



TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Douglas E. Lentivech 

SUBJECT: Master Plan Amendment: City University of New York
Herbert H. Lehman College (CUNY Lehman College),
Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) Programs in Family
Nurse Practitioner (FNP) and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
(PNP)

DATE: March 28, 2019

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Consent Agenda

Should the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment for CUNY Lehman College to offer the D.N.P. degree in Family Nursing Practice (FNP) and Pediatric Nursing Practice (PNP)?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

This question will come before the full Board at its April 2019 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

A Master Plan Amendment is necessary as this is CUNY Lehman College's first program at the doctoral level.

Background Information

CUNY Lehman College requested to offer an FNP program and a PNP program, both leading to the post-baccalaureate D. N.P. degree. The College has existing M.S. and Advanced Certificate programs in FNP and PNP. The proposed D.N.P. programs will prepare baccalaureate registered nurses to translate research findings into evidence-based practice and thus provide cost effective, clinically-focused, high quality care for culturally diverse populations in local communities, the state of New York, and across the country. Each program focuses on the societal and organizational context of the delivery of nursing services across various settings and on an understanding of cultural differences of various groups of people. The graduates will be prepared as leaders in policy advocacy.

The D.N.P. curriculum is guided by the *American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice*. Each program consists of 85 credits and can be completed in 3.5 years. It includes education in the following areas: the generation of clinically relevant data and utilization of data from clinical information systems; the diagnosis and treatment of health care issues of individuals, families and communities; and the achievement of quality improvement. The FNP and PNP programs include 1,100 clinical hours, respectively. The programs will use the existing clinical sites, including primary care clinics and federally qualified health centers and private physician offices. Nurse and physician preceptors must be nationally board certified in the specialty area.

Admission requirements include the following: an earned baccalaureate degree in nursing from a nationally accredited ACEN, CCNE or CNEA program, candidates with master's degrees may be accepted as advanced-standing students; a GPA 3.2 (B) or above on a 4.0 scale; submission of GRE scores; current registration and unencumbered licensure as a registered nurse in NYS; and an in-person interview. In addition, applicants are required to submit current resume or curriculum vitae, transcripts from all post-secondary institutions, three letters of reference, and personal statement. The College plans to enroll a total of 30 students in the first year and each of the next four years. Prospective students come primarily from the tri-state area, with a higher concentration from the Bronx. It is expected that the student population will be heterogenous and multicultural.

The building housing the Department of Nursing has two floors of classroom space and faculty offices. In addition, there is a large computer center, with 38 individual work stations, located on the first floor. To address the need for additional facilities, the College is building a new 50,000 square foot nursing facility – the Nursing Education, Research & Practice Center (NERPC) through a capital improvement program. The new building will allow the Department of Nursing to extend its research capabilities and outreach to the community. The Lehman College library is fully equipped to support the D.N.P. programs. A continually updated Reserve collection includes current textbooks, journal articles, and course materials. Electronic databases include CINAHL, Medline, ERIC and Social Sciences Abstract and the Cochrane Network. Students have access to all resources of the library including access to other libraries in the CUNY system. Students and faculty may access the electronic databases from remote locations. Ten

full-time faculty and four part-time faculty will be teaching in the proposed D.N.P. programs. All faculty members hold doctoral degrees and have diverse academic and practice experience to support student education.

Canvass Results: A canvass (of the institutions of the New York City Region and institutions offering D.N.P. programs) was conducted to determine the potential impact on current programs and resources. We received no objections.

Department Review: Staff members in the Office of Professions reviewed the application materials. As a part of the review process, a peer-review site visit was conducted on April 23-25, 2018 to assess the institution's capacity to offer doctoral programs. Based upon the review, it is determined that the proposed D.N.P. programs in FNP and PNP meet the standards for registration set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve an amendment to the master plan of CUNY Lehman College to authorize the college to offer the D.N.P. program in FNP and PNP. If the Board of Regents approves the master plan amendment, the Department will transmit it to the Governor with a recommendation for favorable action. Following gubernatorial approval, the program will be registered.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Governor approves the master plan amendment, the Department will register the D.N.P. program in FNP and PNP at CUNY Lehman College.