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LAYLA R. D'EMILIA
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

TO: School Owners and Representatives,
FROM: Layla R. D'Emilia, Commissioner, Division of Professional Licensure *Layla R. D'Emilia*
DATE: May 18, 2020
RE: UPDATE: Guidance regarding Continued Operations related to COVID-19

Today, Governor Baker released a four-phase approach to opening businesses that have closed their physical locations in accordance with the Governor's COVID-19 Order No. 13. Occupational schools and cosmetology and barbering schools are not part of the Phase 1 opening. This means that for those schools that do not teach programs considered to be essential their physical locations must remain closed to all employees, students, and the public until further guidance is issued (for a list of programs considered to be essential, please see DPL's "Guidance regarding Continued Operations related to COVID-19 for Occupational Schools Designated as Essential Services", issued on April 1, 2020). Schools that offer online-only training may continue to do so as long as students are not physically present at the school's location and have to adhere to the less than ten person gathering rule. The Office of Private Occupational School Education (Office) and the Board of Cosmetology and Barbering have both been working with its licensed schools to transition to online-only training, where possible. Both the Office and the Board of Cosmetology and Barbering encourages schools to review their most recent guidance regarding approval for those seeking to switch from classroom-based instruction to online-only training. However, for those schools that cannot offer online-only training, the school will need to notify its students immediately that in-person instruction must be suspended until this guidance is rescinded. DPL understands that this will likely cause disruption to both schools and students. We will work with both groups to help minimize disruption, to answer questions, and to provide further guidance as the situation unfolds. Thank you for your cooperation.

If there are questions regarding this email, or how to seek approval for online-only training, then please see below for contact information:

- For schools licensed by the Board of Cosmetology and Barbering, please contact Executive Director Rich Lawless at 617-701-8676.
- For schools licensed by the Office of Private Occupational School Education, please contact Executive Director Matt Keigan at 617-826-5234.
- For schools licensed by the Board of Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons, please contact Executive Director Shawn Murphy at 617-701-8641

