



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

**FROM:** Douglas E. Lentivech

**SUBJECT:** Regents Permission to Operate in New York State:  
East Carolina University

**DATE:** March 3, 2014

**AUTHORIZATION(S):**

**SUMMARY**

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

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

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

This question will come before the full Board at its March 2014 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

Board of 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

East Carolina University seeks Regents permission to operate in New York State in order to place students from its Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program leading to the Master of Science degree or the Advanced Certificate 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 Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Graduates of the program are eligible for certification as Nurse Practitioners through the National Certification Corporation. The programs meet the standards for registration as set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Regents approve the proposed permission to operate, effective March 11, 2014, which authorizes East Carolina University to use one clinical agency in New York for clinical education of no more than four students enrolled in its Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program leading to the M.S. degree or the Advanced Certificate.

### Timetable for Implementation

This approval will be effective until March 31, 2019.

## **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.

East Carolina University requests permission to place up to four Neonatal Nurse Practitioner students per academic year at clinical agencies located in the Western Region of the State. Contractual affiliations exist between the University and Catholic Health System located in Buffalo, NY. The program leading to the M.S. degree requires completion of 42 credit hours, including 600 clinical contact hours; the program leading to the Advanced Certificate requires completion of a minimum of 20 credit hours, including 600 clinical contact hours.

Individuals available to serve as preceptors for the clinical placements include physicians and nurse practitioners with practices in the areas required by the program focus. The preceptors will be responsible for mentoring, supervising and evaluating each student and providing feedback to the appropriate East Carolina University faculty member. The faculty members responsible for courses with clinical instruction in New York are experientially and academically prepared at the appropriate level. The three identified faculty members for the proposed courses hold doctoral degrees with extensive practice experience in the field.

The University, located in Greenville, North Carolina, has been accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges since 1927. The nursing programs at East Carolina University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education until June 30, 2015 and fully approved by the North Carolina Board of Nursing.

Based on a canvass of nursing programs located within the Western Region, 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, there have been no objections from New York nursing programs within the requested area of operation.

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