

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE AND BOARD ACTION

COMMITTEE: Assessment and Accountability **NO.:** AAC 07-24

COMMITTEE DATE: June 6, 2007

BOARD DATE: June 14, 2007

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby amends the *Procedures for New Academic Program Proposals and Program Changes Public Institutions of Higher Education* to add the following language to the section entitled "Academic Program Changes:"

"In submitting a name change request that would result in titling an existing concentration in an accredited program as a degree, provide program enrollment, graduation, and alumni outcome data for the preceding three years, a copy of the accreditation review report received within the preceding three years, and the most recent accreditation status letter from an accrediting body that is a member of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors."

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 15A, Section 9(b)

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June 2007

The Guidelines for public program approval contain a section that focuses on the process for academic program changes that concern certificates, concentrations, and program name changes. These changes are reviewed by Board staff and do not require action by the Board. Staff is recommending an additional category of academic program change.

In some cases, institutions may submit to change the name of an existing concentration, such that it will be a degree program. In the case of programs that are accredited without sanction by an Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA) accrediting body, BHE would not treat the request as a new program evaluation. Rather, the request to rename the concentration as a degree would require approval by the Vice Chancellor, as the Chancellor's designee, upon limited staff review.

Institutions that achieve and maintain professional accreditation for their programs are required to demonstrate that these programs meet similar criteria to that in the guidelines. Accreditation processes of ASPA members, in particular, require completion of rigorous quality reviews that examine all aspects of programs and the resources devoted to them, including faculty, curriculum, facilities, and institutional support. Such accreditation is required of programs whose graduates require licensure in their respective field. In most cases, evaluators who conduct BHE program reviews also have accreditation review experience.

Specialized and professional accrediting bodies in the United States operate to ensure that students in educational programs receive an education consistent with standards for entry into practice or advanced practice in each of their respective fields or disciplines.

In recognition of the significant resources input by campuses into programs that earn and maintain this type of accreditation and in view of the requirement that these programs meet criteria similar to those required by the Board for degrees, staff recommends that requests that would result in renaming an existing concentration in an ASPA member-accredited program to a degree, be accompanied by submission of information regarding enrollment trends, graduates and accreditation. The requested change to rename the concentration as a degree would require approval by the Vice Chancellor, as the Chancellor's designee, upon limited staff review.

Specifically, staff recommends that the Board amend the *Procedures For New Academic Program Proposals And Program Changes Public Institutions of Higher Education* by adding the following language to the section entitled "Academic Program Changes:"

"In submitting a name change request that would result in titling an existing concentration in an accredited program as a degree, provide program enrollment, graduation, and alumni outcome data for the preceding three years, a copy of the accreditation review report received within the preceding three years, and the most recent accreditation status letter from an accrediting body that is a member of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors."

In its entirety, the amended section would read as follows:

ACADEMIC PROGRAM CHANGES

A public college or university expecting to offer (a) new certificate programs under 30 credits, or (b) new minors, concentrations, tracks, or options within existing programs is to notify the Chancellor of Higher Education in writing at least 60 days prior to announcing such program changes. These changes do not require action by BHE.

Changes in the name of an existing program require approval by the Vice Chancellor, as the Chancellor's designee, upon limited staff review. In submitting a name change request, the institution should include curriculum information and reason for the request.

In submitting a name change request that would result in titling an existing concentration in an accredited program as a degree, provide program enrollment, graduation, and alumni outcome data for the preceding three years, a copy of the accreditation review report received within the preceding three years, and the most recent accreditation status letter from an accrediting body that is a member of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors.

An institution is to notify the Chancellor of Higher Education in writing if it suspends or discontinues an academic program. When a program is suspended or discontinued, it will be removed from BHE's inventory of active, authorized programs. A program suspended or discontinued may be reactivated only with the approval of BHE.

An institution is to notify the Chancellor of Higher Education in writing if it suspends or discontinues, or reactivates a suspended or discontinued, minor, concentration, track, or option within an existing program.

Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors – Member Roster 2007

- ALLIED HEALTH: [CAAHEP](#), Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
- ACUPUNCTURE: [ACAOM](#), Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
- ARCHITECTURE: [NAAB](#) National Architectural Accrediting Board
- ART & DESIGN: [NASAD](#) National Association of Schools of Art and Design
- BUSINESS: [AACSB](#) The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business
- CHIROPRACTIC: [CCE-Coa](#) Commission on Accreditation Council on Chiropractic Education
- CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES: [NAACLS](#) National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS)
- CONSTRUCTION: [ACCE](#) American Council for Construction Education
- COUNSELING: [CACREP](#) Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs
- DANCE: [NASD](#) National Association of Schools of Dance
- DENTISTRY: [CODA](#) Commission on Dental Accreditation American Dental Association
- ENGINEERING: [ABET](#) Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) ABET, Inc.
- HEALTH EDUCATION SCHOOLS: [ABHES](#) Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools
- HEALTH INFORMATION: [CAHIIM](#) Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Management Education
- HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT: [CAHME \(Was ACEHSA\)](#) Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education
- INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY: [NAIT](#) National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT)
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: [LAAB](#) Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board American Society of Landscape Architects
- LIBRARY and INFORMATION STUDIES: [ALA-Coa](#) Office for Accreditation American Library Association Committee on Accreditation

- MARRIAGE and FAMILY THERAPY: [COAMFTE](#) Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
- MEDICAL EDUCATION: [LCME](#) Liaison Committee on Medical Education
- MUSIC: [NASM](#) National Association of Schools of Music
- NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE: [CNME](#) Council on Naturopathic Medical Education
- NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY: [JRCNMT](#) Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology
- NURSE ANESTHESIA: [Coa-NA](#) Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs
- NURSING: [CCNE](#) Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- NURSING: [NLNAC](#) National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission
- OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY: [ACOTE](#) Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, American Occupational Therapy Association
- OPTOMETRY: [ACOE-AOA](#) Accreditation Council on Optometric Education, American Optometric Association
- OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE: [AOA-COCA](#) Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation; American Osteopathic Association
- PHARMACY: [ACPE](#) Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)
- PHYSICAL THERAPY: [CAPTE](#) Commission on Accreditation In Physical Therapy Education; American Physical Therapy Association
- PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT: [ARC-PA](#) Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant
- PLANNING: [PAB](#) Planning Accreditation Board
- PODIATRIC MEDICINE: [CPME](#) Council on Podiatric Medical Education, American Podiatric Medical Association
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT: [GACPM](#) Global Accreditation Center for Project Management
- PSYCHOANALYSIS: [ABAP](#) The American Board for Accreditation in Psychoanalysis, Inc.
- PSYCHOANALYSIS: [Apsaa](#) American Psychoanalytic Association
- PSYCHOLOGY: [APA-Coa](#) Committee on Accreditation, American Psychological Association, Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation

- PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATION: [NASPAA-COPRA](#) Commission on Peer Review And Accreditation; National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration
- PUBLIC HEALTH: [CEPH](#) Council on Education For Public Health
- RABBINICAL & TALMUDIC EDUCATION: [AARTS](#) Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools
- RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY: [JRCERT](#) Joint Review Committee on Education on Radiologic Technology
- RECREATION and PARKS: [NRPA](#) National Recreation and Park Association
- REHABILITATION COUNSELING: [CORE](#) Council on Rehabilitation Education, Commission on Standards and Accreditation
- SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION: [CSWE](#) Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Office of Social Work Accreditation and Educational Excellence (OSWAAEE)
- SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING: [ASHA-CAA](#) Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology; American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- TEACHER EDUCATION: [NCATE](#) National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
- TEACHER EDUCATION: [TEAC](#) Teacher Education Accreditation Council
- TEACHER EDUCATION - MONTESSORI: [MACTE Commission](#) Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education
- THEATER: [NAST](#) National Association of Schools of Theatre
- VETERINARY MEDICINE: [AVMA-Coe](#) Council on Education American Veterinary Medical Association