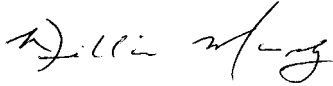





**TO:** The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents  
**FROM:** William P. Murphy   
**SUBJECT:** Permission to Operate: Belmont University  
**DATE:** May 27, 2021  
**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

### **SUMMARY**

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

Should the Board of Regents grant Belmont University permission to offer a study away program in New York City, in which Belmont University students may take courses applicable to their undergraduate degree programs?

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

Required by State statute and State regulation.

#### **Proposed Handling**

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

#### **Procedural History**

N/A

#### **Background Information**

Belmont University (Belmont), a private, nonprofit institution located in Nashville, Tennessee, has submitted an application for permission to operate with a physical presence in New York State, pursuant to section 3.56 of the Rules of the Board of Regents. Belmont has submitted this application at the request of the New York State Education Department in order to come into compliance with New York State requirements for the operation of out-of-State institutions with a physical presence in New York State. Belmont offers a semester away program in New York City (Belmont in New York). This program is available solely to undergraduate students who are matriculated at Belmont.

Belmont in New York is a one-semester program that consists of academic coursework and an internship in New York City. Students earn between 12 and 16 credit hours in this program. Coursework focuses on the entertainment industry, and students typically complete the required internship in this field. The on-site courses and internship can be supplemented by online coursework from the home campus in Nashville.

No Belmont degree is awarded in the State of New York. Credits from this program are applied to the Belmont undergraduate degree awarded in Nashville, Tennessee. Up to 80 students are expected to enroll in Belmont in New York each year over the next five years of operation in New York State.

Belmont states that this program responds to a demand for the institution's graduates in the New York City job market. The institution reports that a recent survey showed that 38.5 percent of Belmont in New York alumni were employed in New York City, which is the institution's second largest market for employed alumni, outside of Nashville.

Belmont is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. A Department review has indicated that the program for which the institution seeks authorization is comparable in quality to the standards for the registration of similar programs in New York.

The Department solicited input from existing colleges and universities concerning Belmont in New York's impact on the institutions and their programs. No New York State institutions lodged any objections or statements of negative impact regarding this program.

### **Related Regents Items**

N/A

### **Recommendation**

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

VOTED: That the Board of Regents grant Belmont University permission to offer a study away program in New York City, known as Belmont in New York, in which Belmont students may take courses applicable to their undergraduate degree programs. This permission will be effective June 7, 2021 and end on June 30, 2026.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

Subsequent renewals of this permission to operate, if sought, will be subject to the terms of section 3.56 of the Rules of the Board of Regents. If Belmont University seeks to renew its permission to operate after its current term, it must notify the Department no later than June 30, 2025.