

# Texas Workforce Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **TWC Issues Cease and Desist Orders to Five Health Care Career Schools in Dallas and McAllen Areas**

*State Agencies Advise Students to Confirm Career School Certifications in Advance*

AUSTIN — The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has issued cease and desist orders against five unlicensed health care career schools in the Dallas and McAllen areas. The orders were issued for failure to obtain valid licenses or exemptions under the Texas Education Code. Additionally, TWC warns students to be aware that certificates of approval from the Texas Board of Nursing are required to be licensed as a school that provides nursing training. The nursing training at these schools has not been approved.

The five unlicensed career schools are Esther Medical Tutorial & Nursing Review Center, Richardson; Vocational Training Education Center, Irving; Career Advanced Medical Clinic and Training, Dallas; Merit Excellence Institute, Carrollton; and IF Tech, McAllen.

“Students are paying large amounts of money for training, which will not allow them to be eligible to take the NCLEX licensing examination in Texas,” said Mary Beth Thomas, Director of Nursing Practice and Education at the Texas Board of Nursing.

A career school traditionally trains students for a field in a business, trade, or a technical or industrial occupation, or for avocational or personal improvement. Cease and desist orders are issued to a business if TWC has reason to believe the school is not in compliance with the Texas Education Code.

TWC staff statewide monitors career school certification compliance, and can impose sanctions and/or an administrative penalty of up to \$1,000 per day per violation for noncompliance. The Office of the Attorney General enforces cease and desist orders, and can seek to collect civil penalties of up to \$1,000 per day per violation. Pursuing such cases is the function of TWC’s Regulatory Integrity Division, which is responsible for enforcing all regulatory statutes within the jurisdiction of the agency, encompassing career schools, child labor, Unemployment Insurance and workforce board sanctions.

Prospective career school students can access a list of schools in compliance on the TWC Directory of Licensed Institutions on the Career Schools and Colleges Web site page at <http://propschools.texasworkforce.org>. For more information, prospective students can call the TWC Career Schools Division at (512) 936-3100 or e-mail [career.schools@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:career.schools@twc.state.tx.us). Those wishing to contact the Texas Board of Nursing may direct their e-mail questions concerning approved nursing education programs to [webmaster@bon.state.tx.us](mailto:webmaster@bon.state.tx.us), call (512) 305-6816 or visit their Web site at [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us).

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*The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the programs it offers in unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org).*

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