

#### 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

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

# MODIFIED CITATION: ASSESSMENT OF FINE

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

INSTITUTION CODE: 69608096 CITATION NUMBER: 2021217

MODIFIED CITATION ISSUANCE/SERVICE DATE: December 30, 2021

**MODIFIED DUE DATE: January 29, 2022** 

**FINE AMOUNT: \$800.00** 

**ORDER OF ABATEMENT INCLUDED: NO** 

Christina Villanueva issues this Modified Citation: Assessment of Fine (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 Modified 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**

The Bureau previously issued Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement No. 2021217 to the Owner of the Institution on April 2, 2021, which was appealed by the Institution and subsequently withdrawn without prejudice on December 22, 2021.

#### **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 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, CCR 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, CCR section 76240.

<u>Modified Order of Abatement:</u> New substantive facts were presented through the appeal process. The Order of Abatement has been resolved.

#### **Assessment of Fine**

The fine for this violation is \$5,000.00

The Administrative Fine has been modified from \$5,000.00 to \$800.00

### **TOTAL MODIFIED ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$800.00**

#### 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 **\$800.00** for the violations described above.

Payment of the administrative must be made to the Bureau by January 29, 2022.

#### PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINE

The Institution shall pay the civil penalty in the amount of \$800.00 by way of cashiers' check or money order. The payment shall be mailed to:

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

The civil penalty must be paid to the Bureau by January 29, 2022. Payment of an administrative citation is not an admission of guilt or liability.

The Institution gives up the right to an administrative hearing and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws. The Institution's failure to pay the Modified Citation civil penalty pursuant to the terms of this settlement will result in denial of an application for an approval or renewal to operate; disciplinary action, and/or collection action. The Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education may file an Amended Modified Citation for the failure of conditions required of the Institution.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions regarding this Modified Citation, or desire further information, please contact Gabriella Perez, Citation Analyst, at Gabriella.Perez@dca.ca.gov.	
"Original Signature on File"	"12/30/2021"
Christina Villanueva Discipline Manager	Date

#### Enclosure

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