

 BUGINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY
 GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
 BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

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CITATION: ASSESSMENT OF FINE AND ORDER OF ABATEMENT

To: Christine Grennier, Owner Micro Blading Academy 5700 Ralston Street, Suite 202 Ventura, CA 93003.

INSTITUTION CODE: Unapproved CITATION NUMBER: 1819096 CITATION ISSUANCE/SERVICE DATE: January 28, 2019 DUE DATE: February 27, 2019 FINE AMOUNT: \$ 100,000.00 ORDER OF ABATEMENT INCLUDED: Yes

Beth Scott issues this Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement (Citation) in her official capacity as Enforcement Chief for the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) of the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

CITATION

A Citation is hereby issued to Christine Grennier, Owner, of Micro Blading Academy (Institution) located at 5700 Ralston Street, Suite 202, Ventura, CA 93003. pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9 and 149; California Education Code (CEC) section 94944; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5, CCR) section 75020 for the violation(s) described below.

BACKGROUND

On April 13, 2018, the Bureau received an Enforcement Referral from the Bureau's Complaint Investigations Unit. The referral advised that the Institution was operating without Bureau approval.

On October 17, 2018, Bureau staff searched the Institution's website www.microbladingacademyinc.com and discovered that the Institution is advertising a 3-D Microblading Academy Certification course for \$2650.00, and a Scalp Micropigmentation Certification course for \$3650.00.

The Bureau determined the Institution is conducting business as a private postsecondary educational institution located at 5700 Ralston Street, Suite 202, Ventura, CA 93003 as this information is advertised on the Institution's website, www.microbladingacademyinc.com, on Yelp, https://www.yelp.com/biz/microblading-academy-ventura-3, and Facebook, https://www.facebook.com/microbladingacademyinc/. The Institution continues to advertise and offer courses without Bureau approval.

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VIOLATION(S)

#	Below you will find the California Education Code (CEC) and/or Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5, CCR code) section(s) of law you are charged with violating.
1.	Violation: CEC Section 94886. Approval to Operate Required "Except as exempted in Article 4 (commencing with Section 94874) or in compliance with the transition provisions in Article 2 (commencing with Section 94802), a person shall not open, conduct, or do business as a private postsecondary educational institution in this state without obtaining an approval to operate under this chapter."
	CEC Section 94817.5. Approved to Operate or Approved "Approved to operate" or "approved" means that an institution has received authorization pursuant to this chapter to offer to the public and to provide postsecondary educational programs."
	CEC Section 94868. To Offer to the Public "To offer to the public" means to advertise, publicize, solicit, or recruit."
	CEC Section 94869. To Operate "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."
	On October 17, 2018, Bureau staff discovered the Institution is advertising from the website <u>www.microbladingacademyinc.com</u> . On this website, the Institution advertises a 3-D Microblading Academy Certification course for \$2650.00 and a Scalp Micropigmentation Certification course for \$3650.00.
	The Institution advertises to the public via its website, <u>www.microbladingacademyinc.com</u> , yelp at <u>https://www.yelp.com/biz/microblading-academy-ventura-3</u> , and Facebook at <u>https://www.facebook.com/microbladingacademyinc/</u> , its address of 5700 Ralston Street, Suite 202, Ventura, CA 93003.
	Based on the Bureau's investigation, the Bureau found that the Institution is operating as a private postsecondary educational institution located at 5700 Ralston Street, Suite 202, Ventura, CA 93003, and is not exempt from the provisions of the California Private Postsecondary Act. The Institution falls under definition of a private postsecondary educational institution under CEC section 94858. The Institution continues to operate as a private postsecondary educational institution without Bureau approval.
	Order of Abatement: The Bureau orders that the Institution cease to operate as a private postsecondary educational institution. The Institution must discontinue recruiting or enrolling students and cease all instructional services and advertising in any form or type of media, including www.microbladingacademyinc.com, https://www.facebook.com/microbladingacademyinc/, and any other websites not identified here that are associated with the Institution, until such time as an approval to operate is obtained from the Bureau. The Institution must disconnect all telephone service numbers including but not limited to (888)-214-2003 and (888)-213-0855 that are

associated with Micro Blading Academy until such time as an approval to operate is obtained from the Bureau. To comply with the Order of Abatement the Institution must submit a school closure plan to the Bureau pursuant to California Education Code section 94926. The Institution must provide a roster of each student currently enrolled at the Institution. The roster must include the names of the students, their contact information (including phone number, email address, and physical address), the programs in which they are enrolled, the amount paid for the programs.

Assessment of Fine

The fine for this violation is <u>\$100,000.00</u>

TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$100,000.00

ASSESSMENT OF A FINE

In accordance with CEC section 94944; and 5, CCR section 75020(b), the Bureau hereby orders this assessment of a fine in the amount of **\$100,000.00** for the violations described above. **Payment must be made, to the Bureau, within** <u>**30 days**</u> from the date of service of the Citation.

COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER OF ABATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of 5, CCR section 75020 (b) the Bureau hereby issues the order(s) of abatement described above. In accordance with Business and Professions Code Section 149, the Bureau may disconnect any telephone service numbers used by an unapproved Institution. **Evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement must be submitted, to the Bureau, within <u>30 days</u> from the date of service of the Citation.**

APPEAL OF CITATION

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

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

Unless a written request for an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing is signed by you and delivered to the Bureau by **February 27, 2019**, you will be deemed to have waived or forfeited your right to appeal this matter.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION

If you do not request an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing, this Citation shall become effective on **January 28, 2019.** Payment of the administrative fine and evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement shall be due by **February 27, 2019**. Your payment of the administrative fine shall not constitute an admission of the violation(s) charged.

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

Gurinder Sandhu, Discipline Citation Program Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 400 Sacramento, CA 95833

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding this Citation, or desire further information, please contact Gurinder Sandhu, Citation Analyst, at 916-431-6940 or <u>Gurinder.Sandhu@dca.ca.gov</u>.

beth Scott

Beth Scott Enforcement Chief

Enclosures

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