



Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges

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Arlington, Virginia 22201  
703.247.4212  
703.247.4533 fax  
[www.accsc.org](http://www.accsc.org)

August 25, 2017

**ELECTRONIC DELIVERY**

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Pets Playground Grooming School  
1296 North Federal Highway  
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062

**School #M072429**  
**Warning**

[Redacted]

At the August 2017 meeting, the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (“ACCSC” or “the Commission”) considered the November 1, 2016 Denial of Initial Certification notice from the U.S. Department of Education (“the Department”) to Pets Playground Grooming School (“PPGS”) located in Pompano Beach, Florida. Upon review of the notice, the Commission’s March 6, 2017 letter and the school’s response, the Commission voted to place PPGS on **Warning** with a subsequent review scheduled for ACCSC’s **November 2017** meeting. The reasons for the Commission’s decision and the Commission’s requirements for the school to demonstrate compliance are set forth below.

The Commission determined that PPGS must demonstrate that the school’s fiscal year-ended December 31, 2014 to 2016 audited financial statements were prepared in accordance with ACCSC’s Instructions for the Preparation and Submission of Financial Statements and Related Information (*Section I (C)(1), Substantive Standards, Standards of Accreditation*). Specifically, institutions are required to submit audited financial statements that are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) by an **independent** certified public accountant (“CPA”) licensed by the state to perform such services.

[Redacted]

In addition, PPGS failed to provide the Commission with a) new audited financial statements, as requested, for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 prepared by an independent auditor and in full accordance with the ACCSC Instructions for the Submission of Financial Statements and Related Information and b) an attestation from the individual that prepared the financial statement that s/he is in fact a qualified and independent CPA and that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with GAAP.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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- a. [REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]

**Warning Restrictions:**

Pursuant to *Section VII (K)(7), Rules of Process and Procedure, Standards of Accreditation*, the Commission will not consider substantive changes, a change of location/relocation, or additions (i.e., separate facilities, new programs) to a school or its separate facilities while the school is under a Warning.

**Notification to Students**

The Commission requires the school to inform current and prospective students in writing that the school has been placed on Warning and to provide a summary of the reasons for the Warning Order (*Section VII (K)(7) Rules of Process and Procedure, Standards of Accreditation*).

**RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS:**

By applying for accreditation, a school accepts the obligation to demonstrate continuous compliance with the *Standards of Accreditation*. While the Commission employs its own methods to determine a school’s compliance with accrediting standards, the burden rests with the school to establish that it is meeting the standards. The Commission’s deliberations and decisions are made on the basis of the written record and thus a school must supply the Commission with complete documentation of the school’s compliance with accrediting standards.

PPGS must provide a response to the items expressed above that provides the information requested along with any additional information that the school believes supports a demonstration of compliance with accrediting standards.<sup>1</sup> If the school’s response contains documentation that includes personal or confidential student or staff information that is not required for the Commission’s review (e.g., social security numbers, dates of birth, etc.), please remove or redact that information.

PPGS must upload the school’s electronic response directly to ACCSC’s College 360 Database. The ACCSC College 360 database can be accessed by [clicking here](#). Please note that the password utilized by the institution to access the Annual Report Portal is the same to access the School Submission section of

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<sup>1</sup> ACCSC has issued two modules of the **Blueprints for Success Series** – [Organizing an Effective Electronic Submission](#) and [Preparing a Comprehensive Response for Commission Consideration](#) – which provide a framework for submitting a well-documented, organized, electronic response for Commission consideration. ACCSC encourages the school to review these modules when formulating its response to this letter. More information is available in the [Resources section](#) at [www.accsc.org](http://www.accsc.org).

the College 360 database. The Instructions for Electronic Submission can be found [here](#). A detailed overview on how to upload a school submission can be found [here](#).

Keep in mind, the school's response must be prepared in accordance with ACCSC's Instructions for Electronic Submission (e.g., prepared as one Portable Document Format ("PDF") file that has been prepared using Adobe Acrobat software (version 8.0 or higher) and which has a .pdf extension as part of the file name). The school will receive an e-mail confirmation that the file has been received within 24 hours of the submission.

As stated in the [July 1, 2016 Accreditation Alert](#), at the Commission's discretion a \$500 processing fee is assessed when a school is placed on Warning. Accordingly, the school will receive an invoice, under separate cover, in the amount of \$500. The school's response must also include a signed certification attesting to the accuracy of the information and be received in the Commission's office **on or before September 29, 2017**.

If a response, the required fee, and the certificate of attesting to the accuracy of the information are not received in the Commission's office **on or before September 29, 2017**, the Commission will consider further appropriate action.

For assistance with the password or for any other questions regarding the electronic submission requirements, please contact [REDACTED]. Please note that any password requests to access College 360 must be made by the school director, or designated member of the school's management team, via e-mail.

For further assistance or additional information, please contact [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Michale S. McComis, Ed.D.  
Executive Director