



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

**FROM:** David H. Hamilton *David H. Hamilton*

**SUBJECT:** St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing: Application for Permanent Degree Authority to Confer Degrees

**DATE:** August 29, 2024

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** *Bellamy*

### **SUMMARY**

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

Should the Board of Regents grant permanent degree authority to St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing (SPHCoN)?

#### **Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State statute and regulation.

#### **Proposed Handling**

The question will come before the Full Board for consideration at its September 2024 meeting, where it will be voted on and action taken.

#### **Procedural History**

Pursuant to Section 224 of the Education Law, the consent of the Board of Regents is required for institutions to award degrees. Section 3.59 of the Rules of the Board of Regents authorizes the Board of Regents to determine whether to grant permanent authority past the term of the previously granted provisional authority.

At its November 2019 meeting, the Board of Regents granted SPHCoN provisional degree-granting authority for five years and to merge the Memorial College of Nursing with SPHCoN as the surviving corporation. The College submitted an application for permanent degree-granting authority in April 2024.

## **Background Information**

SPHCoN is a single-purpose membership corporation established, organized, and operated exclusively for educational purposes. The sole corporate member of SPHCoN is St. Peter's Hospital (SPH), a not-for-profit corporation located in Albany, New York.

Consistent with, and in furtherance of, the charitable and educational mission of SPH, SPHCoN offers a non-residential, license-qualifying Nursing program leading to the Associates of Science (A.S.) degree jointly with Hudson Valley Community College (non-degree granting, offering liberal arts and sciences courses) and an A.S./B.S. program jointly registered with State University of New York at Albany (granting the B.S. degree). The A.S. Nursing program was re-accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) in the spring of 2020 for the maximum term of eight years. The program recruits most of its student population from the Tri-City area of Albany, Schenectady, and Troy, New York; and, historically, the remainder from Rensselaer, Saratoga, Columbia, and Schoharie counties.

Staff members conducted a site visit to the program on July 17, 2019, and a virtual site visit on February 20, 2020. Based on the findings of the site visit, the annual reports submitted by the program, and additional information obtained during the review of the request for permanent degree granting authority, it is determined that the College meets all the provisions for permanent degree granting authority. See attachment for the report of findings.

## **Related Regents Items**

### [November 2019: Charter Applications](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1119bra1.pdf)

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### [November 2019: St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing: Master Plan to offer an Associate in Science \(A.S.\) degree program in Nursing](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1119brca6.pdf)

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## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That the Board of Regents grant permanent authority to confer degrees to SPHCoN.

## **Timetable for Implementation**

The Regents action will take effect immediately.