



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

**FROM:** John L. D'Agati *John L. D'Agati*

**SUBJECT:** Mercy College, Bronx Campus: Master Plan Amendment to offer a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree Program in Health Science

**DATE:** January 3, 2019

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** *MaryEllen Elin*

### **SUMMARY**

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

Should the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment for Mercy College to offer its first bachelor's-level program in the Health Professions discipline area, a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Health Science, at the Bronx Campus?

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

Required by State statute and regulation.

#### **Proposed Handling**

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

#### **Procedural History**

Mercy College has submitted a proposal for a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in Health Science to be offered at the Bronx Campus. A master plan amendment is required because the proposed program will be the first bachelor's-level degree program in the Health Professions discipline area at the Bronx Campus.

#### **Background Information**

Mercy College seeks a master plan amendment to allow it to offer a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in Health Science at the Bronx Campus. A master plan amendment is required because the proposed program represents the first

bachelor's-level degree program in the Health Professions discipline area at the Bronx Campus.

The proposed B.S. degree program in Health Science is a 120-credit program, which offers two concentrations designed to prepare students for entry-level positions in a variety of health care settings as well as for targeted graduate study. Specifically, students are broadly trained in the application of basic science to health; coupled with the development of the values, inter-personal and inter-professional skills required for success in professional practice and graduate study. The 60-credit general education requirement builds on and includes additional credits in the basic sciences, the social sciences, and the health sciences. The proposed program also endeavors to meet the need for improved health outcomes in the Bronx, where there is high demand for well-trained health care professionals and academic programs to prepare students for health care careers.

An academic review of faculty, curriculum, and other program aspects of the proposed degree program has been completed by the Department. The Department has determined that the proposed degree program meets the standards for registration as set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. In October 2018, following its standard protocol, the Department conducted a canvass of degree-granting institutions in the New York City Regents region. Two institutions responded; neither objected.

#### **Related Regents Item**

N/A

#### **Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment to authorize Mercy College to offer its first bachelor's-level program in the Health Professions discipline area at the Bronx Campus, a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Health Science. The amendment will be effective until January 15, 2020, unless the Department registers the program prior to that date, in which case the master plan amendment shall be without term.

#### **Timetable for Implementation**

If the Board of Regents approves the master plan amendment, the Department will register the program.