



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

Associate Commissioner
Office of Higher Education
Room 977, Education Building Annex
Albany, New York 12234

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March 20, 2008

Marti Ellermann
State University of New York
System Administration
University Counsel's Office
Albany, New York 12246

Dear Ms. Ellermann:


I had the opportunity to meet with Tom Hogan of the Office of Nonpublic School Services to discuss the issue raised by SUNY admissions representatives. As I indicated at the meeting, CEO 05-04 identifies procedures colleges must follow when accepting the high school credentials from students from other states, including those credentials which may have been achieved through a high school program of correspondence study. As the CEO indicates, "when a student has completed a high school program through correspondence study, the correspondence school must be recognized, authorized, or approved by the state educational entity where the correspondence school is located."

You further asked whether a resident of the State of New York could satisfy the secondary education requirements through a high school program of correspondence study. Under Section 100.5 of the Commissioner's Regulations, the diploma requirements for high school graduation are identified. High school graduation requirements are defined as units of credit. Furthermore, the units of credit are defined in terms of the number of instructional minutes per week.

Because of this requirement, the New York State Education Department has not registered a high school program of correspondence study to meet the New York State requirements for secondary education. Therefore, at present, residents of New York State may not use a high school program of correspondence study to meet the requirements for a secondary education in New York State.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,


Joseph P. Frey

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COUNSEL'S OFFICE

cc: Tom Hogan