



**EXPRESS MAIL CARRIER SIGNATURE REQUIRED
& ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION TO: [REDACTED]**

March 31, 2023

ID# I-337

[REDACTED]
President and CEO
Med-Life Institute
4000 N. State Road 7, Suite 312
Lauderdale Lakes, FL 33319

Dear [REDACTED]:

This letter is to inform you that the Commission reviewed the Show Cause directive issued to Med-Life Institute by letter of February 24, 2023. Based on the institution's failure to respond to the Show Cause directive or to provide a required Teach-Out plan by the deadlines established in the directive, the Commission acted to **withdraw** the current grant of accreditation, subject to appeal per Chapter III, Section C, Subsection 7 of the *Accreditation Manual*.

Procedural History

In a letter dated February 24, 2023,¹ Med-Life Institute was directed to show cause why its current grant of accreditation should not be withdrawn and to respond to the following areas of non-compliance: 1) temporary closure of the institution; 2) criminal indictment of the institution's owner, [REDACTED]; 3) failure to complete the ABHES Change of Location process; and 4) the advertising of unapproved programs.

The institution was required by March 6, 2023, to provide a Teach Out Plan and evidence that enrolled and prospective students were notified of the Show Cause directive as the reason the Teach-Out Plan was being required per III.C.6. of the *Accreditation Manual*. The institution was further directed to respond to the aforementioned areas of non-compliance by March 20, 2023. The February 24, 2023, show cause letter further advised the institution that in the event it did not respond to the show cause letter, or provide requested information, the Commission would consider further action which may include withdrawal of the institution's accreditation.

On March 8, 2023, ABHES attempted to contact the institution via telephone but was unsuccessful in reaching you or another institutional representative. ABHES also sent a reminder email that provided a courtesy extension to March 10, 2023, for submission of the required Teach Out Plan and student disclosure. Despite such efforts, the institution has not responded to any of the directives outlined in the February 24, 2023, show cause letter. Accordingly, the Commission withdrew the institution's accreditation pursuant to III.C.7 of the *Accreditation Manual* which states: "the Commission may withdraw accreditation from an institution when, it fails to meet any procedural requirement or to comply with any accreditation

¹ See February 24, 2023, show cause letter from ABHES to Med-Life Institute.

standard (III.C.7).

Appeal of Action, Notice of Intent to Appeal and Required Fees

If the institution wishes to appeal the action of the Commission, it may do so by filing its intent to appeal the Commission action online via [DropBox Commission Responses](#) within 10 calendar days of the date of this letter. It must name its response, "ABHES ID#_Intent_to_Appeal" it must be received by ABHES by **April 10, 2023**. Upon receipt of the institution's intent to appeal, the institution will be assessed a non-refundable \$5,000 appeal fee plus an Appeal Hearing expense deposit of \$10,000, which must be remitted electronically within five business days. Failure to remit timely payment of the fees may hinder or delay scheduling of the appeal.

In accordance with III.E.3. of the *Accreditation Manual*, the institution retains its accreditation status during any pending appeal.

Should the institution elect not to appeal the decision to withdraw the institution's accreditation, the effective date of the Commission's action will be **April 10, 2023**, and the institution may not reapply to ABHES for accreditation within one year from that date.

Written Statement of Grounds for Appeal

The appeal materials, consisting of a complete written statement of the grounds for its appeal based on the Commission's reasons for withdrawal is due **May 15, 2023**, which is within **45 calendar days** from the date of the Commission's written decision in this letter dated March 31, 2023. The institution should review carefully all procedures governing its appeal, in accordance with the procedures found in III.E.3. of the *Accreditation Manual*. Note that the appeal is based upon the information available to the Commission at the time of its action. Unless specifically provided for in III.E.3.g., the Appeals Panel has no authority to consider evidence outside of the record considered by the Commission at the time it acted to withdraw the institution's accreditation. The institution has the burden of demonstrating that the action of the Commission was not supported by the record or was otherwise erroneous.

Appeal Submission Requirements

Should the institution wish to appeal, the appeal documents, including a cover letter, narrative, and exhibits, must be submitted to ABHES online via [DropBox Commission Responses](#) within 45 calendar days of the Commission action, **May 15, 2023**, in accordance with the instructions in [Preparing Your Response](#).

It is imperative that the file name must include ABHES ID#, RSP to March 2023 Withdrawal APPEAL Letter, and date of submission (ex: I-100_RSP to March 2023 Withdrawal APPEAL Letter_42023).

Required Submissions

The institution is directed to submit the following:

- **Teach-Out Plan and student disclosure**

By **April 10, 2023**, the institution must submit, online via [DropBox Forms/Applications](#) its Teach-Out Plan and the corresponding *Teach-out Plan Form* (available for download from the ABHES website at <https://abhes.org/resources/#Forms>) for all active programs.

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The institution must include in its submission evidence it has published a student disclosure notice **within seven business days of the date of this letter** informing enrolled and prospective students of the withdrawal action as the reason the Teach-Out Plan is being required.²

Disclosures

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 to withdraw the institution's accreditation and that the action is subject to appeal 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 itips@abhes.org or (301) 291-7550.

Sincerely,



India Y. Tips
Executive Director

Attachments:

- February 24, 2023 Letter to the institution including referenced attachments: correspondence from Florida CIE; and Photographs of Med-Life Institute signage.
- Notice of Commissioner Recusal Form

C: DAPIP, U.S. Department of Education
Joey Smith, Florida Commission for Independent Education
Joe Baker, Jr., Florida Board of Nursing

² 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). . ."