



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

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

**SUBJECT:** Bryant & Stratton College – Regents authorization to authorize the College to award the Bachelor of Science degree at the College's Greece location and Master Plan Amendment to authorize the College to offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Healthcare Services Administration at its Greece location

**DATE:** October 29, 2012

**AUTHORIZATION(S):**

*John L. D'Agati*  
**SUMMARY**

**Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)**

Should the Board of Regents authorize Bryant & Stratton College to award the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree at the College's Greece location and approve a master plan amendment to authorize the College to offer a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Healthcare Services Administration program at its Greece location?

**Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State regulation.

**Proposed Handling**

The question will come before the full Board at its November 2012 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

**Background Information**

Bryant & Stratton Colleges, Buffalo, seeks Regents authorization to award the Bachelor of Science degree at its Greece location and approval of a master plan amendment to authorize the College to offer a program in Healthcare Services Administration leading to the Bachelor of Science degree. The campus is located in Greece (Rochester), New York. Regents authorization of the Bachelor of Science degree is required because the College's Greece location is not currently authorized to

award that degree title. Master plan amendment is needed to authorize the first baccalaureate level program at the Greece location. The College offers similar programs in Healthcare Services Administration at its Albany, Southtowns (Orchard Park) and Syracuse North (Liverpool) locations, and online. Diploma and associate level programs in the discipline of the Health Professions are currently offered at the Greece location.

In November 2010, a readiness review team visited the Greece location of Bryant & Stratton College. The team met with the program director, campus director, liberal arts and sciences faculty, administrators and students at each location, and reviewed student portfolios, toured the facilities and observed classes. The review team cited a major strength of the program as their “ability to articulate seamlessly” with the College’s associate degree programs in medical assisting. They also recognized the strength of the advisory committees composed of local employers in health care that the College assembled to assist in planning for the program, and the qualifications and credentials of the program directors.

**Purpose and Goals:** The proposed program supports the College’s mission of providing career-oriented education “through a flexible, contemporary curriculum in a personalized environment.” The proposed program will give students, particularly graduates of the College’s related associate degree programs in medical assisting, pathways to furthering their study in the field.

**Curriculum:** The proposed program requires a minimum of 120 credits, including 10 required health services administration courses (30 credits) emphasizing finance, legal aspects in healthcare, disaster planning, long-term care management and information systems, and includes two field experiences. The remaining major requirements are allied health (15 credits) and business courses (6 credits). Research opportunities and field experiences provide insight into real-world applications of classroom learning.

**Faculty:** The program director for the proposed program was hired in advance to further develop the curriculum and identify appropriate faculty, resources, and support. The director holds a doctoral degree and high-level field experience directly related to the proposed program. Appropriately qualified faculty are sufficient in number to support the program. The College plans to hire two additional part-time faculty to teach the program’s content courses and four additional full-time faculty to teach courses in the liberal arts and sciences at the Greece location.

**Admission:** Applicants must be high school graduates with a minimum GPA of 2.5 or 2.5 out of 4.0, or hold a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) with a minimum average standard score of 500 (taken after 2002) or average standard score of 50 (taken before 2002). In addition, acceptance will be based on high school GPA/GED or cumulative college grade point average, a personal essay, and a personal interview. Transfer students will also be accepted. Students with associate degrees must have a minimum 2.5 GPA and “C” grades or higher in English and Math courses.

**Projected Student Enrollment:** The College projects that it would enroll 25 students in the first year and 52 students in the fifth year of the proposed program, based upon current new student enrollment, enrollment trends, and the campus’ capacity for growth

in terms of facilities/space. The College anticipates that the majority of students will come from its own associate degree programs.

**Resources:** Students at the Greece location have access to over 59,000 online resources available through the College's virtual library. Databases supplying specialized medical information include CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature) with Full Text, Health Business Elite, Health Source-Consumer Edition, Health Source-Nursing/Academic Edition, and MEDLINE. The library is equipped with 9 computers for student use; students also have access to 5 computer labs, housing 85 computers.

In January 2013, the Greece campus will move to a new location a short distance from the current campus. The new facility is 12,000 square feet larger than the current facility.

**Need:** The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics states that "employment of medical and health services managers is expected to grow 16 percent from 2008 to 2018, faster than the average for all occupations. The healthcare industry will continue to expand and diversify, requiring managers to help ensure smooth business operations."

Additionally, New York State Department of Labor projections for the Finger Lakes region are identified as "favorable" with median wages of \$80,000 annually.

**Canvass Results:** The Department canvassed degree-granting institutions in the Finger Lakes region. Two institutions responded. One institution did not object to the proposed program. State University of New York College at Brockport did object to the program, but withdrew its objection after reviewing the response from the College.

**Department Review:** The Department has determined that the proposed program meets the standards for registration set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Regents authorize Bryant and Stratton College to award the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree at the College's Greece location and approve a master plan amendment to authorize the College to offer a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Healthcare Services Administration at its Greece location.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

The amendment will be effective until November 30, 2013, unless the Department registers the program prior to that date, in which case master plan amendment shall be without term.