



APPEAL OF CITATION INFORMAL CONFERENCE
DECISION: CITATION MODIFIED

January 8, 2020

Eleni Tsikrikas, Owner
 Belly Mind Institute
 971 Manzanita Street
 Los Angeles, CA 90029

Date of Issuance	Citation Number	Institution Code
January 8, 2020	1819229	Unapproved

On December 5, 2019, an informal telephone conference was held in the matter of Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement No. 1819229 (Citation) against Eleni Tsikrikas, Owner of Belly Mind Institute (Institution). In attendance were Beth Scott, Enforcement Chief and Eleni Tsikrikas, Owner.

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code, section 148; California Education Code (CEC), section 94944; and Title 5 of California Code of Regulations (5, CCR), section 75020 and section 75040, the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) renders the following decision relative to your appeal of the Citation No. 1819229.

It is the decision of the Enforcement Chief that on December 27, 2019, Citation No. 1819229 is modified and makes the following change(s):

VIOLATION CODE SECTIONS

#	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.	<p><u>Violation:</u></p> <p>CEC Section 94886. Approval to Operate Required <i>“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.”</i></p> <p>CEC Section 94817.5. Approved to Operate or Approved <i>“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.”</i></p> <p>CEC Section 94868. To Offer to the Public <i>“To offer to the public” means to advertise, publicize, solicit, or recruit.”</i></p> <p>CEC Section 94869. To Operate <i>“To operate” means to establish, keep, or maintain any facility or location in this state where, or</i></p>

from which, or through which, postsecondary educational programs are provided.”

Based on the Bureau’s investigation, the Institution is conducting business as a private postsecondary educational institution at 971 Manzanita Street, Los Angeles, CA 90029, and is not exempt from the provisions of the California Private Postsecondary Education Act. The Institution advertises two courses: Ayurveda Skills for Living - \$1800; Ayurvedic Counselor Course and Internship -\$5400. As such, the Institution falls under the definition of a private postsecondary institution under CEC section 94858 and does not meet the exemption of CEC section 94874(f).

Order of Abatement:

The Bureau orders that the Institution cease to operate as a private postsecondary educational institution, unless the Institution qualifies for an exemption under CEC section 94874. The Institution must discontinue recruiting or enrolling students and cease all instructional services and advertising in any form or type of media, including www.bellymindinstitute.com, 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, (323) 712-5100, that are associated with the Institution 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.

Reason for modification: New substantive facts were presented at the conference. The Order of Abatement has been satisfied.

Assessment of Fine

The fine for this violation is \$50,000.00

The administrative fine for this violation has been modified from \$50,000.00 to \$00.00.

TOTAL MODIFIED ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$00.00

APPEAL OF CITATION

You *do not* have the right to request another Informal Conference to appeal this modified Citation. If you did not initially request an Administrative Hearing within 30 days from when the original citation was issued, you can no longer request one.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION

This modified Citation is effective on January 8, 2020.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding this decision or desire further information, please contact Cheryl Lardizabal, Citation Analyst, at (916) 574-8968 or at Cheryl.Lardizabal@dca.ca.gov.

Christina Villanueva
Discipline Manager

Date