

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Consent Item

August 19, 2008

SUBJECT: Approval of Proposed Amendment to Rules: 6A-20.001, Definitions of Terms for State Student Aid Programs; 6A-20.003, Florida Residency as a Requirement for the Receipt of State Student Aid; 6A-20.007, William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grants; 6A-20.012, Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program; 6A-20.013, Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program; 6A-20.019, Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans or Children of Servicemen Classified as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action Scholarships; 6A-20.023, Jose Marti Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund; 6A-20.027, Rosewood Family Scholarship Fund; and 6A-20.038, Florida Work Experience Program.

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Sections 1001.02(1), Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed rules listed above relating to Student Financial Aid have been amended to ensure consistency with governing statutes, update statutory references, and adopt updated forms as required in rule. In addition, specific amendments include:

Rule 6A-20.001, Definitions of Terms for State Student Aid Programs, is amended to define graduate student, returning student, and satisfactory academic progress.

Rule 6A-20.003, Florida Residency as a Requirement for the Receipt of State Student Aid, is amended to require that Florida residency be determined consistent with Rule 6A-10.044, Residency for Tuition Purposes, and reflect current statute and administrative processes. Duplicative language as well as out dated language was removed.

Rule 6A-20.012, Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program, is amended to establish January 1 rather than October 15 as the date applications and information will be distributed to superintendents for the following school year.

Proposed Rule 6A-20.013, Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program, is amended to clarify that as part of the eligibility criteria an applicant must have, as a minimum in the first year of application, a valid temporary Florida Educator's Certificate or license which indicates certification or licensure with an issue date prior to

the beginning of the school year. The Department of Education may accept a certificate issue date during the first year of teaching providing it validates the first academic year of employment in the critical teacher shortage subject area in which the teacher is employed. Additionally, language relating to dissemination of information on the program is added to align this rule with the Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program.

Rule 6A-20.019, Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans or Children of Servicemen Classified as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action Scholarships, is amended to include all genders in the rule title pursuant to Section 295.01, Florida Statutes. In addition, the Department of Veterans Affairs certification process is clarified, the process for awarding funds for late applications received is clearly stated as first-come first served based on availability of funds.

Rule 6A-20.023, Jose Marti Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund, is amended to establish May 15 as the deadline for an applicant's high school to certify grades and in the case of a graduate student, for a postsecondary institution to certify grades. In addition, April 1 is established as the date for students who met the requirements for an award but did not receive an award during the first full year of eligibility to apply for reinstatement.

Rule 6A-20.038, Florida Work Experience Program, is amended to include students in an approved educator preparation institute in an eligible program of study to participate in the Florida Work Experience Program.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed amendment to Rules : 6A-20.001, Definitions of Terms for State Student Aid Programs; 6A-20.003, Florida Residency as a Requirement for the Receipt of State Student Aid; 6A-20.007, William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grants; 6A-20.012, Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program; 6A-20.013, Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program; 6A-20.019, Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans or Children of Servicemen Classified as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action Scholarships; 6A-20.023, Jose Marti Scholarship Challenge Grant Fund; 6A-20.027, Rosewood Family Scholarship Fund; and 6A-20.038, Florida Work Experience Program.

Facilitator: Linda Champion, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Operations