

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action Item  
February 21, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Florida Community College at Jacksonville, Baccalaureate Degree Proposal:  
Bachelor of Applied Science in Fire Science

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### **PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approval

### **AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

S. 1007.33, F.S.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Florida Community College at Jacksonville, with extraordinary support from fire and city officials in Northeast Florida, has developed a seamless, workforce-driven applied baccalaureate degree in Fire Science, to meet the critical need for enhanced preparation of fire service professionals. Fire Science technologies have become so complex that a “two-year degree” is no longer sufficient preparation for leadership and advanced practice in this area of public service. The complexities of managing a large fire department require that future leaders have a formal education in advanced fire and emergency response management skills and practices demanded by a post-9/11 environment. The U.S. Fire Administration and National Fire Academy both recommend that anyone in a management position should be required to have a bachelor’s degree.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Bachelor in Applied Science in Fire Science proposal

**Facilitators/Presenters:** Dr. Steven Wallace, President, Florida Community College at Jacksonville

Jim Simpson, Associate Vice President Workforce Development, FCCJ