

# STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Consent Item

November 11, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-10.0311, Assessment of Student Attainment of College-Level Communication and Computation Skills

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### PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

### AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1007.25, Florida Statutes

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Effective July 1, 2009, Senate Bill 1696 amended Section 1007.25, Florida Statutes, to require that an associate in arts or baccalaureate degree may not be conferred upon any student who fails to successfully complete one of the following requirements:

1. Achieve a score that meets or exceeds a minimum score on a nationally standardized examination, as established by the State Board of Education in conjunction with the Board of Governors: or
2. Demonstrate successful remediation of any academic deficiencies and achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above, on a 4.0 scale, in postsecondary-level coursework identified by the State Board of Education in conjunction with the Board of Governors. The Department of Education shall specify the means by which a student may demonstrate successful remediation.

Senate Bill 1676 was consistent with language from Rule 6A-10.0311, F.A.C., which provided assessment scores and coursework expectations that could exempt students from the testing requirement. However, the bill did not include the same level of specificity as the rule and simply directed the State Board of Education, in conjunction with the Board of Governors, to establish standardized assessment scores and identify the postsecondary-level coursework that can be utilized to meet the requirement.

Given that the provisions of the existing rule were initially intended to be used as exemptions, rather than requirements, there is a need to ensure that the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors reconsider the previous rule language and adopt a clear policy relating to the new statutory requirements. Recommendations from the Articulation Coordinating Committee (from an August 13, 2009 conference call related to the CLAS requirements) were incorporated into the proposed rule amendments. These recommendations are intended to be a short-term solution to implement the new statutory requirements and an ACC workgroup has been convened to discuss and make recommendations for long-range CLAS policy and implementation.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rule 6A-10.0311, Assessment of Student Attainment of College-Level Communication and Computation Skills

**Facilitator:** Dr. Heather Sherry, Director of Articulation