



TO: Professional Practice Committee
FROM: Sarah S. Benson *Sarah S. Benson*
SUBJECT: Overview of Professional Education within the Office of the Professions
DATE: April 6, 2023
AUTHORIZATION(S): *[Signature]*

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Department staff will provide an overview of the Professional Education Program Review unit within the Office of the Professions, which reviews and approves New York programs seeking to offer education programs that lead to licensure.

Reason(s) for Consideration

For informational purposes.

Proposed Handling

This item will be presented to the Professional Practice Committee for discussion at the April 2023 meeting of the Board of Regents.

Background Information

The Board of Regents is responsible for professions that range across health, design and business sectors. The Board of Regents authority over education programs, including those that lead to licensure, provide assurance to prospective professionals and consumers that licensees meet appropriate education requirements for entry-level practice. This recognizes the key role education plays in preparing licensed professions and ensuring their continuous development of knowledge, skills and ability required for practice competently in an ever-evolving environment.

Today, there are 55 professions established under New York law; the license, practice and discipline of those professions is under the authority of the Board of Regents, with the exception of medicine (physicians, physician assistants and specialist assistants), who are licensed and registered by the Education Department, but subject to discipline by the Department of Health.

Institutions that seek to offer an education program that leads to licensure under Title VIII must be reviewed and registered by the Department, as required under Part 52.1 of the Commissioner's regulations. The Professional Education Program Review (PEPR) unit collaborates with the appropriate State Board to review the program to ensure that it meets the requirements set forth in regulation prior to registration. Any questions about the application, including the faculty, coursework, and supervised internships are referred to the institution for clarification. When a program is registered, the Division of Professional Licensing Services (DPLS) can, if supported by documentation submitted by the registrar, approve an applicant's educational attainment without further review. These steps protect the public by ensuring the applicant is prepared for entry-level practice of the profession.

Staff will provide an overview of the program registration process, based on Education Law and Commissioner's regulations, and a discussion of challenges that face the educational programs and the Department in an evolving practice environment.

Related Regents Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

Not applicable.

Timetable for Implementation

Not applicable.