



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
Department of Health Care Services



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

DATE: September 10, 2014

MHSUDS INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 14-028

TO: COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTORS  
DHCS APPROVED CERTIFYING ORGANIZATIONS  
AOD PROGRAMS LICENSED AND/OR CERTIFIED BY DHCS  
COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S ASSOCIATION  
OF AMERICA

SUBJECT: Certifying Organization Loss of Accreditation: Breining Institute

As of August 29, 2014, the Breining Institute is no longer an approved Certifying Organization (CO) as a result of termination of accreditation with the Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA)/Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE).

According to the NCAA website, the Breining Institute's accreditation was terminated August 28, 2014. Consequently, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has notified the Breining Institute they are no longer approved to register and/or certify Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) counselors as of August 29, 2014. Per California Code of Regulations Title 9, Chapter 8, DHCS directed the Breining Institute to send notification to each counselor informing them of their rights and responsibilities as specified in regulation within five (5) working days from receiving written notification from DHCS.

Regulation specifies that an AOD counselor registered or certified with a CO that is no longer approved by DHCS, must register with one of the other certifying organizations within six (6) months of receiving written notification or prior to the expiration of his/her certification (whichever is sooner). Failure to re-register with a DHCS approved certifying organization within this timeframe will leave the holder of a registration/certification without a valid registration/certification.

In the event counselors do not receive written notification from the Breining Institute, DHCS has incorporated a 15-day grace period into the six (6) month deadline. AOD counselors who were registered and certified with the Breining Institute prior to August 29, 2014, must be re-registered/certified with an approved CO by March 19, 2015. If an AOD counselor who was registered or certified with the Breining Institute prior to August

29, 2014, fails to re-register or certify with another DHCS approved CO by March 19, 2015, his/her registration/certification will be invalid and he/she will not be able to provide AOD counseling services in licensed/certified programs.

The following is a list of the four (4) approved CO's:

Addiction Counselor Certification Board of California  
Affiliated with California Association for Alcohol/Drug Educators  
5230 Clark Avenue, Suite 3  
Lakewood, CA 90712  
Phone: (707) 722-2231  
Fax: (562) 866-2540  
[www.caade.org](http://www.caade.org)

American Academy of Health Care Providers in the Addictive Disorders  
731 South Highway 101, Suite 1E  
Solana Beach, CA 92075  
Phone: (888) 429-3701  
[www.americanacademy.org](http://www.americanacademy.org)

California Association of DUI Treatment Programs  
1731 Howe Avenue, PMB #352  
Sacramento, CA 95825-2209  
Phone: (800) 464-3597  
[www.cadtp.org](http://www.cadtp.org)

California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals  
2400 Marconi Avenue  
P.O. Box 214127  
Sacramento, CA 95821  
Phone: (916) 338-9460  
[www.ccapp.us](http://www.ccapp.us)

## REFERENCES

California Code of Regulations Title 9, Chapter 8, Section §13035(d)(1-4)  
"(d) if any of the certifying organizations specified in this regulation fails to comply with the requirements of this regulation, within five (5) working days following receipt of written notification by the Department that it is no longer approved to certify AOD counselors, the certifying organization shall send written notification to each AOD counselor registered with or certified by the certifying organization, informing him/her of his/her rights and responsibilities, including the following:

1. Before expiration of his/her certification or within (6) months of the notice (whichever is sooner), the counselor shall register with one of the certifying organizations listed in (a) or this regulations;
2. For purposes of this Chapter, The AOD counselor's certification remains valid until it expires only if the certified counselor re-registers as required by (d)(1) of this regulation;
3. The new certifying organization shall give credit for any continuing education credits earned while certified by the former certifying organization; and
4. The new certifying organization shall give registrants sufficient credit for education and experience completed to place the registrant at an equivalent level in the new certifying organization."

#### QUESTIONS/MAINTENANCE

If you have questions regarding this Information Notice, please contact the Substance Use Disorder Compliance Division at (916) 322-2911. This Information Notice is available on the DHCS Web page at <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Pages/MHSUDS-InfoNotices.aspx>.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Karen Baylor, Ph.D., LMFT, Deputy Director  
Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Services