

THESIS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- January 22, 2019** - BHE Meeting (Motion to Receive Report Issued by the *Transitions in Higher Education: Safeguarding the Interests of Students (THESIS)* Working Group and Charge to the Commissioner to Develop Implementation Recommendations)
- February 2019**- Commissioner outlines the vision and identifies contingencies and timeline for establishing the DHE Office of Student Protection; convenes meeting with NECHE; establishes Advisory Council membership
- February - March 2019**- DHE develops draft regulations and policies, revised OSFA Participation Agreement
 - **March 5, 2019 BHE Committee Meetings (March 12, 2019 BHE Meeting)**: DHE staff to provide updates to the Board.
- February - April 2019** - informal stakeholder vetting (AICUM, NECHE, AGO, etc.) and legislative discussions if necessary (will include several public comment sessions)
 - **April 30, 2019 BHE Committee Meetings (May 7, 2019 BHE Meeting)**: DHE staff to provide updates to the Board; target date for approval of formal amendment to OSFA Participation Agreement for OSFA use/institution signature over summer 2019 and implementation for 2019-2020 academic year (if possible)
- May 2019** – Revise draft regulations and policies based on informal stakeholder vetting
- June 4, 2019** - draft regulations, policies, and motion to put regulations out for public comment distributed to BHE in board packet for review, as well as OSFA Participation Agreement if applicable.
- June 11, 2019** – **BHE Committee Vote** to put draft regulations out for public comment; review draft policies/procedures (which will fill in substance where regulations allow for flexibility); review of formal amendment to OSFA Participation Agreement, for OSFA use/institution signature over summer 2019 and implementation for 2019-2020 academic year (if not done in May)
- June 18, 2019** – **Full BHE Vote** to put draft regulations out for public comment; review draft policies/procedures; review of formal amendment to OSFA Participation Agreement, for OSFA use/institution signature over summer 2019 and implementation for 2019-2020 academic year (if not done in May)
- TBD - regulations to be submitted to ANF for review/approval; ANF meets to discuss regulations
- June 28, 2019** - draft regulations, small business impact/fiscal effect statements, and the notice of public hearing will be brought to the Secretary of the Commonwealth's office for publication in

the July 12, 2019 edition of the *Massachusetts Register*; letters will be sent to DHCD/MMA per E.O. 145

- July 5, 2019** - the notices of public hearing will be sent to the *Boston Globe* for publication (publication in the *Globe* is likely to occur 3-4 days after submission)
- July 12, 2019** - publication of draft regulations and notices of public hearing in the *Massachusetts Register*
- July 24, 2019** - Public Hearing date, One Ashburton Place, Room 1401
- July 12 - August 9, 2019** - public comment period
- Mid-August 2019** - DHE revises draft regulations and policies
- By or Before August 22, 2019** - - **Potential Summer Special Meeting of BHE** to approve regulations
- No later than October 2019 BHE Meeting (vote on final regulations)

(Final regulation promulgation deadlines TBD depending upon when final BHE vote is taken)