



TO: Higher Education Committee

FROM: John L. D'Agati 

SUBJECT: Change in Scope of Institutional Accreditation: Phillips
Beth Israel School of Nursing

DATE: May 11, 2015

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Board of Regents grant a change in the scope of institutional accreditation of Phillips Beth Israel School of Nursing?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State regulation.

Proposed Handling

This question will come before the Higher Education Committee at its May 2015 meeting, where it will be voted on and action taken. It will then come before the full Board at its May 2015 meeting for final action.

Members of the Board of Regents with a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest on this application are asked to recuse themselves from participating in the deliberation and decision.

Procedural History

The Board of Regents granted institutional accreditation to Phillips Beth Israel School of Nursing on January 10, 2012 for a period of five years. In December 2014, the School requested that Pace University be removed as a co-registrant for the School's licensure-qualifying A.A.S. degree program in nursing. With the Department's subsequent approval of that request, the School assumed responsibility for delivering the liberal arts and sciences content of the program, which Pace University had

delivered previously. The School has applied to the Regents for a change in scope of its institutional accreditation as a result of the institution's new authority.

Background Information

A Regents-accredited institution that undergoes a substantive change is required to apply for a change in the scope of its accreditation. Section 4.1-5(d) of Regents Rules defines actions that require such a change in scope, along with related processes.

The School applied for a change in scope of accreditation because it added "courses or programs that represent a significant departure from the existing offerings of educational programs...from those that were offered when the department last evaluated the institution for accreditation." (Regents Rules section 4-1.5(d)(1)(iii)) Specifically, the School assumed direct responsibility for preparing and delivering the liberal arts and sciences courses in its A.A.S. program.

The purpose of the change in scope application is to document that the change does not adversely affect the institution's capacity to meet the accreditation standards defined under sections 4-1.3 and 4-1.4 of Regents Rules.

Based on the application submitted by the institution and its response to the Department's request for additional information, the Department finds that the School's new authority does not compromise the institution's ability to meet accreditation standards related to the School's mission; assessment of student achievement; resources; administration; support services; admissions; consumer information; and related technical processes. Likewise, the School's documentation of steps to support the delivery of the liberal arts and sciences courses provides assurances of the School's capacity to continue to satisfy accreditation standards addressing faculty and programs of study.

The Department finds that the School's authorization to prepare and deliver liberal arts and sciences courses does not compromise the institution's ability to continue to meet Regents accreditation standards. As a result, the Department recommends approval of the requested change in scope of accreditation for Phillips Beth Israel School of Nursing.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve a change in scope of the institutional accreditation of Phillips Beth Israel School of Nursing, in recognition of the institution's new authority to prepare and deliver the liberal arts and sciences components of the School's programs.