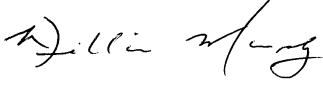





**TO:** The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

**FROM:** William P. Murphy 

**SUBJECT:** State University of New York at Binghamton: Regents  
Authorization to award the Master of Public Policy degree

**DATE:** September 25, 2025

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

### SUMMARY

#### **Issue for Decision (Consent)**

Should the Board of Regents authorize the State University of New York at Binghamton (Binghamton University) to award the Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) degree?

#### **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**

On December 17, 2024, the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees authorized Binghamton University to award the Master of Public Policy degree, subject to approval by the Board of Regents. The University also requested that Sections 3.47 and 3.50 of the Rules of the Board of Regents be amended to add the Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) degree award to the list of degrees that may be conferred by New York State institutions of higher education. This amendment was adopted at the September 2025 Board of Regents meeting.

Regents authorization is required because the University does not currently have the authority to award the M.P.P. degree. A master plan amendment is not required because the institution already offers master's programs in the disciplinary area of the Social Sciences.

## **Background Information**

Binghamton University is proposing a one-year online program in Public Policy leading to the Master of Public Policy degree award. The proposed program builds on the University's established areas of expertise in public administration. The curriculum requires the completion of 36 graduate credits comprised of ten core courses (30 credits) and two elective courses (6 credits) and offers a mix of the foundations of public policy theory, research methods, and analytics, supervised applications of theory to practice, an applied public policy project, and opportunities for individual development. The University will seek programmatic accreditation via the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration.

Projected enrollment in the first year of the proposed program is 25 full-time and 8 part-time students, increasing to 75 full-time and 25 part-time students by year five. The University will hire four new faculty, three assistant professors, and one lecturer over the first three years of its offering.

Graduates of M.P.P. programs work in a variety of organizations and agencies in positions such as policy analyst, community relations manager, economic development director, executive director, and public relations consultant. The skills acquired by M.P.P. graduates, including data analysis, policy analysis, and modeling, are transferable to a variety of settings, including domestic government agencies, private firms, and nonprofit organizations.

The Department has determined that the proposed program meets the standards for registration set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

## **Related Regents Items**

[September 2025: Proposed Amendment of Sections 3.47 and 3.50 of the Rules of the Board of Regents Relating to the Authorization of Degrees: Adding the Master of Public Policy \(M.P.P.\) Degree as a Registered Degree in New York State](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/925brca2.pdf)  
(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/925brca2.pdf>)

## **Recommendation**

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

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorize the State University of New York at Binghamton to award the Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) degree.

## **Timetable for Implementation**

If the Board of Regents authorizes the institution to award the Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) degree, the Department will register the proposed program in Public Policy at the State University of New York at Binghamton.