



**TO:** The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents  
**FROM:** Sarah S. Benson *Sarah S. Benson*  
**SUBJECT:** State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry: Authorization to Award the Master of Engineering (M.E.) Degree  
**DATE:** December 29, 2020

**AUTHORIZATION(S):**

### SUMMARY

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

Should the Board of Regents authorize the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York (SUNY) to confer the M.E. degree at State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry?

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

Required by State statute.

#### **Proposed Handling**

This question will come before the Full Board at its January 2021 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

#### **Procedural History**

At its September 15, 2020 meeting, SUNY Board of Trustees authorized State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry to offer the M.E. program. On September 23, 2020, the Department received the request from the College to offer an M.E. program in Environmental Resources Engineering.

#### **Background Information**

Paragraph (f) of subdivision (2) of §355 of the Education Law authorizes the State University Board of Trustees:

To grant all degrees, diplomas and certificates which heretofore [i.e., July 1, 1948] have been granted or have been authorized to be granted upon the completion of courses of study in any state-operated institution which now is or hereafter may be in the state university, prior to the acquisition of such institution by the state university, and also such other degrees as the regents may hereafter specifically authorize them to grant.

Degree authorization is necessary as the award represents State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry's first use of the M.E. degree title. Board of Regents approval of this authorization will allow the registration of acceptable programs leading to the M.E. degree.

At State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, in addition to the undergraduate degrees, the trustees are authorized to award the following master's degrees and higher: Master of Science (M.S.), Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.), Master of Forestry (M.F.), Master of Landscape Architecture (M.L.A.), Doctor of Professional Studies (D.P.S.), and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) The College has existing B.S., M.S., M.P.S, and Ph.D. programs in Environmental Resources Engineering.

### **Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorize the SUNY Board of Trustees to award the M.E. degree on duly qualified students successfully completing the M.E. programs at State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry effective January 12, 2021.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

If the Regents approve the degree authorization, the Department will register the program and the College will proceed to recruit and enroll students.