

# Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

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Noe Ortega  
*Commissioner*  
Chris Gabrieli  
*Board Chair*

## NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Notice is hereby given pursuant to [M.G.L. c. 69, § 30](#) and the [Massachusetts Board of Higher Education's Policy Establishing a Process for Public Comment on Articles of Organization and Foreign Certificates of Institutions of Higher Education that the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education](#) will open a comment period relative to **the revocation of the degree-granting authority of Saint Louis University** in the Commonwealth.

Saint Louis University ("SLU" or University), of Saint Louis, Missouri, was approved by the Board of Higher Education to offer an on-the-ground program in Massachusetts in 2018. Specifically, SLU was approved to offer the Master of Social Work at Elms College in Chicopee, Massachusetts. In December, 2024, following an inquiry by Department staff, Elms College staff confirmed that the program was ending and remaining students were being taught out. By memorandum dated February 20, 2025 (submitted February 26), President Fred Pestello of SLU formally notified Commissioner Noe Ortega that the University would be ceasing operations in Massachusetts.

At the direction of Department staff, SLU completed a Notice of Closure, which was deemed sufficient on June 6, 2025. SLU will cease its Massachusetts operations on August 31, 2025.

The public comment period for the revocation of NVU's degree-granting authority in Massachusetts begins on July 1, 2025 and will close three weeks thereafter, on July 21, 2025.

Written comments on the proposed amendments may be submitted at any time prior to 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time on July 21, 2025 by directing the same to the following:

### Email:

[cbrown@dhe.mass.edu](mailto:cbrown@dhe.mass.edu)

### Postal Mail:

Massachusetts Department of Higher Education  
One Ashburton Place, Room 1401  
Boston, MA 02108  
Attn: Cynthia Brown, Senior Associate Commissioner for Academic and Veterans Affairs

Please submit electronic comments as an attached Word document and type "Saint Louis University Revocation" in the subject line. All submissions must include the sender's full name and address. For special accommodations for submission of public comments or for information regarding submission of public comments in an alternative format, please contact Cynthia Brown.