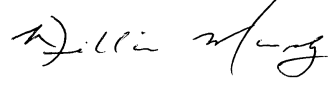




**TO:** The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

**FROM:** William P. Murphy 

**SUBJECT:** The State University of New York (SUNY), New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell, and New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell: Regents Authorization to award the Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree

**DATE:** August 29, 2024

**AUTHORIZATION(S):**



### SUMMARY

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

Should the Board of Regents authorize the State University of New York (SUNY), New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (ALS) at Cornell, and New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations (ILR) at Cornell to award the Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree?

#### **Reason for Consideration**

Required by State statute and State regulation.

#### **Proposed Handling**

This issue will come before the Full Board for action at its September 2024 meeting.

#### **Procedural History**

On June 4, 2024, the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees authorized the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell and the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell to confer the Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree, subject to Regents approval.

#### **Background Information**

The SUNY Board of Trustees requests that the Board of Regents authorize the New York State College of ALS and School of ILR at Cornell to offer a program leading to the Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree. Regents authorization is required

because this will be each institution's first degree program leading to the M.P.A. degree. A master plan amendment is not required because the institutions already offer master's-level programs in the HEGIS disciplinary area of the Social Sciences.

The M.P.A. is a specialized degree in the field of administration with a focus on public service leadership and policy and is widely recognized by prospective students and employers. The New York State College of Human Ecology and Cornell University have been offering an M.P.A. in public administration, currently registered as a multi-institution award with two degree-granting entities, for more than 50 years and with over 200 students currently enrolled.

The proposed action is a program revision to add the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations as degree-granting institutions to the existing multi-institution program. This revision intends to provide students at each designated institution with the opportunity to take program-applicable courses across all four institutions, enhancing the cross-disciplinary applicability of the curriculum.

The expanded program will draw entirely on existing resources, with any new courses being developed by existing faculty to replace previously offered courses. There is moderate market demand for graduates of master's-level programs in public administration. According to the labor market analytics tool Lightcast, through 2034, demand in target occupations is projected to increase by 15.5 percent statewide.

Offering the M.P.A. fits with the missions of the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations. The program has been reviewed and determined to meet the standards for registration.

### **Related Regents Items**

Not applicable.

### **Recommendation**

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

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorizes the State University of New York (SUNY), NYS College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and NYS School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell to award the Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

If the Board of Regents authorizes the institution to award the Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree, the Department will register the proposed program in Public Administration at the State University of New York (SUNY), NYS College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell, and NYS School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell.