

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

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

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CITATION ORDER

Citation Issued To:	Citation Number:
LABA College	25260078
429 N. Western Ave., Suite 5	
Los Angeles, CA 90004 Institution Code: 15633163	Total Fine Amount: \$37,504.00
	Order of Abatement Included: Yes

Elizabeth Elias issues this citation in her official capacity as Deputy Bureau Chief of Enforcement at the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, California Department of Consumer Affairs (hereinafter referred to as the "Bureau").

LICENSING HISTORY

 On or about October 25, 2022, the Bureau renewed an Approval to Operate a Private Postsecondary Institution, Institution Code 15633163, to LABA College, hereinafter referred to as the "Institution." This Approval to Operate will expire on or about October 25, 2027, unless renewed

DISCIPLINE HISTORY

- 2. The Institution has the following discipline history:
 - Citation No. 2021146, issued on November 12, 2020
 - Evidence of compliance; citation satisfied April 13, 2021

CITATION JURISDICTION

3. This administrative citation is issued to the Institution pursuant to California Education Code (CEC) section 94936; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5 CCR) section 75020 et seq. for the violation(s) described below.

CAUSE FOR CITATION & ASSESSMENT OF FINE AND/OR ORDER OF ABATEMENT

4. The Institution is in violation of the following Bureau laws and regulations:

Violation #1:

5 CCR section 71650(a) - Application for a Change in Educational Objectives or Clock or Credit Hours Required to Complete a Program, CEC section 94893 – Authorization Required for Substantive Change

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). During the inspection, the Bureau was informed that instructor H.K. only instructs courses in Korean. Therefore, the Bureau determined that the Institution made a significant change in its method of instructional delivery, by offering instruction in Korean, without prior Bureau authorization.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$5,000.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to obtain prior Bureau approval to offer courses in any other language, besides English, by submitting an Application for Change in Educational Objectives. If the Institution does not wish to offer courses in another language, the Institution must submit a statement of attestation that they have ceased teaching in Korean and are operating in compliance with the law. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #2:

5 CCR section 76140 - Record-Keeping Requirements and 5 CCR section 71930(e) – Maintenance of Records

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff requested the Institution's Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) substantiating data for the 1st and 2nd quarter reporting periods of 2024. By the end of the inspection, the Institution was not able to provide the required STRF supporting documents pursuant to 5 CCR section 76140.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class B" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$2,500.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to correct the violation by providing an electronic copy of the template used by the Institution to document its STRF substantiating documentation, for the Bureau to verify the Institution is collecting the required data points pursuant to 5 CCR section 76140.

In addition, the Institution must submit a statement of attestation they have corrected the violation and will ensure that the substantiating data for STRF is maintained in an electronic format and readily available to a Bureau representative upon request per 5 CCR section 76140. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #3:

5 CCR section 74112(m)(1-9) – Uniform Data – Annual Report, Performance Fact Sheet, 5 CCR section 71930(a) and (e) – Maintenance of Records, and CEC section 94929.7(a) – Documentation of Performance Data

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff requested documentation supporting all data reported on the Institution's 2021/2022 School Performance Fact Sheet (SPFS). Bureau staff found that the Institution was unsure if the owner collected the required documentation and therefore was unable to make the documentation immediately available for inspection or provide the Bureau with the requested documentation by the end of the inspection.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$2,501.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to correct the violation by providing an electronic copy of the template used by the Institution to document supporting data for SPFS, for the Bureau to verify the Institution is collecting the required data points pursuant to 5 CCR section 74112.

In addition, the Institution must submit a statement of attestation they have corrected the violation and will ensure that the supporting data for SPFS is maintained and immediately available during an inspection. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #4:

CEC section 94897(r) – Prohibited Business Practices

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff requested to review current, graduated and withdrawn student files. The Institution informed the Bureau that it does not have withdrawn student files as students typically withdraw before signing an enrollment agreement. When Bureau staff requested clarification, the Institution informed the Bureau it collects tuition from students prior to students executing an enrollment agreement, a prohibited business practice.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$5,000.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to cease collecting tuition prior to executing an enrollment agreement. The institution must submit a statement of attestation they have complied with the Bureau's Order of Abatement in compliance with CEC section 94897(r). The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the institution.

Violation #5:

5 CCR section 71930(d) – Maintenance of Records

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). During the inspection, Bureau staff found that student records were physically maintained in plastic containers, and not maintained in a manner secure from damage or loss, as required by 5 CCR section 71930(d).

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$5,000.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to ensure all student records follow the law pursuant to 5 CCR section 71930. The Institution must submit a statement of attestation that they have corrected the violation and will ensure that all student records maintained in accordance with 5 CCR section 71930. The statement of attestation must be signed and dated by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #6:

5 CCR section 71920(b)(1)(A) - Student Records and 5 CCR section 71930(e) – Maintenance of Records

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff reviewed six student files and found that all student files reviewed failed to contain verification of high school completion or equivalency or other documentation establishing the student's ability to do college level work.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$2,501.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to submit a statement of attestation that they will maintain required student records pursuant to 5 CCR sections 71920 and 71930. The statement of attestation must be signed and dated by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #7:

5 CCR section 71800(b), (c) and (d) – Enrollment Agreement

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff reviewed six student files and found that the enrollment agreements contained within the files failed to contain some of the required data pursuant to 5 CCR section 71800; specifically, subsections (b), (c), and (d).

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$2,501.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to ensure the enrollment agreement follows the law pursuant to 5 CCR section 71800. The Institution must submit a statement of attestation that they have corrected the violation and provide a copy of the enrollment agreement to the Bureau. The statement of attestation must be signed and dated by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #8:

CEC section 94902(b)(1) and (b)(3) – General Enrollment Requirements and CEC section 94912 – Signature, Initials Required

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff reviewed six student files and found that all of the student files reviewed contained a SPFS that was not signed and dated by the institution. Additionally, four of the student files reviewed contained a SPFS that was not signed by the student.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$2,501.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to ensure all student records follow the law pursuant to CEC sections 94902 and 94912. The Institution must submit a statement of attestation that they have corrected the violation and will ensure that all student records contain signed and dated SPFS. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #9:

CEC section 94900(b) – Required Student Records, 5 CCR section 71920(b)(5) – Student Records and 5 CCR section 71930(a) and (e) – Maintenance of Records

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff reviewed six student files and found that two of the files reviewed failed to contain a transcript of courses, the units on which the certificate was based, or the grades earned by the students. Two graduated student files failed to contain a certificate and/or the date the certificate was granted.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$5,000.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to submit a statement of attestation that they will maintain required student records pursuant to CEC sections 94900 and 5 CCR sections 71920 and 71930. The statement of attestation must be signed and dated by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #10:

CEC 94900.5(b) – Required Institutional Records, 5 CCR section 71930(e) – Maintenance of Records

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). During the inspection, the Bureau determined that the Institution does not maintain faculty files for all faculty members.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class B" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$2,500.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to ensure all faculty records follow the law pursuant to 5 CCR section 71930 and CEC section 94900.5. The Institution must submit a statement of attestation they have corrected the violation and ensured that all faculty records are maintained in compliance with the law. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

Violation #11:

5 CCR section 71730(a) - Administration

Cause for Citation: On or about October 29, 2024, the Bureau conducted an unannounced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). During the inspection, Bureau staff was unable to review the Chief Academic Officer's file as the institution stated there is not one currently identified.

Administrative Fine: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class B" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$2,500.00.

Order of Abatement: Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to ensure all faculty records follow the law pursuant to 5 CCR section 71730. The Institution must submit a statement of attestation they have corrected the violation and ensured that all faculty records are maintained in compliance with the law. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER OF ABATEMENT

- 5. In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936 and 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the order(s) of abatement described above. Evidence of compliance with the order of abatement must be submitted to the Bureau within 30 days from the date of issuance of this citation. Evidence of compliance with the order of abatement may be sent by mail or email to:
 - Mail: Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Attn: Discipline Unit – Nicole Pedersen 1747 North Market, Blvd., Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834
 - Email: bppe.discipline@dca.ca.gov
 - In the subject line, please include the Institution name and citation number.

COMPLIANCE WITH ASSESSMENT OF FINE

6. In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936, and 5 CCR sections 75020 and 75030, the Bureau hereby orders this assessment of

fines in the total amount of \$37,504.00 for the violations described above. Payment of the fines must be made to the Bureau within 30 days from the date of service of this citation unless an informal conference or hearing is requested. To assist the Bureau in processing the payment of fines, please submit the enclosed *Payment of Fine – Waiver of Appeal* form.

Payment must be sent to the Bureau by mail at:

 Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Attn: Discipline Unit – Nicole Pedersen 1747 North Market, Blvd., Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

7. You have the right to contest this citation through an informal conference with the Bureau pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020 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, the Bureau must receive a written request within 30 days from the date of issuance of this citation asking for an informal conference and/or administrative hearing or you may also submit the enclosed Notice of Appeal of Citation – Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing form.

The written request may be sent by email or mail to the addresses below:

- Mail: Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Attn: Discipline Unit – Nicole Pedersen 1747 North Market, Blvd., Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834
- Email: <u>bppe.discipline@dca.ca.gov</u>
 - In the subject line, please include the Institution name and citation number.

Failure to submit a written request for an informal conference and/or administrative hearing within 30 days from the date of issuance of this citation will forfeit your ability to appeal the citation.

If a hearing is requested, you are not required to comply with this citation until a final order is entered against you.

COMPLIANCE WITH FINE AND/OR ORDER OR ABATEMENT DISCLOSURE

8. Pursuant to BPC section 125.9 and 5 CCR section 75050, payment of fine and/or compliance with any order of abatement does not constitute an admission of the violation charged and shall be represented as satisfactory resolution of the matter for the purposes of public disclosure.

Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75050, failure to comply with this citation order, its order of abatement, and/or administrative fine by the required due date is grounds for denial or discipline of an approval to operate. Where a citation is not contested and fine is not paid, the full amount of the assessed fine shall be added to the fee for renewal of the approval to operate. An approval to operate shall not be renewed without payment of the renewal fee and fine.

BUREAU CONTACT INFORMATION

9. If you have any questions regarding this Citation, please contact Nicole Pedersen, Citation Analyst by email at Nicole.Pedersen@dca.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 232-0510.

"Original Signature on File"	10/22/2025
Elizabeth Elias	Citation Date of Issuance
Deputy Bureau Chief of Enforcement	

Enclosures:

- 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