College Virtual Workshop  | Virtual College Fair                    | 2/5/2022   | Sacramento, CA            | 200                   |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>32nd Street Afloat Training Group Virtual Workshop   | Virtual Student Workshop / Presentation | 2/23/2022  | San Diego, CA             | 17                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Homeport California, Camp Pendleton Virtual Workshop | Virtual Student Workshop / Presentation | 2/24/2022  | San Diego, CA             | 36                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Presidio of Monterey Virtual Workshop                | Virtual Student Workshop / Presentation | 2/28/2022  | Monterey, CA              | 13                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Los Angeles Space Force Base Virtual Workshop        | Virtual Student Workshop / Presentation | 3/2/2022   | Los Angeles, CA           | 12                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Fort Irwin Workshop                                  | Student Workshop / Presentation         | 3/15/2022  | Fort Irwin, CA            | 25                    |
| Department of Financial Protection & Innovation Student Loan Borrower Webinar                    | Presentation                            | 3/29/2022  | Virtual Event             | 339                   |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Travis Air Force Base Workshop                       | Student Workshop / Presentation         | 4/8/2022   | Travis Air Force Base, CA | 17                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Beale Air Force Base Workshop                        | Student Workshop / Presentation         | 4/14/2022  | Yuba County, CA           | 10                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Naval Air Station Lemoore Virtual Workshop           | Virtual Student Workshop / Presentation | 4/20/2022  | Kings County, CA          | 7                     |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Afloat Training Group San Diego Workshop             | Student Workshop / Presentation         | 5/12/2022  | San Diego, CA             | 16                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>Presidio of Monterey Workshop                        | Student Workshop / Presentation         | 5/20/2022  | Monterey, CA              | 9                     |
| Beauty Cast Network - Beauty and Barber Professionals & Students Event                           | College Fair                            | 5/22/2022  | Los Angeles, CA           | 50                    |
| California Transition Assistance Program<br>March Air Reserve Base Workshop                      | Student Workshop / Presentation         | 6/8/2022   | Riverside County, CA      | 10                    |
| Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Project Career Fair  | College Fair                            | 6/26/2022  | Fresno, CA                | 20                    |
|  |   |            | TOTAL                     | 827                   |

#### **CHART B: MISC. STUDENT OUTREACH EFFORTS**

| Student Outreach Activity                        | Event Type     | Event Date | Event Location   | Total Students Served |
|--|----------------|------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Royal Hair Institute                             | Phone Outreach | 1/5/2022   | Los Angeles, CA  | 8                     |
| Napa Valley School of Massage                    | Email Outreach | 1/6/2022   | Napa, CA         | 5                     |
| Adams University                                 | Email Outreach | 1/7/2022   | Los Angeles, CA  | 8                     |
| Empire College                                   | Email Outreach | 2/2/2022   | Santa Rosa, CA   | 51                    |
| Difai City College                               | Email Outreach | 2/3/2022   | Los Angeles, CA  | 87                    |
| Merit University                                 | Email Outreach | 2/3/2022   | Los Angeles, CA  | 19                    |
| California University of Management and Sciences | Email Outreach | 2/3/2022   | Anaheim, CA      | 53                    |
| California Aeronautical University               | Email Outreach | 2/4/2022   | Bakersfield, CA  | 312                   |
| Agape College of Business and Science            | Email Outreach | 2/8/2022   | Fresno, CA       | 16                    |
| Bergin University of Canine Studies              | Email Outreach | 2/8/2022   | Penngrove, CA    | 24                    |
| Southern States University                       | Email Outreach | 2/9/2022   | San Diego, CA    | 90                    |
| Broadview University, Inc.                       | Email Outreach | 2/9/2022   | West Jordan, UT  | 4                     |
| Beverly Hills Design Institute                   | Email Outreach | 2/9/2022   | Los Angeles, CA  | 17                    |
| Southern States University (Branch)              | Email Outreach | 2/9/2022   | Irvine, CA       | 121                   |
| Southwestern California University               | Email Outreach | 2/10/2022  | Fullerton, CA    | 15                    |
| Hubbard College of Administration International  | Email Outreach | 2/10/2022  | Los Angeles, CA  | 12                    |
| San Diego University for Integrative Studies     | Email Outreach | 2/11/2022  | San Diego, CA    | 161                   |
| Nobel University                                 | Email Outreach | 3/9/2022   | Los Angeles, CA  | 106                   |
| Nobel Univeristy (Branch)                        | Email Outreach | 3/9/2022   | Buena Park, CA   | 39                    |
| San Diego Global Knowledge University            | Email Outreach | 3/9/2022   | San Diego, CA    | 127                   |
| Milan Institute of Cosmetology (Branch)          | Email Outreach | 5/13/2022  | Visalia, CA      | 18                    |
| Webster University (Branch)                      | Email Outreach | 5/27/2022  | Irvine, CA       | 30                    |
| Delta International University                   | Email Outreach | 6/2/2022   | Garden Grove, CA | 5                     |
| Bard College Master of Arts in Teaching Program  | Email Outreach | 6/9/2022   | Los Angeles, CA  | 6                     |
| Longy-Bard Master of Arts in Teaching Program    | Email Outreach | 6/9/2022   | Los Angeles, CA  | 11                    |
| International University of California           | Email Outreach | 6/28/2022  | Riverside, CA    | 10                    |
|  |                |            | TOTAL            | 1,355                 |

#### CHART C: CLOSED SCHOOL OUTREACH WORKSHOPS

| Student Outreach Activity                               | Event Type               | Event Date | Event Location   | Total Students Served |
|---|--------------------------|------------|------------------|-----------------------|
|   | Student Workshop         | 4/29/2022  |                  |                       |
| Premiere Career College Program Closure Outreach Events | Virtual Student Workshop | 4/29/2022  | Baldwin Park, CA | 87                    |
|   | Virtual Student Workshop | 5/19/2022  |                  |                       |
|   |                          |            | TOTAL            | 87                    |

## Office of Student Assistance and Relief

## **Student Contact Report**

Calendar Year (Data as of June 30, 2022)



## **PHONE CALLS RECEIVED**

| Call Category  | Jan | y kep: | 2 Mar. | yy ber | S Way | yr jun. | ₽ TOTAL |
|--|-----|--------|--------|--------|-------|---------|---------|
| Student Tuition Recovery Fund Application Assistance | 267 | 97     | 139    | 162    | 146   | 173     | 984     |
| Student Loan Relief Assistance                       | 26  | 14     | 9      | 19     | 10    | 25      | 103     |
| School/Program Closure Outreach                      | 7   | 25     | 6      | 38     | 4     | 13      | 93      |
| Informed Choice Consultation                         | 0   | 0      | 0      | 1      | 0     | 3       | 4       |
| Transcript Assistance                                | 7   | 3      | 7      | 6      | 6     | 10      | 39      |
| Other  | 23  | 4      | 33     | 17     | 16    | 20      | 113     |
| TOTAL CALLS  | 330 | 143    | 194    | 243    | 182   | 244     | 1,336   |

## Agenda Item 8h

## STUDENT TUITION RECOVERY FUND (STRF) REPORT

## **Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) Claims**

2021/2022 State Fiscal Year (07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022) 2022/2023 State Fiscal Year (07/01/2022 to Current)

|                   | STRF Claims Received |                    |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| State Fiscal Year | 21/22 End of Year    | 22/23 Year to Date |
| Claims Received   | 360                  | 3                  |

| STRF Claims Closed             |                   |                    |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
| State Fiscal Year              | 21/22 End of Year | 22/23 Year to Date |  |  |  |
| Claims Approved <sup>1</sup>   | 96                | 12                 |  |  |  |
| Claims Ineligible <sup>2</sup> | 126               | 20                 |  |  |  |
| Claims Denied <sup>2</sup>     | 35                | 1                  |  |  |  |
| Unable to Contact <sup>3</sup> | 99                | 0                  |  |  |  |
| Total                          | 356               | 33                 |  |  |  |

| Current STRF Claims                                      |                   |                    |  |  |  |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
| State Fiscal Year  | 21/22 End of Year | 22/23 Year to Date |  |  |  |
| In Queue   | 778               | 765                |  |  |  |
| Analyst Review   | 175               | 164                |  |  |  |
| Waiting for Student Response                             | 122               | 118                |  |  |  |
| Analyst's First Review Complete / Recommendation Pending | 200               | 166                |  |  |  |
| Total  | 1275              | 1213               |  |  |  |

| STRF Claims Approved for Payment (Amount) |                   |                    |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| State Fiscal Year                         | 21/22 End of Year | 22/23 Year to Date |
| Amount                                    | \$685,193.24      | \$150,062.47       |

| STRF Claims Pending Payment - State Controller's Office |                   |  |                    |  |
|---|-------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| State Fiscal Year                                       | 21/22 End of Year |  | 22/23 Year to Date |  |
| Amount  | \$ 160,848.40     |  | \$ 199,577.61      |  |
| Claims  | 12                |  | 19                 |  |

## **Definitions**

Claims Approved <sup>1</sup> Claims Approved For Payment/Paid

Ineligible / Denied <sup>2</sup> Student Not Eligible For Payment and/or Claim Did Not Satisfy The Requirements of California Education Code §94923(b)(2)

Unable to Contact <sup>3</sup> Staff Reached Out to Student via Phone, Email & Written Correspondence At Least Three Times

| Current Fund Balance:                                 | \$16,516,157           |
|---|------------------------|
| Historical Fund Balances (State Fiscal Year Closing): |                        |
| 2021-22 \$16,516,157                                  |                        |
| 2020-21 \$15,817,000                                  |                        |
| 2019-20 \$21,723,000                                  |                        |
| 2018-19 \$25,100,695                                  |                        |
| 2017-18 \$26,295,000                                  |                        |
| 2016-17 \$28,497,000                                  | Data as of: 07/13/2022 |

## **Student Tuition Recovery Fund Claims**

#### **Large Impact Closures** From School Closure to Current (Total Impact) **STRF STRF Number of Dollar Amount Dollar Amount Total Dollar** Ineligible / Unable to **Claims STRF Claims Claims** Paid to Paid - Ed Credit **A**mount **Denied** Contact **Pending** Received **Approved** Student/Loan (To New School) **Paid** Heald <sup>2</sup> \$827,146 491 212 94 91 94 \$28,535 \$855,681 WyoTech <sup>2</sup> \$300,342 170 29 45 36 60 \$300,342 \$0 Everest <sup>2</sup> \$543,331 564 \$543,331 \$0 175 133 121 135 **Silicon Valley** 308 \$5,626,547 \$0 \$5,626,547 1270 49 903 10

Data as of 07/19/2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These values may include STRF claims that were received prior to the 2021/22 State Fiscal Year but processed in the 2021/22 State Fiscal Year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Heald College, WyoTech, and Everest College were operated by Corinthian Colleges, Inc. - "STRF Claims Pending" includes claims that are awaiting a decision on their Federal Borrower Defense applications.

## Agenda Item 9

## BUREAU RESPONSE TO INSTITUTIONAL CLOSURES AND ASSOCIATED COSTS



BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY • GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 225, Sacramento, CA 95834

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## ISSUE MEMORANDUM

| SUBJECT | Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education's Response to Institutional Closures and Associated Costs |  |
|---------|--|--|
| FROM    | Leeza Rifredi, Deputy Bureau Chief   |  |
| то      | Advisory Committee Members Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education                                |  |
| DATE    | August 11, 2022  |  |

Prompted by the sudden closure of prominent institutions in years past and to inform ongoing policy discussions, Advisory Committee members have requested additional information regarding the impact of institutional closures on the Bureau's finances and capacity. This memo provides a brief overview of the types of closure scenarios typically encountered by the Bureau, the range of activities necessitated by closures, and the scale of unexpected costs incurred in response to sudden closures.

#### **Institutional Closure Types**

While no two institutional closure scenarios are identical, most can be categorized into one of several broad closure scenarios. The focus of this memo is on Bureau operations; however, the level of impact and harm to students varies greatly based on the type of closure and institutional compliance with state requirements. For example, students may be largely unaffected by a closure if their institution decides to wind down operations in a way that allows them to graduate as scheduled. However, student harm can be substantial if the institution's commitment to an orderly wind-down wanes over time. In such cases, students may experience declines in educational quality or student services or pressure to transfer to suboptimal alternative programs without awareness of their rights under state law.

#### Common closure scenarios include:

- Sudden closures where institutions close suddenly and unexpectedly and in which enrolled students are not able to finish their programs and few or no teach-out or transfer plans exist.
- Steady wind-downs in which institutions develop and adhere to plans that enable students to complete their programs.
- *Unsteady wind-downs* in which institutions develop questionable plans to wind down operations that fall apart over time.
- *Heightened-scrutiny closures* where institutions close after a period of increased scrutiny or adverse action from the Bureau or other regulators.
- Dormant closures of institutions that are functionally inactive with no recently enrolled students.
- *Disappearances* of institutions that are ultimately deemed to have closed after having failed to respond to Bureau outreach.

- Relocations of institutions that transition to an out-of-state physical location and thus "close" the California-based campus.

#### **Closure-Related Work Processes**

The types and scales of work required to manage an institutional closure are impacted by the type of institutional closure as well as the level of institutional compliance with closure requirements. State law and regulations include several requirements for closing institutions, including providing notice to the Bureau of the impending closure at least 30 days in advance along with the information needed for the Bureau to minimize student impact. Further, institutions are required to provide refunds to students who will be unable to finish their programs due to the closure and to designate a custodian of records responsible for storing and providing access to student records for five years.

Unfortunately, most closures do not comply with state requirements. Owners whose businesses are no longer viable often do not prioritize adherence to the law. Compliance may be burdensome and/or costly, and for the institution or its owners the stakes of noncompliance – loss of approval to operate an institution – are inconsequential once an institution is already closing and no longer requires approval.

The Bureau has one Staff Services Analyst position dedicated to school-closure related activity and communications; however, responding to closures frequently involves a coordinated team of staff members performing duties based on the situation at hand, including meetings with senior leadership.

The types of work involved include:

- Investigating the status of an institution that is or may be closing or closed.
- Working with institutions to ensure compliance with orderly closure requirements.
- Coordinating with other regulators or oversight/approving agencies.
- Supporting student transfer or teach-out.
- Providing information about financial relief options.
- Receiving and processing Student Tuition Recovery Fund claims for eligible students.
- Organizing student records received and providing transcripts to impacted students.
- Outreach events with or without the institution.
- Taking disciplinary action as appropriate.

Bureau staff are currently refining procedures for responding to school closures to ensure they properly account for the types of scenarios frequently encountered and that sufficient levels of Bureau staffing and capacity are dedicated to closure response.

#### **Sudden Closure Costs to the Bureau**

While the efforts outlined above entail workload challenges for Bureau staff and often strain capacity, the work is conducted by permanent staff whose employment is not dependent on how many institutions close or the scale of the closures. The permanent-staff workload associated with any particular closure is not tracked to assess its aggregate impact on capacity or operations.

## Bureau Response to Institutional Closures Page **3** of **3**

Closures may also entail additional direct costs to the Bureau, not associated with routine employment, which can be challenging to absorb. The Bureau examined records associated with a range of prior, sudden closures to assess the types and scales of unforeseen costs incurred. Each closure involves a unique set of circumstances, making a comprehensive assessment of costs associated with school closures challenging. However, the most typical costs incurred beyond permanent staffing costs include travel, overtime, temporary staffing, storage costs, and potentially legal costs associated with obtaining records. For general reference, the information below provides estimates of unforeseen costs in these categories for closures of different scales.

#### Unforeseen cost estimates per closure:

- Small closure: \$1,300
  - Includes travel and overtime costs for one day of in-person outreach to a single campus, with one or more staff per outreach event.
- Medium closure: \$21,500
  - Includes travel and overtime costs for one or two days of in-person outreach to multiple campuses, with multiple staff per outreach event.
- Large closure: \$124,000 \$200,000
  - Includes travel and overtime costs for multiple days of in-person outreach to several campuses, with multiple staff per outreach event; costs for supplementary, temporary staffing to gather and organize student records; and storage costs to maintain records.

## Agenda Item 10

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

## Agenda Item 11

## **ADJOURNMENT**