

U.S.Department of Education Staff Report

to the

Senior Department Official on Recognition Compliance Issues

Recommendation Page

1. **Agency:** New York State Board Of Regents (Nursing Education) (1969 / 2016)
(The dates provided are the date of initial listing as a recognized agency and the date of the agency's last grant of recognition.)
2. **Action Item:** Compliance Report
3. **Scope of Recognition:** State agency for the approval of nurse education.
4. **Date of Advisory Committee Meeting:** 02/07/2018
5. **Staff Recommendation:** Renew the agency's recognition for a period of two years.
6. **Issues or Problems:** None.

Executive Summary

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENCY

The New York State Board of Regents (Regents) was established by State Law in 1784 and was granted authority to accredit educational programs through a registration process in 1787. All educational and related institutions in the State are under the leadership of the Regents.

The Regents oversee the education, licensure, practice, and conduct of practitioners in 45 of the 47 licensed professions. The Commissioner heads the Education Department, as the executive administrative arm of the Board of Regents. The Education Department has the responsibility of administering and implementing the policies established by the Regents. Nursing schools and nurse education programs that lead to the associate degree, baccalaureate and graduate degrees are included in the Regents' scope of recognition. The Department has not received any complaints regarding this agency since its last review. Department staff observed a site visit with the agency in October 2015.

Recognition History

The Secretary first recognized the Regents as a State agency for the approval of nurse education programs in 1969. The Regents have received periodic renewals of recognition since that time.

The agency submitted a petition for re-recognition in June 2015. As a result of that review, the agency was required to submit a compliance report in 2017, as noted in the March 2016 Senior Department Official's decision letter. The agency's compliance report is the subject of this analysis.

PART II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

3d.

Enforces a well defined set of standards regarding a school's ethical practices, including recruitment and advertising;

The agency did not provide documentation to demonstrate that the agency enforces a well-defined set of standards regarding a school's ethical practices, including recruitment and advertising.

In response to the Department's finding, the agency provided additional information and documentation to address the previous concern by identifying consistent evaluation of compliance with this standard and criteria as it relates to a new program review; site-visits for continuing registration; substantive curricular changes and complaints, as evidenced in exhibits 1-8. Specifically, the agency has now included the review of the institution's defined criteria for the ethical practices in advertising and recruitment of prospective students (Exhibit 5) in Section 52.2(d)(1) within the site visit report and compliance with truth in advertising is evaluated in the student information section part 53 of the Commissioner's regulations (Exhibits 1 and 4). The agency has revised site-visit announcement letters to new and existing programs requiring meetings with representatives from admissions and compliance officers to meet the criteria requirements (Exhibits 2, 3 and 8). Also, the site-visit writing guidance document for reviewers has been edited to include suggested evidence, potential sources documenting compliance with regards to ethical recruitment and admission; and revised the self-study guide documents to include specific items to be reviewed as part of the site visit evaluation pertaining to the criteria (exhibits 5 and 6). In particular, the self-study guide requires the school/program to address

with data, policies and commentary the process and procedures for recruiting and admitting potential students and the qualifications of recruitment/admission department staff. Further, exhibit 7 demonstrates the evaluation of ethical practice in admissions and advertising with a curricular change.

However, the agency provided websites for the guidance documents regarding admissions in lieu of the electronic versions of these documents for review by staff. In addition, it is critical that the guidance documents be uploaded to be included in the official record of documentary evidence used by the agency to demonstrate compliance with this criterion.

Analyst Remarks to Response:

The agency provided the electronic versions of the Department Expectations on Admission and the Regulations on Admission and Advertisement to demonstrate compliance with this criterion. Specifically, the documents provide the admission requirements for nursing program registration and accreditation, which includes admission and recruitment requirements (exhibits 9 and 10). Thus, the additional documentation demonstrates that the agency adequately enforces a well-defined set of standards regarding a school's ethical practices, including recruitment and advertising.

PART III: THIRD PARTY COMMENTS

The Department did not receive any written third - party comments regarding this agency.