

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Action Item
July 14, 2009

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

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1012.59(1), Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 1012.59(1), Florida Statutes, requires the State Board of Education to establish fees for certification examination fees such that the examination fees are sufficient to cover the actual cost of developing and administering the examination. State Board of Education Rule 6A-4.00821, FAC., fulfills the above requirement by providing a fee structure for the Florida Educational Leadership Examination (FELE).

While fees were recently raised effective January 1, 2009, up from \$50 per exam, the Department is recommending increasing examination fees to fully fund the cost of the program, as is the intent of Section 1012.59, Florida Statutes. As provided in Table 1, current FELE certification applicants pay an \$85 fee for any combination of the three required subtests. The actual cost to develop and administer the examination program is greater than the current fees. The proposed rule amendments increase the fees to \$430 for first-time test takers and to \$450 for retakes. The proposed FELE fees will generate about \$1 million dollars in revenue per year.

Table 1: FELE Current and Proposed Fees

	FELE Current (any combination of subtests)	FELE Proposed (any combination of subtests)
First-Time Registration	\$85	\$430
Retake Registration	\$100	\$450

Prior to the 2009 legislative session, Section 1012.59, Florida Statutes, did not authorize the State Board of Education to adopt a higher fee structure that would allow the certification examination program to be solely funded through the revenue generated by fees.

As Table 2 illustrates, Florida's proposed fees will be comparable to those SREB states that use the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA), available through the Educational Testing Service (ETS).

Table 2: Comparison of Fees for Tests and Testing Services, SREB States, December 2008

State (Test Publisher)	Principal Test	Registration Fee
Arkansas (ETS SLLA)	\$430	\$50
Alabama (ACT and ETS)	\$80	—
Delaware (ETS)	—	\$50
Florida (ES Pearson)	\$85 (current) \$430 (proposed)	—
Georgia (ES Pearson)	\$130	\$20
Kentucky (ETS and Kentucky)	\$510	\$50
Louisiana (ETS SLLA)	\$430	\$50
Maryland (ETS SLLA)	\$430	\$50
Mississippi (ETS SLLA)	\$430	\$50
North Carolina (ETS SLLA)	\$430	\$50
Oklahoma (ES Pearson)	\$110	\$40
South Carolina (ETS)	\$80	\$50
Tennessee (ETS SLLA)	\$430	\$50
Texas (ETS)	\$120	—
Virginia (ETS SLLA)	\$430	\$30–\$50
West Virginia (ETS)	\$80	\$50

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

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