



## State of New Jersey

NEW JERSEY HIGHER EDUCATION

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Governor

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Secretary of Higher Education

The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE) is the agency of State government responsible for regulating the use of academic degrees in this State.

The American University of Holistic Healing (AUHH), located at 5500 Palisade Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl., Suite H, West New York, NJ, is not included in any of the definitive lists of accredited institutions of higher education that are maintained by the U.S. Department of Education or the Council on Higher Education Accreditation, the successor to the former Council on Postsecondary Education. Accordingly, the OSHE has informed AUHH that the institution must 'cease and desist' all post-secondary activities within the State of New Jersey.

Because AUHH is not accredited by a recognized accrediting agency, it is illegal to use a degree from AUHH in New Jersey. Please refer to the provision of the New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 9A:1-8.1) which prohibits any person from using or appending to his or her name *"any academic degree, designation, letters, derivatives thereof, or other designations as evidence of having earned an academic degree unless a duly authorized institution of higher education as defined in Section 3 of P.L.1986, c.87 (N.J.S.A. 18A:3-15.3) conferred the degree."* The governing statute, N.J.S.A. 18A:3-15.3, states that a *"duly authorized institution of higher education means an in-State institution licensed by the [Secretary of Higher Education] or an out-of-State institution licensed by the appropriate state agency and regionally accredited or seeking accreditation by the appropriate accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Education or the United States Department of Education."* Any person who violates this law is liable to a civil penalty of \$1,000 for each offense (N.J.S.A. 18A:3-15.5).

If you were awarded a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree from AUHH, that degree is not considered a valid degree in the State of New Jersey and the use of that degree is illegal. Therefore, you cannot legally append the AUHH degree after your name or use the prefix "Doctor" or "Dr." before your name on the basis of the AUHH degree.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the information above, please contact Eric Taylor, Esq., Director, Office of Licensure, at (609) 984-3738 or [eric.taylor@oshe.nj.gov](mailto:eric.taylor@oshe.nj.gov).