José Luis Cruz, Ph.D.

Executive Vice Chancellor and
University Provost

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Date: June 25, 2020

To: College Presidents, Provosts, Chief Student Affairs Officers & Chief Enrollment Managers
Deans, Chairs and Academic Directors of Nursing Programs

From: José Luis Cruz, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost

Re: Revised Nursing Programs Admission Policy

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The Office of Academic Affairs is issuing this revised guidance for students seeking admission to CUNY's nursing programs to reflect current law, recently updated CUNY policy, and better reflect the University's strong support of non-citizen students and its long-standing reputation for creating a pathway to education for immigrants. To this, end, ***effective immediately***, all CUNY nursing programs will consider students to be eligible for admission consistent with the regulations of the New York State Education Department (NYSED) that make professional licensure available not only to U.S. citizens but to non-citizens so long as they are "not unlawfully present in the United States," including those with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and those who are permanently residing in the United States under color of law (PRUCOL).

New Nursing Admission Eligibility Requirements

To be admitted or advance into a NYSED-approved nursing program in fall 2020 and beyond, students must provide documentation for one of the categories listed in the attached policy. Namely, applicants may demonstrate eligibility through documents that verify that they: 1) are U.S. citizens, 2) have legal permanent resident status, or 3) are in another eligible category set forth in the policy, generally through presentation of an employment authorization document (see useful document from U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services: List of Documents that Establish Identity and Employment Authorization).

Nursing Admission Policy Communications

Each campus must include the official criteria and documentation requirements cited in the revised policy in all virtual and written communications on admission eligibility for nursing students. This includes adding the new criteria to the list of other eligibility requirements for advancement into the nursing program (i.e., prerequisites, minimum GPA, etc.).

The updated policy does not affect students who have advanced into the clinical component of CUNY's nursing programs, or those considered for advancement prior to summer 2020. Students

who were not previously eligible for admission may re-apply for consideration under the revised policy, pending their satisfactory completion of ALL required admission criteria, as outlined and reviewed by the respective nursing program.

Each campus must also disseminate the revised admission policy and criteria to faculty, academic advisors, career counselors, admissions, registrar, and other relevant staff.

Student and Faculty Support Services

Students may be directed to consult with [CUNY Citizenship Now!](#) for free and confidential immigration law services available to all members of the community (both CUNY students and non-students). Faculty are advised to consult with the College Legal Affairs Designee for any questions on eligible immigration categories and documentation to verify status.

cc: College Registrars
        College Legal Affairs Designees
        Allan Wernick, Director, CUNY Citizenship Now!

REVISED NURSING PROGRAMS ADMISSION POLICY
June 24, 2020

Effective immediately, all CUNY nursing programs will consider applicants for admission who are eligible for licensing in New York under the regulations of the New York State Education Department. The regulation provides eligibility for citizens and non-citizens who are "not unlawfully present," including those with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and those permanently residing in the United States under color of law (PRUCOL).

Applicants may demonstrate eligibility through documents that verify that they meet the required criteria. The most common documents include:

1. Proof of U.S. citizenship through a birth certificate, U.S. passport, naturalization certificate, or a certificate of citizenship.
2. Proof of legal permanent resident status with what is known as a "Green Card".
3. Proof of various eligible categories, listed below, generally through an employment authorization document (EAD) or other satisfactory documentation.

Eligible immigration categories:

1. International student with F-1 status
2. Asylee
3. Refugee
4. Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
5. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
6. Individuals paroled into the United States whose parole has not expired
7. Persons residing in the U.S. pursuant to an Order of Supervision
8. Persons granted a stay of deportation/removal
9. Persons granted an indefinite voluntary departure
10. Persons on whose behalf an immediate relative petition has been approved
11. Persons who have filed an application for adjustment of status to permanent resident
12. Persons granted Deferred Action Status
13. Persons who entered and have continuously residency in the U.S. before 01/01/1972
14. Persons granted suspension of deportation or cancellation of removal
15. Cuban/Haitian entrants
16. Persons with a pending application for asylum, withholding of removal or deportation, protection under the Convention Against Torture (CAT), cancellation of removal, or TPS
17. Persons in T or U non-immigrant status
18. Self-petitioner under the Violence Against Women Act
19. Other persons living in the U.S. who are not unlawfully present