



**TO:** The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

**FROM:** Douglas E. Lentivech 

**SUBJECT:** St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing: Master Plan to offer an Associate in Science (A.S.) degree program in Nursing

**DATE:** October 24, 2019

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

### **SUMMARY**

#### **Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)**

Should the Board of Regents approve a Master Plan to authorize St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing to become a degree-granting institution and offer an A.S. degree program in Nursing?

#### **Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State statute and regulation.

#### **Proposed Handling**

This question will come before the full Board at its November 2019 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

#### **Procedural History**

Approval of a master plan by the Board of Regents is required by section 237 of Education Law. This would be the institution's initial authorization to award a degree.

#### **Background Information**

St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing requested degree authorization to offer an A.S. program in Nursing. Since 1997, this program has been offered at Memorial College of Nursing (which will be merged into St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing). The goal of the program is to develop and enhance the professional knowledge and practice of students, preparing them as skilled and competent professional nurses with

a commitment to lifelong learning. Emphasis is placed on contemporary nursing and health-care issues examined from a critical perspective.

The curriculum is 69 credits (30 credits in the Liberal Arts and Science, taken at Hudson Valley Community College, and 39 credits in the major) and can be completed in two years. Key elements of the curriculum include medical-surgical, pediatric, obstetric, and behavioral health nursing, communication, inter-professional teams, professionalism, and intellectual curiosity.

Admission requirements are as follows: graduate from high school or must possess a High School Equivalency Diploma (GED) with a standard score of 480 or above on each of the GED tests and total standard score of 2400 or above; complete the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) examination; complete high school or college-level algebra, biology with a lab and chemistry with a lab (courses must be completed with the following grade requirements: grade of 75 or above for high school level courses. Grade of B or above for non-credit bearing/remedial college courses. Grade of C (70%) or above for credit bearing college courses); submit an essay, transcripts, a completed application form and the application fee. Students are admitted twice a year (fall admission and spring admission). The projected new enrollment is 32 students per semester or 64 total students annually.

St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing has two spacious classrooms that comfortably sit 40 students. Each classroom is equipped with Smart Board technology. The simulation lab is large and well lit. It is conformed into three sections. Two of the rooms include mock inpatient set-ups for seven beds in total complete with headwall mock-up for oxygen and suction. Cameras are in place over each bed and project in a private viewing area behind one-way glass. Faculty are able to see and hear what students are doing with the mock patients. The 3<sup>rd</sup> section serves as a classroom area with table, chairs, screen, computer, and projector. This is area for presenting new skills, demonstrating, or debriefing after simulations. The computer lab is on the second floor and holds 20 computers. The Director has oversight responsibility of the program. In addition to the Director, the program has six full-time faculty members and four adjunct faculty.

Staff members from the Office of the Professions reviewed the application materials, including an on-site inspection of resources, facilities, equipment, etc. Based upon this review, it is determined that the program meets the standards for registration set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner.

### **Related Regents Item(s)**

Related to this, a charter item and a merger item will be considered at the November 2019 meeting.

### **Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve a master plan to authorize St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing to become a degree granting institution and offer an

A.S. degree in Nursing. This approval will be effective until November 31, 2020, unless the Department registers the program prior to that date, in which case master plan shall be without term.

**Timetable for Implementation**

If the Board of Regents approves the master plan, the Department will register the proposed program, and the school will proceed to enroll students.