



TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: William P. Murphy *William P. Murphy*
SUBJECT: Conferral of Degrees: Dowling College
DATE: September 25, 2025
AUTHORIZATION(S): *William P. Murphy*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents confer degrees upon students completing programs at Dowling College?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute and State regulation.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Full Board for action at its October 2025 meeting.

Procedural History

Not applicable.

Background Information

Section 208 of the Education Law gives the Regents the authority to make awards in certain circumstances. In the case of closed institutions of higher education, in order to hold students harmless, the Board of Regents awards degrees to eligible students who complete the requirements for their registered degree programs at other institutions, for specified periods of time.

Dowling College

Dowling College, which was located at 150 Idle Hour Boulevard in Oakdale, New York, was granted an absolute charter by the Board of Regents on September 27, 1968. On August 31, 2016, Dowling College closed. After the College closed, the Department became aware that the College did not confer degrees for some students who completed their programs prior to closure. Since these students completed their programs, pursuing a degree under a teach-out agreement is not a viable option. Former Dowling College students may apply for a Regents diploma if they meet all of the following criteria: completed all degree requirements of a registered program prior to the College's closure.

The conferral process for closed institutions consists of the following steps:

For closed institutions:

- The student submits to the Department official transcripts from the closed institution and any other institution at which the student earned credit toward the degree.
- The Department reviews the transcripts and compares the completed courses to the requirements of the registered program at the closed institution.
- Upon a determination that the student has completed the program requirements, the Department prepares a degree conferral item for Regents action that lists all candidates and the degrees earned.
- After the Regents have voted to confer the degrees, the Department prepares the diplomas with the candidates' names and degree awards. The diplomas are signed by the Chancellor and the President of USNY, and the official Regents seal is affixed.
- The completed diplomas are sent to the students by the Department.

Related Regents Items

[February 2019: Conferral of Degrees: Dowling College, Elyon College, and Glasgow Caledonian New York College](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/219brca2.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/219brca2.pdf>)

[September 2019: Conferral of Degrees: Dowling College, New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting & Sculpture, and Glasgow Caledonian New York College](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/919brca2.pdf)

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/919brca2.pdf>)

[September 2023: Conferral of Degrees: Dowling College](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/923brca1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/923brca1.pdf>)

[June 2024: Conferral of Degrees: Glasgow Caledonian New York College and Dowling College](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/624brca3.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/624brca3.pdf>)

[March 2025: Conferral of Degrees: IE New York College and Dowling College](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/325brca1.pdf)
(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/325brca1.pdf>)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That the Board of Regents confer upon the following individual, who has completed the requirements for the registered degree program at Dowling College, the respective degree as listed below.

The following students have completed the requirements for the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) award at Dowling College:

Stephanie Lauren Perez

Timetable for Implementation

Once the Board of Regents approves this item, an appropriately signed diploma will be issued to the student.