



TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Sarah S. Benson *Sarah S. Benson*

SUBJECT: State University of New York at Stony Brook:
Authorization to Award the Doctor of Occupational
Therapy (O.T.D.) Degree

DATE: February 29, 2024

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Bellamy*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent)

Should the Board of Regents authorize the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York (SUNY Board of Trustees) to confer the O.T.D. degree on duly qualified students successfully completing the program at the State University of New York at Stony Brook?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

This question will come before the full Board for action at its March 2024 meeting.

Procedural History

At its October 24, 2023 meeting, the SUNY Board of Trustees authorized the State University of New York at Stony Brook to confer the O.T.D. degree. On October 25, 2023, the Department received the request from the University to offer an O.T.D. program in Occupational Therapy.

Background Information

Paragraph (f) of subdivision (2) of §355 of the Education Law authorizes the State University Board of Trustees:

To grant all degrees, diplomas and certificates which heretofore [i.e., July 1, 1948] have been granted or have been authorized to be granted upon the completion of courses of study in any state-operated institution which now is or hereafter may be in the state university, prior to the acquisition of such institution by the state university, and also such other degrees as the regents may hereafter specifically authorize them to grant.

Degree authorization is necessary as the award represents the State University of New York at Stony Brook's first use of the O.T.D. degree title. Board of Regents approval of this authorization will allow the registration of acceptable programs leading to the O.T.D. degree.

Related Regent's Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

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

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorize the SUNY Board of Trustees to award the O.T.D. degree on duly qualified students successfully completing the O.T.D. program at the State University of New York at Stony Brook effective March 12, 2024.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Regents approve the degree authorization, the Department will register the program and the College will proceed to recruit and enroll students.