

**AGENCY OF EDUCATION  
Montpelier, Vermont**

**TEAM:** School Finance

**ITEM:** Will the State Board of Education acknowledge that the Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (ACPHS) satellite site in Colchester, VT closed its programming on June 30, 2021 and will no longer be an approved postsecondary school operating in VT?

**SECRETARY'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**That the State Board of Education acknowledges that the Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (ACPHS) satellite site in Colchester, VT closed its programming on June 30, 2021 and will no longer be an approved postsecondary school operating in VT.**

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** 16 V.S.A. § 175  
State Board Rule 2250

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

1. Albany College of Pharmacy applied for a Certificate of Approval from the State Board of Education in 2007. In September of 2008, the College changed its name to Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (ACPHS), and received Degree Granting Authority from the State Board of Education. Since that date, the ACPHS has maintained its accreditation and annual registration requirements. The last registration period was from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021.
2. ACPHS sent written notification to the Agency of Education on November 20, 2020 that it is discontinuing its programming and operations in Colchester, VT as of June 30, 2021. The ACPHS stated that consolidating the pharmacy program on their Albany campus will enable ACPHS to direct its resources to strengthen all of the College's academic programs, both

undergraduate and graduate, to ensure that all programs are competitive and produce readily employable graduates to enter various health sciences professions.

3. ACPHS entered into a Teach Out Plan for students on Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences' (ACPHS) VT campus. All the current Vermont students were given the opportunity to complete their degree program on schedule without compromising the quality of their educational experience.

4. State statute requires a postsecondary institution proposing to discontinue its course of instruction to take several steps regarding student academic records. The institution must inform the State Board, prepare the academic record of each former and current student in a form satisfactory to the State Board, and deliver the records to the entity designated by the State Board. The State Board has promulgated rules consistent with statute. The statute and rules do not state any criteria that the State Board should consider when designating an entity to act as permanent repository for a closing institution's student academic records. The statute states that students and former students "shall be entitled to copies of their records" after paying a "reasonable" fee, 16 V.S.A. § 175 (c). The student records of those individuals who attended Colchester, VT will be available through ACPHS's main campus in Albany, NY.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** none

**STAFF AVAILABLE:**

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