

State Approval and Accreditation Status

If you are considering applying to The Sanville Institute it is important for you to understand what it means that we are state-approved, and not accredited. The Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (www.bppe.ca.gov) has developed rigorous standards for approved schools to protect prospective students from for-profit "diploma mills." The Sanville Institute is proud of its doctoral program having been approved continuously since 1979, with no complaints to the Bureau and with much praise from our students.

The Sanville Institute is a private, non-profit school approved by the State of California's Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (www.bppe.ca.gov) to grant the PhD in clinical social work. The PhD in clinical social work is an academic degree and has no impact on licensure. "Approved" means that we are in compliance with state standards as set forth in the California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009 [California Education Code, Title 3, Division 10, Part 59, Chapter 8, §94897(l)].

New California legislation (SB1247), effective January 2015, requires the following "Notice to Prospective Degree Program Students":

This institution is approved by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education to offer degree programs. To continue to offer degree programs, this institution must meet the following requirements:

- Become institutionally accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education with the scope of the accreditation covering at least one degree program.
- Achieve accreditation candidacy or pre-accreditation, as defined in regulations, by July 1, 2017 and full accreditation by July 1, 2020.

If this institution stops pursuing accreditation it must:

- Stop all enrollment in its degree programs, and
- Provide a teach-out to finish the educational program or provide a refund.

An institution that fails to comply with accreditation requirements by the required dates shall have its approval to offer degree programs automatically suspended.

Pursuant to this legislation and related regulations, The Sanville Institute is actively pursuing accreditation by the Western Senior Colleges and Universities Commission (WSCUC). Sanville has been granted eligibility to apply for accreditation and expects to have its first review by WSCUC in spring 2017.

The Sanville Institute has applied for Eligibility from the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC). WSCUC has reviewed the application and determined that The Sanville Institute is eligible to proceed with an application for Initial Accreditation. A determination of Eligibility is not a formal status with WSCUC, nor does it ensure eventual accreditation; it is a preliminary finding that the institution is potentially accreditable and can proceed to be reviewed for Initial Accreditation with WSCUC. The first visit for achieving Initial Accreditation must take place within five years of being granted Eligibility. Questions about Eligibility may be directed to the institution or to WSCUC at www.wascsenior.org or at 510-748-9001.

Limitations of State Approval

Prospective students should be aware that a degree program that is unaccredited or a degree from an unaccredited institution is not recognized for some employment positions, including, but not limited to, positions within the State of California and most tenure track academic appointments. Graduates of Sanville, however, do hold teaching positions on the faculties of many university and institute settings.

Additionally students enrolled in an unaccredited educational institution are not eligible for federal financial aid programs.