

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



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

To: The Stride Center, Owner The Stride Center 1212 Broadway, Suite 400 Oakland, CA 94612

INSTITUTION CODE: 69608096 CITATION NUMBER: 2021217

CITATION ISSUANCE/SERVICE DATE: April 2, 2021

DUE DATE: May 2, 2021 FINE AMOUNT: \$ 5,000.00

**ORDER OF ABATEMENT INCLUDED:** Yes

Christina Villanueva issues this Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement (Citation) in her official capacity as Discipline Manager of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) of the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

#### **CITATION**

A Citation is hereby issued to The Stride Center, Owner of The Stride Center (Institution) located at 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9; California Education Code (CEC) sections 94936 and 94932; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5, CCR) section 75020 for the violations described below.

#### **BACKGROUND**

On March 24, 2021, the Bureau issued Affirmed Citation 2021035 for failing to submit Student Tuition Recovery Assessment Reporting Forms as well as for failing to submit late payment penalty fees. The citation is currently outstanding.

Additionally, in accordance with CEC Section 94926 and 5, CCR Section 76240(a) an institution shall notify the Bureau in writing of its intention to close, at least 30 days prior to closing. On January 14, 2021, the Bureau received notice of closure from the Institution indicating that the Institution closed on or about December 31, 2019.

Additionally, the notice of closure did not include, as required, a list of students who were enrolled at any time during the 60 days prior to closure.

#### **VIOLATION**

#	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 94926(a)(b)(c)(d) - Procedures Prior to Closing, Teach-Out Plans

- "At least 30 days prior to closing, the institution shall notify the bureau in writing of its intention to close. The notice shall be accompanied by a closure plan, which shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, all of the following:
- (a) A plan for providing teach-outs of educational programs, including any agreements with any other postsecondary educational institutions to provide teach-outs.
- (b) If no teach-out plan is contemplated, or for students who do not wish to participate in a teach-out, arrangements for making refunds within 45 days from the date of closure, or for institutions that participate in federal student financial aid programs arrangements for making refunds and returning federal student financial aid program funds.
- (c) If the institution is a participant in federal student financial aid programs, it shall provide students information concerning these programs and institutional closures.
- (d) A plan for the disposition of student records."

# 5, CCR Section 76240(a)(1)(2)(3)(4)(A)(B)(5)(6)(b)(1)(2) - Required Notices and Teach-Out Plan.

- "All institutions, including those exempts from Bureau regulation pursuant to the Code, shall do the following prior to closing:
- (a) At least 30 days prior to closing, the institution shall notify the Bureau in writing of its intention to close and provide a closure plan. The closure plan shall include:
- (1) The exact date and reason for the closure.
- (2) The last date of instruction for each educational service or program.
- (3) A list of students who were enrolled at any time during the 60 days prior to closure.
- (4) If any student will not be provided complete educational services or the educational program, the institution shall provide:
- (A) A plan for providing teach-outs or transfers, including the details of any agreements with other institutions.
- (B) If no teach-out is contemplated, or aid programs arrangements for making refunds and returning federal student financial aid program funds.
- (5) A plan for the disposition of student records.
- (6) A plan to notify students of their rights and options under the Act and this chapter.
- (b) The institution shall notify the students of the following:
- (1) If the institution is a participant in federal student financial aid programs, it shall provide students information concerning those programs and institutional closures.
- (2) If any student will not be provided complete educational services or the educational program, information regarding the Student Tuition Recovery Fund and the Bureau's physical and Internet addresses."

The Institution failed to provide this written notice of closure to the Bureau at least 30 days prior to closing.

On October 7, 2020, the Institution notified the Bureau via email that the Institution had not been providing instruction since May 2019 and would like to relinquish their approval to operate. In addition, the Institution requested information regarding closure procedures.

On October 9, 2020, Bureau staff responded to the email explaining the surrender process and provided the Institution the school closure forms.

On January 14, 2021, the Bureau received the Institution's signed School Closure Plan via email which stated that the Institution closed on December 31, 2019. The closure plan failed to include a

Institution Code: 69608096

list of students who were enrolled at any time during the 60 days prior to closure.

Furthermore, the Institution has active Satellites at the following locations and has not submitted the required documentation to the Bureau regarding closure:

- 9925 International Blvd., Oakland, CA 94603;
- 1080 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, San Jose, CA 94806;
- 2300 El Portal Drive, Suite C, San Pablo, CA 94806.

#### **Order of Abatement:**

The Bureau orders that the Intuition shall provide the Bureau with a roster of students who were enrolled at any time during the 120 days prior to closure in accordance with 5, CRR section 76240. The roster shall include the student's contact information (email address, phone number, and mailing address). In addition, the Institution shall submit effective closure dates and last date of instruction for the active satellite locations in accordance with 5, CRR section 76240.

#### **Assessment of Fine**

The fine for this violation is \$5,000.00

# **TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$5,000.00**

#### **ASSESSMENT OF A FINE**

In accordance with CEC section 94936; and 5, CCR sections 75020 and 75030, the Bureau hereby orders this assessment of fine in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the violations described above. Payment must be made, to the Bureau, within 30 days from the date of service of the Citation.

#### COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER OF ABATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936 and 5, CCR section 75020 the Bureau hereby issues the order(s) of abatement described above. **Evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement must be submitted, to the Bureau, within 30 days** from the date of service of the Citation.

#### **APPEAL OF CITATION**

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

If you wish to contest this Citation, you must submit the 'Notice of Appeal of Citation – Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing' form (enclosed) within <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 **May 2, 2021**, you will be deemed to have waived or forfeited your right to appeal this matter.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION

If you do not request an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing, this Citation shall become effective on **April 2, 2021**. Payment of the administrative fine and evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement shall be due by **May 2, 2021**. Your payment of the administrative fine shall not constitute an admission of the violation(s) charged.

If a hearing is requested, you will not be required to comply with this Citation until 30 days after a final order is entered against you.

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

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

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

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions regarding this Citation, or desire further information, please contact Nicole Mitchell, Citation Analyst, at Nicole.Mitchell@dca.ca.gov.

"Original signature on file"	"4/2/2021"
Christina Villanueva Discipline Manager	Date

#### **Enclosures**

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