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MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida College System Presidents
FROM: Commissioner Richard Corcoran
DATE: September 5, 2019
SUBJECT: **Information Regarding Hurricane Dorian Waivers**

As a result of the devastating effects of Hurricane Dorian, many evacuees to Florida have lost access to higher education in the Bahamas and elsewhere. Displaced students may wish to attend Florida's state colleges. To enable these students to enroll, I am, therefore, authorizing state colleges to waive existing statutory and rule requirements relating to student enrollment and placement. This waiver includes without limitation residency and student record requirements to the extent necessary to allow students displaced by Hurricane Dorian to enroll expeditiously. I am also authorizing state colleges to waive the one percent cap on the ability of the state colleges to waive all fees provided in section 1009.25(2), Florida Statutes.

Admissions decisions are still to be made by each institution on a case-by-case basis. I am directing that institutions utilizing these waivers provide information to the Florida Department of Education explaining which statutes and rules are waived and the students admitted.

It should also be noted that some of these long-term evacuees may qualify for the relief provided to homeless students under section 1009.25, Florida Statutes, and institutions are encouraged to avail themselves of these provisions as applicable.

This waiver shall remain in effect until the expiration of Executive Order 19-189 and any extensions or amendments thereof; or until further determination by the Department of Education.

Entered in Tallahassee, Florida, this 5th day of September, 2019.

Richard Corcoran,
Commissioner of Education