

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER

1. Agenda Item Title: *Handbook* Revision Regarding NSHE Professional Degree Programs (*Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 7.6*)

Meeting Date: January 24, 2014

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

The Board of Regents adopted a *Handbook* revision at its December 5-6, 2013, meeting eliminating the limitation which restricted professional degree programs within the NSHE to a single School of Medicine until 2025. This revision was made in connection with the approval of the medical school Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among UNR, UNLV, UNSOM and NSHE which was also at the December 5-6 meeting. During the discussion of the MOU, the Board discussed the appropriateness of also eliminating the similar limitation on more than a single School of Law and School of Dentistry until 2025. However, because of Open Meeting Law notice requirements, the Board could not take this action at the same time the Board eliminated the limitation on the School of Medicine. Instead, the Board directed Board staff to prepare an additional *Handbook* revision to accomplish the same change in respect to the School of Law and School of Dentistry and bring this additional revision back to the Board at the January 24, 2014, special meeting.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Deletion of the limitation on having more than one School of Law or School of Dentistry professional program at NSHE until 2025 as presently contained in *Handbook* Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 7.6.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

Since the limitation on the School of Medicine has been lifted, it is appropriate to treat all the professional programs in the same manner.

5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- There should not be artificial limitations on professional programs; community needs and NSHE resources should be the determining factors when considering expansion of professional programs.

6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

Unlike the medical school, there is no need to remove the limitation on having more than one law or dental professional programs at this time.

7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

Leaving the current limitations in place.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #____ Chapter #____ Section #____
- Amends Current Board Policy: Title # 4 Chapter # 14 Section # 7.6
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #____ Section #____
- Other: _____
- Fiscal Impact: Yes____ No X____
Explain: _____

POLICY PROPOSAL - HANDBOOK
TITLE 4, CHAPTER 14, SECTION 7.6

Addition or Change of New Degrees, Majors, Programs,
Departments, Schools or Colleges

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

**Section 7. Addition or Change of New Degrees, Majors, Programs,
Departments, Schools or Colleges**

1. It is the policy of the Board of Regents that before any new degree, major, program, department, school, college, center, institute, or other structural organization may be added, such proposal must be approved by the Board of Regents.
2. Each president is responsible for completion of institutional review procedures. Following that, proposals will be forwarded to the Office of Academic Affairs in the Chancellor's Office prior to the Board of Regents' meeting to allow for review by the Academic Affairs Council, which will submit recommendations to the chancellor for action by the Board of Regents.
3. The format for consideration of new programs shall be provided by the vice chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs.
4. Institutional affiliation agreements and other collaborative arrangements with non-NSHE degree-granting higher education institutions shall be submitted to the chancellor and Board of Regents for review and approval at least three months prior to the date of intended implementation, if the agreements involve any of the following:
 - a. Joint offering of academic degree programs;
 - b. A commitment of institutional resources such as personnel, physical space, or finances; or
 - c. A physical presence of a non-NSHE higher education institution on the campuses or instructional sites of NSHE universities, the State College, community colleges, or the Desert Research Institute.
5. Articulation or other collaborative academic agreements between two-year and four-year degree granting institutions or between two four-year institutions within the NSHE do not require Board review and approval. Articulation agreements with K-12 that involve dual high school credit do not require Board review and approval.
- [6. Professional degree programs within the NSHE shall be limited to a single School of Law and School of Dentistry until 2025.]