

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Action Item**  
April 17, 2024

**SUBJECT:** New Bachelor Degree Program in the Florida College System

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1007.33, Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Florida Gateway College (FGC) submitted a notice of intent followed by a proposal to the Department of Education to offer a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Appropriate notification of intent was provided to the Board of Governors, Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida and the Commission for Independent Education, as required in section 1007.33, Florida Statutes.

The proposed baccalaureate degree program will prepare graduates for careers as business analysts, project managers, marketing specialists, financial analysts, human resources managers, and operations managers. Graduates will be marketable in a number of different industries, including but not limited to, corporations, nonprofits, government agencies, and startups.

Labor market projections indicate a projected demand of 108 annual job openings in FGC's service area. Currently, no institutions offer a similar degree program within FGC's service area.

Letters of support were provided by the Columbia County and Baker County Chambers of Commerce, Gilchrist County Economic Development Department, First Federal Bank, and local business owners. There were no letters of objection or alternative proposals for the proposed degree program.

An extensive review of criteria was conducted for the proposal submitted, and written comments and recommendations were provided to the college. The final proposal is being submitted to the State Board of Education for consideration.

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**Documentation Included:** Florida Gateway College Proposal for a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (under separate cover)

**Facilitators/Presenters:** Chancellor Kathy Hebda, Florida College System, President Larry Barrett, Florida Gateway College, and guests