



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY,  
NY 12234

**TO:** The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents  
**FROM:** Frank Muñoz  
**SUBJECT:** Regents Permission to Operate in New York State:  
Gannon University  
**DATE:** February 21, 2011  
**AUTHORIZATION(S):**

### Summary

#### Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

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

#### Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

#### Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its March 2011 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

#### Procedural History

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

Gannon University seeks Regents permission to operate in New York State in order to place master's degree students from its Family Nurse Practitioner program 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 Master of Science in Nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Graduates of the Family Nurse Practitioner program are eligible for certification as Family Nurse Practitioners through the American Nurses Credentialing Center. The program meets 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 8, 2011, which authorizes Gannon University's Villa Maria School of Nursing to use three clinical agencies in New York for clinical education of students enrolled in its Family Nurse Practitioner program leading to the Master of Science in Nursing degree.

#### Timetable for Implementation

This approval will be effective until March 31, 2016.

## **INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF RECOMMENDATION**

The request for permission to operate in New York State is being made for the program titled Family Nurse Practitioner.

Gannon University requests permission to place one Family Nurse Practitioner student every other year for a 112 hour practicum at Lane Women's Health Group in Jamestown, a 168 hour practicum at Southern Tier Pediatrics in Jamestown and a 224 hour practicum at Westfield Family Physicians in Westfield. The Family Nurse Practitioner program requires completion of 48 semester hours, which includes 3 clinical practica. Each practicum will occur over a 14-week period, with the first practicum scheduled for summer 2011. Individuals available to serve as preceptors for the clinical placements include one physician with a practice in obstetrics and gynecology, two physicians with practices in pediatrics and two nurse practitioners with practices in family health. The preceptors will be responsible for completing midterm and end-of-semester clinical evaluations for each student. Full-time Gannon University Villa Maria School of Nursing faculty will be in contact with preceptors and students through site visits conducted during the placements.

The University is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The Villa Maria School of Nursing's programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and fully approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

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, it should have no effect on New York institutions.

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