



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:  
Rush University  
**DATE:** July 5, 2011  
**AUTHORIZATION(S):**

### Summary

#### Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Regents approve the proposed permission to operate in New York State for Rush University?

#### Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

#### Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its July 2011 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

Rush University's College of Nursing seeks Regents permission to operate in New York State in order to place students from its Neonatal Nurse Practitioner programs in a healthcare agency 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.

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Regents approve the proposed permission to operate, effective July 18, 2011, which authorizes Rush University's College of Nursing to use one agency in the New York metropolitan region for the clinical education of students enrolled in its Neonatal Nurse Practitioner programs leading to the Master of Science in Nursing degree or post-master's Advanced Certificate.

#### Timetable for Implementation

This approval will be effective until July 31, 2016.

## **INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF RECOMMENDATION**

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

Rush University's College of Nursing requests permission to place one Neonatal Nurse Practitioner student each year in a single healthcare facility in New York City for a total of 600 hours in clinical practicum during the final 4 quarters of the program. The students will be enrolled in an online format of the program that is delivered using Blackboard courseware. The Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program leading to the Master of Science degree requires completion of 65 quarter hours of credit. The program leading to the post-master's Advanced Certificate requires completion of 51 quarter hours of credit. Individuals available to serve as preceptors for the clinical placements will be neonatal nurse practitioners. The preceptors will be responsible for completing midterm and end-of-semester clinical evaluations for each student. Full-time Rush University College of Nursing faculty members will be in contact with preceptors and students through e-mail and telephone services.

On June 21, 2011, the Board of Regents granted Rush University permission to operate, on a limited basis, nurse practitioner programs leading to the Master of Science in Nursing or post-master's Advanced Certificate with a specialization in psychiatric mental health. At that time, this application was pending. In a letter dated June 20, 2011, North Shore Long Island Jewish Health System agreed to accommodate one student from the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program at one of its member hospitals for the required 600 hours of clinical experiences.

The University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools through 2019. The College of Nursing's programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education through 2019.

Staff have determined that there would be no reduction in access to clinical experiences at the cooperating facilities if authorization is granted. Because of the limited nature of the University's authorization to operate in New York State, it should have no effect on New York institutions.

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