

**DRAFT MINUTES
STATE OF NEVADA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**

NEVADA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION MINUTES

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE AND IN PERSON

The public may observe this meeting and provide public comment during the public comment section on Zoom or in person at:

Live Meeting:

DETR – Job Connect/EmployNV
Conference Room
3405 S. Maryland Parkway
Las Vegas, NV 89169

Zoom Meeting:

Topic: CPE Quarterly Commission Meeting
Time: November 6, 2024, 9:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Zoom Meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nvdetr-org.zoom.us/j/87269683106?pwd=S2JYY3llczdPQzFsaVhzaHRZbkovZz09>

Meeting ID: 872 6968 3106

Passcode: 874583

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Meeting ID: 872 6968 3106

Passcode: 874583

Staff Present During Video Conference

Kelly Wuest, CPE Administrator
Maricris Wu, CPE Education Specialist
Susan Beckett, CPE Compliance Investigator I
Kassondra Scott, CPE Administrative Assistant III

Commissioners Present During Video Conference Meeting

Sharon Frederick, Vice Chair

Dr. Randall Kirner

Jessica Todtman

Peter Mikhail

Members of the Public, Educational Institutions, and Other Agencies Present

Jordan Laub, Nevada Attorney General Office, Deputy Attorney General

Richard Moore

Greg Gilbert

Keith Torres

Arlo Thompson

Joel Nelson

Josh Swain

Heather Allen

Joseph Salvaggio

Nina Malone

Tierra Stewart

Sheena Lang

Leonard Lafrance

Kalinda Rollins

STATE OF NEVADA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 6, 2024 – 9:00 AM PDT

Call to Order

The meeting was held via Video Conference ZOOM and In Person, DETR – Job Connect Conference Room, 3405 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89169. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Commissioner Sharon Frederick at approximately 9:10 AM.

Public Comment Phone Option Instructions

For members of the public please note the options for attending this zoom meeting are via web and phone:

Meeting ID: 872 6968 3106
877 853 5257 US Toll-free
888 475 4499 US Toll-free

Passcode: 874583

Public Comments

Kassondra Scott confirmed no one was physically present in the conference room, in the Zoom meeting, or phone for public comment.

Written Comments

Kassondra Scott confirmed that no written comments were received.

Confirmation of Posting

Kassondra Scott, for the record, Commission on Postsecondary Education. Yes, proper notice was provided for this meeting pursuant to Nevada’s Open Meeting Law, NRS 241.020 and confirmation of posting was received. We are in compliance with the open meeting law.

Roll Call

- Commissioner Chair Kenny – Excused
- Commissioner Vice-Chair Frederick – Present
- Commissioner Ponder – Excused
- Commissioner Kirner – Present
- Commissioner Todtman – Present
- Commissioner Abe – Excused
- Commissioner Mikhail – Present

Administrator Kelly Wuest took roll by verbal and video. Confirmation of a quorum.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Commissioner Kirner – Motion to approve adoption of Agenda for November 6, 2024.
Second: Commissioner Mikhail.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous; agenda is adopted.

Approval of August 7, 2024 Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Kirner – Motion to approve the minutes for the August 7, 2024 meeting.
Second: Commissioner Mikhail.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Wuest gave the Administrator's Report as submitted, with an update to the quarterly report. The number of student enrollments is 11,230 with 29 institutions unreported. Commissioner Kirner asked for clarification on the EdVera launch timeline; Administrator Wuest anticipates a spring 2025 launch. Commissioner Mikhail asked for further clarification on enrollment numbers. Administrator Wuest explained that the record enrollment numbers are due to increased demand for licensed programs, with the number of licensed institutions remaining fairly constant. Commissioner Frederick lauded the CPE staff for the success of the NASAA summer conference.

Applicants for Consideration of Full-Term Licensure

Assist to Succeed Las Vegas

Testified: No representatives from Assist to Succeed Las Vegas were present. Susan Beckett stated that the institution had a slow start but is excited about their progress.
Discussion: None.
Motion: Commissioner Kirner – The provisional license for Assist to Succeed Las Vegas be extended for an additional nine months.
Second: Commissioner Todtman.
Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Welding School of Nevada

Testified: Greg Gilbert, Director, was present on behalf of the institution. Mr. Gilbert stated that the school has 20 graduates and 12 current students. Mr. Gilbert discussed examples of graduates' positive employment outcomes, with several students being admitted into unions.
Discussion: None.
Motion: Commissioner Kirner – Welding School of Nevada be granted a full-term license.
Second: Commissioner Mikhail.
Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

PDH Academy

Testified: No representatives from PDH Academy were present.
Discussion: Commissioner Todtman asked about the school's low enrollment. Susan Beckett stated that their enrollment was good overall, but there were concerns with compliance and record keeping that have since been resolved.
Motion: Commissioner Todtman – PDH Academy be granted a full-term license.
Second: Commissioner Mikhail.
Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy

Testified: Keith Torres, Compliance Manager, was present on behalf of Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy.

Discussion: None.

Motion: Commissioner Kirner – Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy (Accelerated Academy, LLC) be granted a full-term license.

Second: Commissioner Mikhail.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Las Vegas Bartending School

Testified: Arlo Thompson was present on behalf of Las Vegas Bartending School. Mr. Thompson stated that the original owner passed away shortly after the school was granted a provisional license, and the ensuing ownership transfer delayed the school's opening.

Discussion: Commissioner Mikhail asked how the school plans to enroll enough students during the requested six-month extension. Mr. Thompson described how the school's advertising efforts have led to 10 enrollments and four recent graduates.

Motion: Commissioner Kirner – The provisional license for Las Vegas Bartending School be extended for six months.

Second: Commissioner Mikhail.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Applicants for Consideration of Initial Provisional Licensure

Charter College

Testified: Joel Nelson, Chief Academic Officer; Josh Swain, Chief Executive Officer; and Heather Allen, Director of Regulatory Affairs were present on behalf of Charter College.

Discussion: Commissioner Todtman asked about the agreements or partnerships the college has in place to support clinical experiences. Mr. Nelson stated that they have agreements with Northern Nevada Medical Center, Reno Orthopedic Clinic and are working with Renown Imaging Center to secure additional agreements. Commissioner Frederick noted that she was familiar with Dr. Heather Allen's work in southern Nevada.

Motion: Commissioner Todtman – A twelve-month provisional license be granted to Charter College to offer Associate of Applied Science degrees in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, and Radiologic Technology and a certificate program in Medical Assistant contingent upon approval of staffing, and revised surety in the amount of \$607,000.

Second: Commissioner Kirner.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Academy of Protective Studies

Testified: Joseph Salvaggio was present on behalf of the Academy of Protective Studies. Mr. Salvaggio gave background information on the PFC group of companies and their 28-year history of doing business in Nevada. Mr. Salvaggio detailed the decades of experience, innovation, and world renowned Goodsprings training complex that supplement the Academy's curriculum. The company is POST certified, well established, and well known in Nevada.

Discussion: Commissioner Kirner asked where else PFC operates. Mr. Salvaggio stated that most training takes place in Nevada, but mobile teams travel all over the world. Commissioner Kirner then asked how many students are enrolled in the Academy's various training programs. Mr. Salvaggio stated that each class is up to 2 weeks long, with 20 students at a time. Commissioner Mikhail inquired about program outcomes, how students secure job leads, and what separates these graduates from other security professionals. Mr. Salvaggio explained that the training side of the business is highly regarded in the industry and employers value PFC's recommendations. Commissioner Frederick complimented the Academy's application and described how thorough, interesting, and informative the information was.

Motion: Commissioner Kirner – a twelve-month provisional license to be granted to Academy of Protective Studies to offer six vocational programs in Nevada Armed Security Office (PILB); Residential Security Operations; Protective Security Operations; Covert Operation and Protective Surveillance; Protective Emergency Casualty Care and Protective Driving Operations.

Second: Commissioner Mikhail.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Dog Grooming Skills Academy

Testified: Nina Malone, owner/director; Tierra Stewart, manager/lead instructor; and Sheena Lang, groomer/instructor were present on behalf of Dog Grooming Skills Academy. Ms. Malone stated that she's excited to offer Nevada's only dog grooming program. They plan to offer an evening program, target bathers that want to learn grooming and recruit with local salons.

Discussion: Commissioner Kirner asked whether in-shop groomers are employees or contractors, and whether licensing is required. Ms. Malone stated that they are employees and there is no state licensing body, but there is a master groomer designation. Commissioner Mikhail asked about the cost of tuition and how to make it accessible to potential students. Ms. Malone stated that she can offer payment plans, is looking into third party financing, and will apply for VA approval after 2 years. Commissioner Mikhail also asked about concerns with competitors. Ms. Malone expressed that she's confident in her program and the small class sizes will allow students to get the best training and have lucrative careers. Commissioner Frederick asked where the dog models will come from. Ms. Malone stated that her grooming salon has an existing client base, and she will offer discounts to allow students to gain practical experience. Commissioner Mikhail asked about the previously licensed dog grooming school that closed and if there were any lessons to be learned from that. Administrator Wuest believed that the other school closed because the owners retired and that is a common reason for school closures. Commissioner Frederick suggested partnering with rescue groups and doing community outreach to help with recruitment. Ms. Malone thanked her for the idea and expressed interest in exploring those opportunities.

Motion: Commissioner Kirner – a twelve-month provisional license be granted to Dog Groomer Skills Academy to offer the General Dog Grooming course.

Second: Commissioner Mikhail.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Applicants for Consideration of Added Programs, Extended Provisional Licensure

NC Lab

- Testified: Leonard Lafrance, President, was present on behalf of NC Lab. Mr. Lafrance detailed the institution's workforce development efforts and its relationship with NSHE institutions to get students into good careers. Mr. Lafrance stated that NC Lab uses a special assessment to determine if a student will be successful in their program, which leads to a near 100% program completion rate. Mr. Lafrance sees the proposed Data Analyst and Automation Technology programs as another vehicle to drive student success.
- Discussion: None.
- Motion: Commissioner Todtman – NC Lab be granted an extended provisional license with the addition of the Data Analyst and Automation Technology programs.
- Second: Commissioner Kirner.
- Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Order to Refund

Career College of Northern Nevada

- Testified: Administrator Wuest stated that she's identified an additional \$50,000 in claims that could potentially be filed before the one-year deadline. Many of CCNN's programs do not allow students to transfer into similar programs at other schools, thereby increasing the amount of potential claims. Administrator Wuest noted the eight claims currently pending approval for a total of \$76,340.77. \$296,412.16 has been paid out at the time of the meeting. Several students with approved claims and signed release forms are awaiting payments from DETR Financial Management. Administrator Wuest is hopeful that the statutory increase in the indemnification account balance from \$250,000 to \$750,000 will facilitate easier refund payments in the future.
- Discussion: None.
- Motion: Commissioner Kirner – Approve the list of students to be refunded as funds become available.
- Second: Commissioner Mikhail.
- Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Public Comments

Kassondra Scott confirmed no one was physically present, in the Zoom meeting, or on the phone for public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Frederick. Time: 10:25 AM PDT