

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

P (916) 574-8900 | Toll-Free (888) 370-7589 | www.bppe.ca.gov



## **AFFIRMED CITATION ORDER**

Citation Issued To: California Dental Institute, Inc. 2492 Walnut Ave., Suite 250 Tustin, CA 92780	Citation Number: 24250117
	Total Fine Amount: \$8,502.00
Institution Code: 90324150	Order of Abatement Included: Yes

Elizabeth Elias issues this affirmed 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 January 13, 2020, the Bureau issued an Approval to Operate a Private Postsecondary Institution, Institution Code 90324150, to California Dental Institute, Inc. hereinafter referred to as the "Institution". This Approval to Operate will expire on or about January 12, 2025, unless renewed.

#### **DISCIPLINE HISTORY**

- 2. The Institution has the following discipline history:
  - Modified Citation No. 2021063, issued November 5, 2020
    - o Evidence of compliance; citation satisfied March 3, 2021
  - Affirmed Citation No. 2223073, issued on April 21, 2023
    - Evidence of compliance; citation satisfied December 22, 2023

## CITATION JURISDICTION

3. This administrative citation is issued to the Institution pursuant to the statutory provisions of 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.

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## **CITATION HISTORY**

4. On or about December 23, 2024, the Bureau issued Citation No. 24250117. On or about January 23, 2025, the Bureau received an appeal with a request for an informal conference. The informal conference was held on June 16, 2025. No new substantive facts were presented during the informal conference; therefore, the Bureau affirms Citation No. 24250117.

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

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

## Violation #1:

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

**Cause for Citation:** On or about July 5, 2023, the Bureau conducted an announced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff requested documentation supporting all data reported on the Institutions 2020/2021 School Performance Fact Sheet (SPFS). Bureau staff found that the Institution failed to collect the required data pursuant to 5 CCR section 74112 and therefore was unable to make the documentation immediately available for 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

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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 July 5, 2023, the Bureau conducted an announced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff requested the Institution's most recent Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) substantiating data for the 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter reporting period of 2023. 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 \$1,001.00.

**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 76140. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

## Violation #3:

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

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**Cause for Citation:** On or about July 5, 2023, the Bureau conducted an announced compliance inspection pursuant to CEC section 94932.5(a). Bureau staff inspected a random sampling of student records for current, graduated, and withdrawn students. Bureau staff found that the Institution did not maintain student records pursuant to CEC section 94900 and 5 CCR section 71920. Specifically, all student files reviewed were missing the following documentation:

- Enrollment agreements
- SPFS
- Proof of admission
- Payment/financial information
- Transcripts for graduates
- Certificates for graduates
- Student contact information

**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 they will maintain required student records pursuant to CEC section 94900 and 5 CCR section 71920. The statement of attestation must be signed and dated by an authorized representative of the Institution.

## COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER OF ABATEMENT

- 6. In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936 and 5 CCR sections 75020 and 75040, 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 affirmed citation. Evidence of compliance with the order of abatement may sent by mail or email to:
  - Mail: Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Attn: Discipline Unit – Nicole Pedersen 1747 North Market, Blvd., Suite 225

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Email: bppe.discipline@dca.ca.gov

In the subject line, please include the Institution name and citation number.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH ASSESSMENT OF FINE**

7. In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936, and 5 CCR section 75020 et seq., the Bureau hereby orders this assessment of fines in the total amount of \$8,502.00 for the violations described above. Payment of the fines must be made to the Bureau within 30 days from the date of issuance of this affirmed citation. 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**

8. Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75040(d), the affirmed decision is considered final, unless a request for a hearing was filed timely.

If the Institution requested a hearing and no longer chooses to proceed with the hearing, the Institution may request to withdraw the request for a hearing. If the Institution has not requested to withdraw the hearing, a hearing will be set to hear the matter.

## COMPLIANCE WITH FINE AND/OR ORDER OR ABATEMENT DISCLOSURE

9. Pursuant to 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

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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. The Bureau may also enforce the administrative fine as if it were a money judgment pursuant to CEC section 94936.

#### **BUREAU CONTACT INFORMATION**

10. If you have any questions regarding this Citation, please contact Nicole Pedersen, Citation Analyst by email at <a href="Nicole.Pedersen@dca.ca.gov">Nicole.Pedersen@dca.ca.gov</a> or by phone at (916) 232-0510.

"Original Signature on File"	6/19/2025
Elizabeth Elias  Deputy Bureau Chief of Enforcement	Citation Date of Issuance

## **Enclosures:**

- > Payment of Fine
- > Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail