



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

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TO: Owners of Yoga Studios and Those Teaching Yoga Instructors

FROM: Carole W. Yates, Director, Bureau of Proprietary School Supervision

SUBJECT: Licensing for Yoga Instructor Training

DATE: August 21, 2009

This letter will bring you up to date on the current thinking of the New York State Education Department with regard to requiring licensure for organizations providing yoga instructor training.

Senator Eric Schneiderman and Assemblywoman Linda Rosenthal have amended their bill (now S.5701-A/A.8678-A) to exempt this training from the licensing requirements under our Bureau of Proprietary School Supervision. The New York State Education Department supports this exemption.

We are suspending any licensing requirements pending action by the New York State Legislature. At this time, we will not require licensure nor will we pursue any organization offering this training as an unlicensed school.

Several studios have applied for licensure. The review of these packages will continue unless you notify the Bureau in writing that you wish to withdraw the package. In the event that you withdraw your application, refunds for the fees will be issued.

We appreciate your patience.