



TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Douglas E. Lentivech

SUBJECT: Master Plan Amendment: The City University of New York – City College, Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) Degree

DATE: September 9, 2015

AUTHORIZATION(S):

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents approve an amendment to the master plan of The City University of New York (CUNY) City College to offer the doctor of medicine program and award the Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by statute.

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its September 2015 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

In November 2014, CUNY City College submitted a proposal for a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree program in Medicine. A master plan amendment is required because this would be CUNY City College's first doctoral-level program in the discipline of health professions. The Board of Regents must also authorize CUNY City College to award the M.D. degree.

Background Information

Presently, CUNY City College recruits and educates a diverse pool of students in its baccalaureate Biomedical Science program, which is located at its Sophie Davis

School of Biomedical Sciences. Current graduates of this program transfer to cooperating medical schools through articulation agreements. CUNY City College seeks to restructure this existing 5-year baccalaureate degree program in Biomedical Science and establish a full Doctor of Medicine degree program.

The medical education curriculum will be part of a balanced, integrated 7-year B.S./M.D. continuum. Years 1-3 will encompass the undergraduate program that fulfills the requirements for the B.S. degree in Biomedical Science and the pre-requisites for the M.D. degree program. These years include coursework that is foundational to the medical curriculum, including fundamental medical science courses, population health coursework, and longitudinal clinical experiences in primary care settings. After the foundational curricula semesters are completed, students will receive the B.S. degree and enter the M.D. degree program, which consists of years 4-7 of the continuum. Based at CUNY City College, the first two years of the M.D. curriculum (years 4-5 of the continuum) will constitute the pre-clinical years and consist of three longitudinal courses: Organ Systems, an integrative coverage of normal and abnormal structure and function of each of the organ systems; Practice of Medicine, a longitudinal clinical skills course; and Population Health. The final 2 years (years 6-7) correspond to traditional years 3 and 4 of medical school and will consist of required clinical clerkships and electives. St. Barnabas Hospital/Health System (SBH) in Bronx, New York will serve as the program's primary clinical partner for the clinical training years. The M.D. curriculum consists of 163 weeks of instruction. The proposed program has a strong primary care focus, and is designed to provide a general professional medical education to prepare students to successfully pursue a career in any medical specialty.

CUNY City College has dedicated classroom and laboratory space to support the medical education program, including lecture halls, classrooms, wet labs, a dozen rooms for small-group teaching and one seminar room – all equipped with projectors and internet connectivity, and a 4,000-square foot clinical skills laboratory that includes two large rooms for group sessions and seven smaller ones furnished as clinical offices. CUNY City College also has a gross anatomy laboratory that accommodates 106 students and is equipped with dissecting tables, microscopes, cameras, monitors and internet connectivity. Full-time personnel, including a diener and five laboratory technicians, are on staff to provide laboratory support.

Funding to support the medical education program includes the existing annual State budgetary allocations of \$11.5 million and a University commitment of \$9.6 million, as well as tuition and fees revenue (\$3.2 million), a clinical partner commitment (\$6.2 million), research and endowment revenues (\$3.3 million), and a one-time University capital investment for renovation of existing facilities (\$3 million).

Canvass Results: In July 2015, the Department conducted a statewide canvass of all M.D. and D.O. degree granting institutions in New York State, which included all such institutions within the New York City Regents region. Of those canvassed, there were no objections to this proposal.

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. In addition to the Department review, the institution had a

separate review conducted by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). The proposed program also received preliminary accreditation at the June 2015 LCME meeting.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment to authorize The City University of New York City College to offer a doctoral program in Medicine and the authorization to award Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents approves the master plan amendment and authorizes CUNY City College to award the M.D. degree, the Department will seek the Governor's approval of the master plan amendment. After the Governor's approval, the Department will register the program and the institution will proceed to recruit and enroll students.