

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Consent Item

September 20, 2005

SUBJECT: Amendment to Rule 6A-10.024, Articulation Between State Universities, Community Colleges, and School Districts

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Specific Authority – Sections 1001.02(2)(n), 1007.23(1), 1007.27(9), Florida Statutes

The rewrite of the School Code and the constitutional changes in education governance have made the revision of this rule a necessity.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Previously, the 6A-10 Rules were created to address cross-sector issues that applied to both community colleges and state universities. Since the State Board of Education (cabinet) had approval authority over the rules of both the Board of Regents and the State Board of Community Colleges, comprehensive rules were adopted that applied to both sectors. However, as a result of the changes in education governance created by recent constitutional amendments, there is no longer a single board that acts as an umbrella for both postsecondary sectors. The State Board of Education is responsible for developing and approving rules for community colleges and the Board of Governors (with its constitutional status) is responsible for oversight of rules that apply to the state universities. This has resulted in a need to coordinate the efforts of both boards in an effort to preserve a seamless articulation system. Since Florida has a very strong 2+2 system, students have been able to move with relative ease from one institution or sector to another. The 6A-10 rules have been an essential foundation for easing the transition of students.

This rule has gone through an extensive revision process led by the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC). The ACC Standing Committee on Statewide Policies and Guidance (a committee consisting of K-20 education professionals from around the state) held two 3-hour meetings in November 2004 and February 2005 to discuss proposed revisions to the rule. During this process, input from various constituent groups was solicited and legal counsel was also consulted. In May 2005, the committee held a third workshop and approved the recommendations for revision. These recommendations were forward to the full ACC for approval. The ACC approved the committee recommendations at its May 25, 2005 meeting. *See attachment for details regarding the specific changes proposed.

This rule and the proposed amendments directly relate to the strategic plan in a number of ways. First, the rule directly supports one of the four goals of the State Board of Education – Seamless Articulation and Maximum Access. In addition, Strategic Imperative #8 addresses the need for the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors to collaborate to provide world-class higher education opportunities. The parallel adoption of this rule by both boards serves to preserve articulation policy in Florida, thereby supporting the idea of collaboration.

Supporting Documentation Included: Rule 6A-10.024, FAC., and Summary of proposed changes

Facilitators/Presenters: Dr. Heather Sherry – Director, Office of Articulation