



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Douglas E. Lentivech

SUBJECT: Regents Permission to Operate in New York State:
Gannon University

DATE: December 1, 2016

AUTHORIZATION(S):

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Regents approve the renewal of the permission to operate in New York State for Gannon University?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its December 2016 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

Regents permission to operate in New York State is required by Section 224 of the Education Law which prohibits out-of-state colleges and universities from transacting business in New York without Regents permission.

Background Information

Gannon University seeks a renewal of the Regents permission to operate in New York State in order to place master's degree students from its Family Nurse Practitioner program in health agencies in New York for supervised clinical experiences. Section 6908 of the Education Law restricts the practice of nursing to licensed persons or students enrolled in educational programs that the State Education Department has registered. The University's Master of Science in Nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Graduates of the Family Nurse Practitioner program are eligible for certification as Family Nurse Practitioners through the American Nurses Credentialing Center. The program meets the standards for registration as set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Regents approve the renewal of the proposed permission to operate, effective December 13, 2016 which authorizes Gannon University's Villa Maria School of Nursing to use eight clinical agencies in New York for clinical education of no more than two students every other year enrolled in its Family Nurse Practitioner program leading to the Master of Science in Nursing degree.

Timetable for Implementation

This approval will be effective until December 31, 2021.

INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF RECOMMENDATION

The request for the renewal of the permission to operate in New York State is being made for the program titled Family Nurse Practitioner.

Gannon University (Erie, Pennsylvania) requests renewal of the permission to place no more than two Family Nurse Practitioner students every other year in their Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum 1, 2 and 3. Practicum 1 runs for 112 hours in the summer; Practicum 2 runs for 168 hours in the fall and Practicum 3 runs for 224 hours in the spring. Each practicum will occur over a 14 week period. The following clinical agencies will be used: Clymer Medical Center in Clymer, Lake Erie Medical Services in Fredonia, Family Health Medical Services in Mayville, Southern Tier Pediatrics in Jamestown, Westfield Family Physicians in Westfield, WCA Hospital in Jamestown, Lane Women's Health Group in Jamestown and Jamestown Pediatrics in Jamestown. The Family Nurse Practitioner program requires completion of 48 semester hours, which includes the 3 clinical practica identified above. According to Commissioner's Regulation 52.12, both physicians and nurse practitioners trained in the specialty of family medicine are available to serve as preceptors for the clinical placements. Several of them have been used in the past and will continue in this role moving forward. The preceptors will be responsible for completing midterm and end-of-semester clinical evaluations for each student. Full-time Gannon University Villa Maria School of Nursing faculty will vet the qualifications of the preceptors and students through visits conducted at the placement sites.

The University is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The Villa Maria School of Nursing's programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and fully approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

Based on the limited nature of the University's request and past number of placements in New York State, the Department has determined that there would be no reduction in access to clinical experiences to existing programs in New York institutions if authorization is granted.

The Office of the Professions has determined that Gannon University meets the standards for registration set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.