

**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: February 5, 2025, 9:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Zoom Meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nvdetr-org.zoom.us/j/87920201286?pwd=PjyQPB8QJC3lDxpaQXezPt2VcpszR.1>

Meeting ID: 879 2020 1286

Passcode: 299773

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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

Dr. Thomas Kenny, Chair
Sharon Frederick, Vice Chair
Dr. Randall Kirner
Jon Ponder
Jessica Todtman
Peter Mikhail
Kara Abe

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

Jordan Laub, Nevada Attorney General Office, Deputy Attorney General
Dr. Deborah Staten – Next Level Dental Assistant
Karen Dalmaso-Hughey – Battle Born EMS Health and Science Learning Institute

Jackalyn Copeland, Genevieve Training Center
Tricia Catalino, Hawai'i Pacific University
Alicia Coleman, Savvy Needle Phlebotomy Training
David Maddahi, National Polytechnic College
Silvia Espin, National Polytechnic College
Charles Mugardechian, National Polytechnic College
Lesli Kong, National Polytechnic College
Alejandro Andrade, National Polytechnic College
Giovanni Casillas, National Polytechnic College
Alejandro Rodriguez Dawson, Sound Connect
John Pinnington, Vegas Print School
Matthew Phau, Paralegal Institute

STATE OF NEVADA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
MINUTES

February 5, 2025 – 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 Chair Commissioner Thomas Kenny at approximately 9:00 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: 879 2020 1286

Passcode: 299773

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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 – Present
- Commissioner Vice-Chair Frederick – Present
- Commissioner Ponder – Present
- Commissioner Kirner – Present
- Commissioner Todtman – Present
- Commissioner Abe – Present
- Commissioner Mikhail – Present
- Commissioner Devine-Absent

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

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Commissioner Kenny – Motion to approve adoption of Agenda for February 5, 2025.

Second: Commissioner Mikhail.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous; agenda is adopted.

Approval of November 6, 2024, Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Kenny– Motion to approve the minutes for the November 6, 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 6,991 with 48 institutions unreported. Discussion occurred over SB 78 to move the Commission under the newly established Boards and Commission Division of Business and Industry.

Applicants for Consideration of Full-Term Licensure

Battle Born EMS Health & Science Learning Institute

Testified: Karen Dalmoso Hughey was present and provided an update concerning the institution stating 41 students have been enrolled, 34 graduated and 32 have obtained certification.

Discussion: None.

Motion: Commissioner Todman – A full term license be granted to Battle Born EMS Health & Science Learning Institute.

Second: Commissioner Kirner.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Geneieve Training Center

Testified: Jackalyn Copeland, Director, was present on behalf of the institution. She thanked staff for working with her to develop processes and assist her.

Discussion: None.

Motion: Commissioner Ponder – A full term license be granted to Geneieve Training Center

Second: Commissioner Mikhail.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Hawaii Pacific University

Testified: Tricia Catalino, Director was present on behalf of the University. She provided initial student counts for the Doctor of Occupational Therapy and Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

Discussion: Commissioner Mikhail asked about the timing for the audit and when the first graduating class would occur. Director Catalino indicated the first graduation would be August of 2026. Administrator Wuest explained the timing of an audit for the February 2025 meeting would have needed to occur prior to the start of the cohort.

Motion: Commissioner Kenny – the provisional license for Hawaii Pacific University be extended by 6 months.

Second: Commissioner Mikhail.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Next Level Dental

Testified: Dr. Deborah Staten testified that the institution got a slow start due to marketing issues. There has been one student enrolled.

Discussion: Commissioner Ponder asked for information about the marketing plan. Dr. Staten explained that they are going to high school job fairs. They have hired a new marketing company to develop ads, and they are doing grassroots marketing for a spring and summer class.

Motion: Commissioner Kerner – the provisional license for Next Level Dental Assistant be extended for 9 months.

Second: Commissioner Ponder.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Savvy Needle Phlebotomy Training

Testified: Alicia Coleman presented that the institution had three students graduated and 8 students who graduated last week. She requested an extension due to the timing of the students graduating.

Discussion: None.

Motion: Commissioner Kenny – The provisional license for Savvy Needle Phlebotomy Training be extended for six months.

Second: Commissioner Ponder.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Applicants for Consideration of Initial Provisional Licensure

National Polytechnic College

Testified: Silvia Espin presented on the three programs the institution will be offering in Nevada. The main campus is based in Lakewood, CA focusing on health care occupations and accredited by ACCSC along with programmatic accreditation. She provided an overview of the College's history.

Discussion: Commissioner Mikhail asked about clinical sites and partners for Nevada. Ms. Espin indicated that they have some national partners with Nevada locations but haven't developed Nevada specific contracts. Commissioner Mikhail asked about funding consideration and Mr. Mugerdechian responded that they anticipate at least a six-month delay in the Title IV approval but will also apply for the VA education program after approval and are considering some private funding options and self-funding for the first six months. Commissioner Mikhail asked about program outcomes and Mr. Mugerdechian responded that the program range between 75 -85% and consistently over the 75% rate. Commissioner Kenny asked if the Career Service Director could provide more precise numbers, and Leslie Kong confirmed the numbers provided by the owner. Commissioner Fredrick recommended the institution reach out the VA Southern Nevada Health as they have been expanding with a women's clinic and second nursing home.

Motion: Commissioner Frederick– That a twelve-month provisional license be granted to National Polytechnic College to offer the Associate of Applied Science Program in MRI Technologist, Nuclear Medicine Technologist and Radiologic Technologist contingent upon personnel, Facility approval and surety in the amount of \$481,000.

Second: Commissioner Ponder.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Paralegal Institute

Testified: Matthew Phau provided information about the institution and that he has taught this program at UNLV and originally appeared at the Commission for an added program with another institution. His program is geared to providing the basics needed to enter the occupation.

Discussion: Commissioner Kerner asked about the types of law covered. Mr. Phau indicated they focus in the areas where there are the most hires including business contract law, civil litigation, family law and estate planning. Commissioner Mikhail asked about the previous outcomes at NTI and Mr. Phau responded that they never started a class. Commissioner Mikhail asked about the UNLV program being listed under continuing education. Mr. Phau explained that the program was focused on career change versus someone graduating from high school. Many of the individuals attending the program already had a degree but needed the specific skills with only about 5-10% not having any postsecondary education. Commissioner Frederick asked whether he was aware of past students pursuing a juris doctorate degree. Mr. Phau responded that he was aware of three individuals who worked for his firm decided to pursue a law degree.

Motion: Commissioner Ponder - That a 12-month provisional license be granted to Paralegal Institute to offer the paralegal program contingent on surety in the amount of \$93,000 and facility approval

Second: Commissioner Kerner.

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Sound Connect

Testified: Alejandro Rodriguez Dawson provided an overview of the two programs the institution plans on offering. He provided information on his success in the audio engineering industry, having won an Emmy as the audio engineer and founding a recording studio Junction Sound in Las Vegas.

Discussion: Commissioner Todtman asked about placement assistance for graduates. Mr. Dawson explained that students will participate in an externship and the program will help students

create a digital resume that will include a playlist of what the person worked on whether they produced it, recorded it or assisted with social media marketing. The studio has already been working with the EmployNV hub in the WEX program. Commission Mikhail asked about recruiting plans. Mr. Dawson explained his plans for campus tours, workshops about the industry and social media marketing, content creation and tutorials. He has also reached out to a new Chamber for arts, creative and entertainment industry to network. Commission Frederick recommended the institution to reach out to high schools with art and music focus. Commissioner Kenny asked if there were other partners to provide externships. Mr. Dawson provided information on a commercial studio and another engineer that works out of his recording studio. He has been working to build this component to provide more opportunities for students.

Motion: Commissioner Todtman – That a 12-month provisional license be granted to Sound Connect to offer the audio engineering and the pro tools programs contingent upon receipt of surety bond in the amount of \$24,500, personnel, information, facility, and curriculum approvals.

Second: Commissioner Abe

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Vegas Print School

Testified: John Pinnington described his background and how he has built a successful print shop in Las Vegas and how it is difficult to find employees who have any working knowledge of the commercial print business. He began training employees and developed a curriculum to be able to open the institution. Mr. Pinnington described the four training programs to be offered by the school and the hands-on experience and companies he has identified in need of qualified individuals. He has been active in the EmployNV hub and planning on working with them to train the workforce.

Discussion: Commissioner Mikhail asked about how the hands-on experience would occur. Mr. Pinnington indicated that he had a truck that students would be able to practice wrap and a door that would be a first project. The film can be removed to repeat the process. He indicated that he had qualified instructors including himself to provide the training. Commission Mikhail asked about whether graphic design was part of the program and Mr. Pinnington indicated that he has a graphic department and to include this would be a longer training. Commissioner Ponder asked about starting wages for graduates, which Mr. Pinnington responded the range is from \$16-\$20 per hour. We are encouraging at least \$18 hour but \$16 is where most printers start. Commissioner Ponder asked about after a few years on the job and the response was between \$20-\$25 per hour. Commissioner Frederick asked if anyone else is teaching this because it is very forward thinking and cool. It was confirmed that no other training like this is approved. Commissioner Kenny asked about payment for the program. Mr. Pinnington indicated that they were applying for grants as a nonprofit, having other shops pay for employee training and he has spoken with the veterans chambers about possible programs to assist. Commissioner Abe provided information on the WEX program with the Career Enhancement Program which is state and WIOA funded.

Motion: Commissioner Kenny – That a twelve-month provisional license be granted to Vegas Print School to offer four programs in Car Wrapping; Commercial Printing; Large Format, and Screen Printing upon receipt of surety bond in the amount \$14,000, and personnel information.

Second: Commissioner Mikhail

Results: Unanimous; motion carries.

Order to Refund

Career College of Northern Nevada

Testified: Administrator Wuest explained this is the third list of student indemnification claims and there are three claims, two new and one revised because the student was able

to provide receipt evidence of the cash payment. The period for claims will close at the end of the week since it is 12 months from the date of closure. I can confirm all the 25 veterans were taken care of through restoration of entitlement. They got back the benefits they used while attending the institution. CCNN is on the closed school list for federal financial aid. Students can contact them and file a claim to have their student loan dismissed. Staff have also been able to provide 16 diplomas to past students. We did take possession of the past diploma's when we secured the campus records so they would not be destroyed. As students reach out to us, we check to see if we have the original diploma.

Starting July 2024, we began collecting the \$5 new student fee to replenish the student indemnification account. So far, we have collected \$89,800 and will pay out students as the funds become available. We anticipate completing payouts by May 2025.

There is a new bill AB 164 that has proposed to increase the student indemnification account from \$250,000 to \$750,000. If it passes it will take approximately 4 years to replenish the account and 2 years if the amount remains the same. I want to remind institutions that they can charge \$5 to students if they wish and recommend it for the short term, low cost programs.

Discussion: None.

Motion: Commissioner Kenny – That we approve the claims as submitted.

Second: Commissioner Frederick.

Results: Commissioner Todtman left prior to vote- all other votes approved; 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: 10:53 AM PDT.