

FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 19 - 20, 2001

SUBJECT: Criteria for New Degree Authorization

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve criteria for new degree authorization

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Florida Education Governance Reorganization Act provided that doctoral-level programs are to be authorized by the Florida Board of Education, and that academic degree programs below the level of doctorates are to be authorized by university boards of trustees. Programs in both levels are to be authorized “based on criteria established by the Florida Board of Education.”

The attached recommended criteria for program authorization have been established with input and approval from the State University System Council of Academic Vice Presidents. The criteria, condensed from those previously used, fall into the broad categories of “Readiness” and “Accountability” for graduate programs; and “Readiness,” “Accountability,” and “Access” for baccalaureate programs. The criteria were developed through extensive experience with expert consultants in various disciplines who have reviewed State University System programs, recognition of specific requirements in Florida statutes, and examination of criteria utilized by other states around the nation.

Staff will present a historical context of degree authorization, the recommended new criteria, and the recommended new processes for degree authorization by the university boards of trustees and the Florida Board of Education.

Supporting Documentation Included: Criteria for Degree Authorization

Facilitators / Presenters: Carl W. Blackwell / R. E. LeMon