VIA: EMAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

June 10, 2026

Shakeitha Sims
Chief Administrator
Maestro College (350400)
10830 N. Central Expressway, Suite 252
Dallas, TX 75231

RE: Official Notification that the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education has ACCEPTED Maestro College's (350400), 10830 N. Central Expressway, Suite 252, Dallas, TX 75231, response to the Unannounced Focused Visiting Team's report and has PLACED the institution on SHOW CAUSE ORDER, effective June 4, 2026.

Dear Shakeitha Sims:

The Commission of the Council on Occupational Education (COE) met on June 3-4, 2026, to take action on accreditation matters. At this meeting, the Commission reviewed the Unannounced Focused Visiting (UFV) team's report submitted to COE on May 11, 2026, and the institution's response to the UFV team's report submitted to COE on May 30, 2026.

Basis for Decision
At its meeting on March 30, 2026, the Executive Committee of the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education authorized an Unannounced Focused Visit to Maestro College on the basis of four formal complaints filed against Maestro College within a four-month period. The complaints asserted serious allegations against the institution including but not limited to: 1) failure of the institution to properly disclose its Probation accreditation status to current and prospective students, 2) inconsistencies in its monitoring/proctoring requirements related to online assignments and assessments, 3) failure to provide students with grading, assessment, and proctoring policies at time of enrollment, 4) delayed access to student grades, 5) limited or no direct human interaction with institutional personnel, and 6) over-reliance on artificial intelligence (AI) communication with students and the public.

An Unannounced Focused Visit was conducted at Maestro College on April 20-21, 2026. The purpose of the visit was to investigate allegations raised in the complaints and to ensure the institution's compliance with all Standards and Conditions of the Council and the Policy and Rules of the Commission.

Prior to outlining the Items of Concern identified by the UFV team, the Commission notes that multiple complaints received over the last several months alleged an over-reliance on AI by the institution in the areas of instruction, student services, and faculty interaction. Although the UFV team did not identify this issue as a specific Item of Concern, the institution should carefully consider this information as an area warranting attention and as an opportunity for continuous improvement.

In its report, the UFV team noted four Items of Concern. The UFV team observed that the institution was utilizing a former name on signage, on the institution's phone messaging system, and on its website. The institution was approved for a name change from Peloton College to Maestro College on July 9, 2025. However, the UFV team noted that the institution had not updated signage and other publications to reflect this change.

In its response, the institution provided documentation that it addressed the item of concern regarding the use of the name Peloton College, which included updating signage, voicemail greetings, the website, and publications and marketing materials to reflect the name Maestro College.

A second Item of Concern was that in reviewing the COE-approved program list for Maestro College, the team observed that the names of the programs listed in several documents at the institution and on its website did not match the names as listed on the COE-approved program list provided to the team by COE.

In its response, the institution provided documentation that it emailed COE staff requesting guidance on the processes required to change the names of eight programs on the approved program list. COE staff informed the institution of the process and also informed the institution that due to the restrictive status (Probation) imposed on the institution, COE would not be able to process any substantive changes in accordance with the policy "restrictive violations prevent an institution from seeking a grant of initial accreditation or reaffirmation of accreditation, or approval of any substantive change" (*2026 COE Handbook of Accreditation*, p. 22) Therefore, this item of concern has not yet been addressed by the institution.

A third Item of Concern related to the institution's financial stability. The UFV team reviewed the institution's audited financial statement for the year ending December 31, 2024, and noted that the institution's composite score fell below the COE minimum requirement of 1.500. As a result of this deficiency, the Commission placed the institution on Probation Status in September 2025.

The UFV team also reviewed the institution's audited financial statement for the year ending December 31, 2025, and observed that the composite score had increased to above the minimum required threshold of 1.500. At its June 2026 meeting, the Commission reviewed Maestro College's Probation Status and removed the institution from Probation for the finding of noncompliance related to Standard Seven: Financial Stability. Notwithstanding this action, the Commission determined that continued monitoring if compliance with Standard 7: Financial Resources is warranted under *Notification of Apparent Deficiency* (NAD) based on findings contained in Maestro College's Final Audit Determination conducted by the Department of Education concerning the institution's administration of programs authorized under Title IV for the period January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Finally, the UFV team noted that the institution's improvement in its composite score appears to result from a significant capital infusion in 2025 and a substantial increase in the institution's Full-Time Equivalent (FTE). Maestro College reported an FTE increase of 25 percent or more to the Council on February 19, 2026. The UFV team confirmed this increase during its inquiry and further noted that the institution's FTE continued to rise at a significant rate in 2026. A substantial portion of this growth appears to be attributable to increased enrollment in the institution's Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree programs offered through distance education.

The increase in enrollment in the AAS degree programs indicates that growth in distance education has substantially exceeded growth in traditional instructional delivery. As a result, the institution appears to be moving further out of compliance with the eligibility requirement that an institution must "utilize a campus-based instructional delivery system with at least **25%** of the institution's total Full-Time Equivalency (FTE) derived from enrollments in traditional (bricks and mortar) instruction" (*COE 2026 Handbook of Accreditation*, p. 7).

Maestro College acknowledged the team's concern with meeting the eligibility requirement regarding the proportion of students enrolled in traditional (campus-based) instruction compared to those enrolled in distance education. The institution outlined actions taken to ensure enhanced monitoring of modality-

based FTE and provided future enrollment projections in traditional programs. However, the institution does not meet the eligibility requirement at this time.

As a result, the official action of the Commission was to **take the action as referenced in the subject line above**. The Commission reserves the right to conduct an additional focused review or verification visit.

This Show Cause Order is issued in accordance with the following statement found in the *Handbook of Accreditation: 2026 Edition*, page 23:

> ***Show Cause Order*** *- Show Cause is a restrictive status assigned by the Commission because of one or more serious violations of the Standards, Criteria, and/or Conditions of the Council. Once imposed,* ***Show Cause provides an institution with thirty calendar days to show why it should not be dropped****. Imposition of this status will not extend the original time period for compliance previously specified by the Commission unless good cause has been demonstrated by the institution.*

Below you will find a citation of the condition(s), standard(s), or policy(cies) apparently violated, the statement of apparent violation(s) and evidence of apparent violation(s).

Citation of Violation
2026 COE Handbook of Accreditation, Section III., *Affiliation with COE, A.2. Candidate for Accreditation, Eligibility Requirements, (p. 7-11):*

> To be eligible for consideration by the Commission for candidacy for accreditation (pre-accreditation status), an institution must comply with each of the following eligibility requirements:
>
> > **f.** Utilize a campus-based instructional delivery system with at least 25% of the institution's total Full-Time Equivalency (FTE) being derived from enrollments in traditional (bricks and mortar) instruction (p. 7).

Further, Section III., *Affiliation with COE, B.1. Accreditation*, *Eligibility Requirements, (p. 10-11)*:

> To be eligible for accreditation, an institution must comply with the following eligibility requirements:
>
> > **a.** Continue to meet the eligibility requirements to be a candidate for accreditation (p. 10).

Statement of Apparent Violation
Maestro College is in apparent violation of the COE eligibility requirement that candidate and accredited institutions "utilize a campus-based instructional delivery system with at least 25% of the institution's total Full-Time Equivalency (FTE) derived from enrollments in traditional (bricks and mortar) instruction" (*COE 2026 Handbook of Accreditation*, p. 7).

Evidence of Apparent Violation
During an Unannounced Focused Visit, the visiting team determined that enrollment (FTE) in distance education at Maestro College significantly exceeds enrollment (FTE) in traditional instructional delivery. Based on this determination, the institution is in apparent violation of the COE eligibility requirement that candidate and accredited institutions must "utilize a campus-based instructional delivery system with at least **25%** of total Full-Time Equivalency (FTE) derived from enrollments in traditional (bricks and mortar) instruction" (*COE 2026 Handbook of Accreditation*, p. 7).

Fees Assessed
As a result of the Show Cause Status, a fee has been assessed (invoice attached):

$1000 – Placed on Show Cause Order Status

Action required by the Institution
The Commission is requesting your institution provide the following within 30 days of the receipt of this letter:

1. Effective upon receipt of this action letter, the institution shall suspend enrollment of new students pending Commission review of the institution's response to the Show Cause Order.

2. A written comprehensive explanation as to why the institution should not be dropped from accredited status based on the COE's eligibility criteria and an explanation specifically addressing the Citation of Violation referenced above. Appropriate documentation to support the explanation should be included. **(Due: July 10, 2026)**

3. A six-month enrollment report disaggregated by program, month, and instructional modality (traditional or distance education) that clearly shows the number of students enrolled in each program. **(Due: July 10, 2026)**

4. Submission of an Institutional/Campus Conditional Teach-Out Plan. Instructions for the development of the teach-out plan are included on the enclosed Institutional/Campus Conditional Teach-out Plan template. The template is also available on the COE website (Applications & Forms | Council). **The Teach-out Plan should be submitted as a separate stand-alone document.** In keeping with our approach to sensitive information, do not send any documentation with Personally Identifiable Information (PII). Hence, please remove or redact student's names, SS numbers, DOBs, etc. prior to submission. **The Institutional/Campus Conditional Teach-Out Plan is due by: July 10, 2026**.

5. Financial Viability Plan covering past, current and projected enrollment by program, past, current and projected staffing levels, Monthly Revenue and Expenditures, Monthly Accounts Receivable and *Payable (2026 COE Handbook of Accreditation, p.23)* **(Due: July 10, 2026).**

6. A same-day balance sheet performed by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS) for the day of July 1, 2026. **(Due: July 10, 2026)**

The deadline for submission of documentation is absolute. Failure to meet this stated deadline carries with it a penalty for failure to submit requested documentation. In addition, the Commission's review of this matter may be delayed until the next scheduled Commission meeting, OR the Commission may take immediate adverse action. **Please submit all requested documentation through the EDvera system under the COE Document Submission section in the Dashboard.**

Finally, according to the Department of Education regulation section §602.26 (b), the Council on Occupational Education will provide written notice of a final decision of a Probation or equivalent status or an initiated adverse action to the Secretary, the appropriate State licensing authorizing agency, and the appropriate accrediting agency at the same time it notifies the institution of the decision and requires the institution to disclose such an action within seven business days of receipt to all current and prospective students. The Council also requires the institution to provide proof of this notification to COE within 10

business days of receipt of the letter. This information will be entered into the Database Accredited Postsecondary Institutions and Programs.

Should you have any questions about this action, please contact Ms. Shelia Luke, 770-396-3898 x 204, shelia.luke@council.org.

The 2026 COE Annual Meeting will be held November 10–12, 2026, in Atlanta, Georgia, at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta Downtown, located at 265 Peachtree Street Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Attendance at this meeting is very important for the vitality of the Council and advancement of the mission of COE. I would strongly encourage representatives of your institution to attend. The meeting program, online registration information, and hotel information will be available on the Council's website, Council.org, beginning August 10, 2026.

Please be assured that the Commission stands ready to assist you and your institution in your efforts to improve occupational education. Do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of service.

Sincerely,



Kirk A. Nooks, Ed.D.
President/Chief Executive Officer
Council on Occupational Education

KN/sl

Enclosure: Invoice # 29394
Institutional Teach-out Template

Council On Occupational Education
7840 Roswell Rd Bldg 300 Ste 325
Atlanta, GA 30350-4889 USA
7703963898
www.council.org

INVOICE

BILL TO
Maestro College f/k/a
Peloton College
Attn: Chief Executive
Officer
10830 N CENTRAL EXPY
STE 252
DALLAS, TX 75231-1077

INVOICE # 29394
DATE 06/09/2026
DUE DATE 06/09/2026
TERMS Due on receipt

	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Show Cause	Show Cause Order	1,000.00

We kindly encourage you to use ACH or credit card as your preferred method of payment for faster and more secure processing. Checks are welcome to complete your payment.

BALANCE DUE **$1,000.00**

Ways to pay

View and pay

Council on Occupational Education

Institutional/Campus Conditional Teach-Out Plan Instructions

Purpose
In the context of COE (Council on Occupational Education), a "conditional teach-out plan" is a written plan developed by an institution to ensure the equitable treatment of students if the institution or a significant part of it ceases to operate before all students complete their program. The development of a conditional teach-out plan does not mean that closure is imminent. Institutions that are placed on Probation Status or Show Cause Order Status must submit an Institutional/Campus Conditional Teach-out Plan for approval by the Commission. A conditional teach-out plan may become effective when successful resolution of compliance is not met.

A **teach-out** is a process during which a program, institution, or institutional location that provides 100% of at least one program engages in an orderly closure or, when following the closure of an institution or campus, another institution provides an opportunity for the students of the closed school to complete their program, regardless of their academic progress at the time of closure.

A **teach-out plan** is a written plan developed by an institution that provides for the equitable treatment of students if an institution, or an institutional location that provides 100% of at least one program ceases to operate or plans to cease operations before all enrolled students complete their program of study. An institution may: 1) teach-out its own students and programs, 2) enter into a teach-out agreement with another institution, or both.

At a minimum, the **teach-out plan** must include the following information:

- The name of each program and campus location being taught out
- A listing of students currently enrolled in each program (using an identifier other than name, SSN, date of birth). Teach-out plans should not include student personal identifying information (PII).
- A communication plan to inform students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders of the institution's closure
- A plan to preserve and make available to current and former students all academic transcripts including validations/confirmations of academic credentials awarded to former students

- A plan to collect outstanding balances owed to the institution by students and former students
- A plan to provide all potentially eligible students with information about how to obtain a closed school discharge and, if applicable, information on State refund policies
- The estimated completion/graduation date of each student
- The name and address of all accredited institutions in close proximity to the campus where students may transfer to complete their programs.

A **teach-out agreement** is a written agreement between institutions that provides for the equitable treatment of students and a reasonable opportunity for students to complete their program of study if an institution, or an institutional location that provides 100% of at least one program offered, ceases to operate or plans to cease operation before all enrolled students have completed their program of study.

**In the event of imminent closure, if an institution enters into a Teach-out agreement with another institution, a Two-Party Teach-Out* form should be submitted for all potential instructional agreements between the institution and another. *Teach-out agreements with another institution may require separate approval by the Commission.*

Please ensure to follow COE's definition of a "plan" while creating the teach-out plan. COE defines a plan as "a detailed written proposal/method for achieving an objective. The following elements must be included in a plan: scope of services, budgetary resources, major activities, evaluations of the plan, and stakeholders with whom the plan is shared" (*2025 Handbook of Accreditation*, p. 96).

Please submit the teach-out plan through the "COE Document Submission" portal in EDvera. Institutional/Campus Conditional Teach-out Plans should be submitted when requested by the Commission or as soon as an institution informs the Council of an upcoming closure.

ABC Institute (100100)
Teach Out Plan

OVERVIEW

1. Background information regarding the circumstances leading to the teach-out, including a proposed teach-out end date.

2. Institution's plans post-teach-out
3. Steps taken to ensure the equitable treatment of students if an institution ceases to operate or plans to cease operations before all enrolled students have completed their program of study.

PROPOSED PROGRAM COMPLETION OPTIONS

Internal teach-out: Does the institution plan to conduct an internal teach-out (where the institution will teach-out all of the student before the institution closes or ceases to operate)? If so, describe the process.

Teach out with another institution: Does the institution plan to enter into a teach-out agreement with another institution? If so, describe the process.

(For an Institutional/Campus Conditional Teach-out, the institution is not required to establish an official agreement with another institution. However, when the teach-out becomes effective or if the institution faces imminent closure, the institution may be required to submit a Two-Party Teach-out form and Teach-out agreements, as necessary, for Commission Approval.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINE

Include a timeline for the teach-out and include any major activities

PROGRAMS AND LOCATIONS

Provide a list of all academic programs offered by the institution for all credentials (e.g., certificates, diplomas, associate degree) for all undergraduate instructional levels.

The program list must include for each program:

(i) A statement of assurance that the method of delivery is comparable
(ii) A good faith assessment of the number and types of credits each teach-out institution is willing to accept prior to students' enrollment
(iii) A statement of assurance that the curricular requirements at the teach-out institution meet requirements for professional licensure or certification as applicable to the program
(iv) A statement of assurance that students are not required to move or travel substantial distances or durations with possible exceptions for highly specialized programs, and

(v) The institution's plan to provide a clear statement to students of the tuition and fees of the educational program and the number and types of credits that will be accepted by the teach-out institution.

Main Campus (100100) – 1111 ABC Road, Atlanta, GA 30350

Program Name	Total Clock Hours	Total Credit Hours	# Students Currently Enrolled	Status/Teach Out End Date
Program #1				
Program #2				
Program #3				
Program #4				
Program #5				

Branch Campus (100101) – 2222 XYZ Street, Savannah, GA

Program Name	Total Clock Hours	Total Credit Hours	# Students Currently Enrolled	Status/Teach Out End Date
Program #1	1800	78		
Program #2	900	42		
Program #3	750	30		
Program #4	900	42		
Program #5	900	42		

STUDENT INFORMATION *Please do not include any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).

Student Identifier*	Program	Campus	Est. Completion/Graduation

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES AND STUDENT SERVICES (SCOPE OF SERVICES)

Include a description of instructional activities and services available to students throughout the teach-out process.

TEACH-OUT INSTITUTIONS

Provide a list of all institutions identified as offering comparable programs where students could complete their programs of study to include:

(i) The name and web address of each institution,
(ii) The institution's accreditor or accreditors,
(iii) A good faith statement of assurance that the institution is in good standing with its institutional accreditor(s), the U.S. Department of Education, and is not under investigation, subject to an action, or being prosecuted for an issue related to academic quality, misrepresentation, fraud, or other severe matters by a law enforcement agency.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

Include a description of financial resources and other budgetary considerations appropriate for the teach out.

Include a Financial viability compliance plan.

COMMUNICATION PLAN AND STAKEHOLDERS

Description of a communication plan (how the institution plans to inform students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders of the institution's closure).

(i) Must not rely on a single medium (e.g., email only)
(ii) Must be appropriate to each stakeholder
(iii) Must include how it will inform students how to access transcripts, other academic records, financial records, and financial aid records, and
(iv) Must explain how it will inform students of any additional costs associated with teach-out options.

STUDENT ACADEMIC RECORDS

(i) Plan to preserve and make available all academic transcripts
(ii) Identify the party to whom academic records will be entrusted and include a physical address and contact information
(iii) Identify any state or other governmental agency requirement regarding disposition of academic records
(iv) Describe a plan to inform current and former students how they may request transcript copies

(v) Include a description of any encumbrances placed on access to academic records such as withholding transcript copies if a former student has an outstanding balance owed to the institution.

STUDENT ACCOUNT RECEIVABLES

(i) Plan to collect outstanding balances owed to the institution
(ii) Include a description of how students and former students will be informed of the institution's intention to collect

REFUNDS AND LOAN DISCHARGES

(i) Plan to provide all potentially eligible students with information about how to obtain a closed school discharge and, if applicable, information on State refund policies.

TEACH-OUT AGREEMENTS (IF TEACH-OUT IS WITH ANOTHER INSTITUTION)

A teach-out agreement is usually required if any significant consideration other than the transfer of academic credit is agreed upon between the institution and a teach-out institution. If the teach-out institution is only transferring credit and making no additional consideration for students covered under a teach-out plan, then the institutions are essentially executing a transfer agreement, and a teach-out agreement is not necessary. Teach-out agreements are subject to approval separate from the approval of the teach-out plan.

*Two-Party Teach-Out forms may be required for all potential instructional agreements between the institution and another, including teach-out agreements.