



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

TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: William P. Murphy *William P. Murphy*
SUBJECT: Permission to Operate: Centre College
DATE: February 24, 2020
AUTHORIZATION(S): *Sharon L. Tabor*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents grant permission for Centre College to offer a semester away program in New York City for students of Centre College, Sewanee: The University of the South, and Rhodes College?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute and regulation.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Full Board at its March 2020 meeting.

Procedural History

Not applicable.

Background Information

Centre College (Centre), a private, nonprofit institution located in Danville, Kentucky, has submitted an application for permission to operate with a physical presence in New York State, pursuant to Section 3.56 of the Rules of the Board of Regents. Centre participates in a study away consortium with Rhodes College (Memphis, Tennessee) and Sewanee: The University of the South (Sewanee, Tennessee) in which each college operates a study away program that students from the three colleges may

attend. Only students enrolled at one of these three partner institutions would be eligible to participate in Centre's proposed New York City program.

Centre has proposed a residential semester away experiential learning program in New York City that combines internships and academic coursework. All students will take the same two courses. One course explores New York City by studying the migrants and immigrants who have settled there since its founding. The other course focuses on theatre in New York. Students will also participate in a part-time internship.

No degree is awarded in New York as a result of participation in this program. Credits earned will be applied to each student's academic record at the home institution. The proposed program will be offered in fall semesters only. Up to 24 students may participate in the program each year.

Centre College has indicated that the proposed program will fill a gap in study away opportunities for students at Centre and its partner institutions. Although students at these institutions have many opportunities to study outside the United States, none of the consortium's institutions currently operates a semester-long program in the United States outside of Washington, D.C. One stated purpose of the program is to expand student learning opportunities beyond Kentucky and Tennessee so that students gain skills and confidence in an urban work setting before graduation from college.

Centre and its partner institutions are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. A Department review has indicated that the program for which the institution seeks authorization is comparable in quality to the standards for the registration of similar programs in New York.

The Department solicited input from existing colleges and universities concerning the impact of Centre's proposed New York program on the institutions and their programs. No New York State institutions lodged any objections or statements of negative impact regarding this program.

Related Regents Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents grant Centre College permission to offer a semester away program in New York City for students of Centre College, Sewanee: The University of the South, and Rhodes College. This permission will be effective March 3, 2020 and end on March 31, 2025.

Timetable for Implementation

Subsequent renewals of this permission to operate, if sought, will be subject to the terms of Section 3.56 of the Rules of the Board of Regents. If Centre College seeks to renew its permission to operate after its current term, it must notify the Department no later than March 31, 2024.