



Transmitted by electronic mail only: [REDACTED]

August 11, 2022

ID#: I-360

[REDACTED]  
Owner  
Azure College  
3201 West Commercial Boulevard #127  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

Dear [REDACTED]:

The Commission, at its July 2022 meeting, reviewed the Appeal Panel Report and Decision<sup>1</sup> of Azure College's ("the institution" or "the College") appeal of the Commission's February 17, 2022 decision to deny the institution's continued grant of accreditation and withdraw its current grant of accreditation. The Appeal Panel amended the February 17, 2022 decision and remanded the matter back to the Commission to determine whether to reaffirm its decision to deny the institution's continued grant of accreditation and withdraw its accreditation based on Findings 1 through 4 of the February 17, 2022 letter.<sup>2</sup>

The Commission agreed with the Appeal Panel's assessment that Findings 1 through 4 were supported by the evidence before the Commission when it acted and that these Findings are "serious in nature and an appropriate basis for the Commission's denial and withdrawal of accreditation."<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, the Commission acted, pursuant to Chapter III, Section E, Subsection 2 (i) of the *Accreditation Manual*, to **reaffirm** its decision to **deny** the institution's application for continued accreditation and to **withdraw** the current grant of accreditation based on Findings 1 through 4 as affirmed by the Appeal Panel in the Appeal Panel Report and Decision. The Appeal Panel decision and the basis for the decision as set forth in the June 2, 2022 Appeal Panel Report and Decision are incorporated herein by reference. This action is now final and is not subject to further appeal. **The decision is effective August 22, 2022.**

The institution is reminded that it must, as of August 22, 2022, discontinue use of the ABHES logo, or any reference to ABHES accreditation in its publications, including the institutional website, catalog, and other print materials.

The institution may not apply to ABHES for accreditation for a period of one year from August 22, 2022 per Chapter III, Section C, Subsection 7 of the *Accreditation Manual*. The institution's account must be current on any outstanding fees to ABHES before a new *Application for Institutional Accreditation* will be accepted by ABHES.

<sup>1</sup> See Appeal Panel Report and Decision submitted June 2, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 6.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

### Required Submission

The institution is directed to submit the following:

- **Teach-out Plan and Student Disclosure**

By **August 22, 2022**, the institution must submit, online via [DropBox Forms/Applications](#), an updated Teach-Out Plan and the corresponding *Teach-Out Plan Form* (available for download from the ABHES website at <https://abhes.org/resources/#Forms>).

The institution must also include in its submission evidence it has published a new student disclosure notice **within seven business days of the date of this letter** informing enrolled and prospective students of the withdrawal of accreditation action as the reason the updated Teach-Out Plan is being required.<sup>4</sup>

### Disclosures

As set forth in Chapter I, Section B, Subsection 1 of the *Accreditation Manual*, federal and state regulators will receive copies of this correspondence simultaneously with the institution, and states that, within 60 days of this final negative action, the Commission makes available to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, appropriate state agencies, recognized accrediting agencies, and the public a brief statement summarizing the reasons for this negative action and the official comments, if any, that your institution wishes to make with regard to this decision, or in the absence of official comment from your institution, evidence that the institution was offered the opportunity to provide official comment. Consequently, if you wish to make a brief official written comment on this negative action you must do so by August 22, 2022, which is within ten calendar days of the date of this letter. You are not required to make such a statement, and failure to do so within the time allotted will be understood as a decision not to comment.

The U.S. Department of Education, the appropriate State licensing or authorizing agency, the appropriate accrediting agency, and the public have been notified of this action in compliance with 34 Code of Federal Regulations § 602.26 *et seq* and Chapter III of the *Accreditation Manual*.

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact me at (703) 917-9503.

Sincerely,



India Y. Tips  
Executive Director

Enclosure (Appeal Panel Report and Decision)

c: Herman Bounds, U.S. Department of Education  
Joey Smith, Florida Commission for Independent Education  
Sherri Sutton-Johnson, Florida Board of Nursing  
Dr. Shirley Simms-Gibbs, Executive Vice President

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<sup>4</sup> This disclosure is also required under 34 Code of Federal Regulations § 668.43(a) (19) which states: “If the institution is required to maintain a teach-out plan by its accrediting agency, notice that the institution is required to maintain such teach-out plan and the reason that the accrediting agency required such plan under § 602.24(c)(1). . .”