

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
April 15, 2008

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Proposed Rule 6A-4.00821, Florida Educational Leadership Examination

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1012.59, Florida Statutes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Section 1012.55, Florida Statutes, requires educational leaders to hold the certificate required by law and by rules of the State Board of Education (SBE). The implementing rule, SBE Rule 6A-4.0081, Florida School Leaders Certification, requires the successful demonstration of knowledge in each of the principal leadership standards through a comprehensive written examination administered under the direction of the Department. This exam is currently the Florida Educational Leadership Examination (FELE).

The fee for this examination is established by the SBE within the limits established by Section 1012.59, Florida Statutes, as follows: "Each fee shall be based on department estimates of the revenue required to implement the provisions of law with respect to certification of school personnel. The application fee shall be nonrefundable. Each examination fee shall be sufficient to cover the actual cost of developing and administering the examination, but shall not exceed \$100 for an examination."

Currently, applicants pay a \$50 registration fee for the FELE. The actual cost to develop and administer the certification program is approximately \$100 per exam.

The Office of Assessment is recommending increasing examination fees for four main reasons:

1. Maintain fees as low as possible for first-time examinees.
2. Maintain test validity.
3. Reduce the number of unprepared examinees.
4. Reduce the state's contribution toward the cost of the program.

The proposed rule amendments increase the fee to \$85 for first-time test takers. In addition, applicants will be charged \$100 for each retake test.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-4.00821, Florida Educational Leadership Examination

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