

Statewide Email

DATE: January 25, 2021

FROM: Henry Mack, Chancellor, Career and Adult Education

TO: Florida College System Workforce Administrators
District Technical College Directors

Via: Chancellor2@fldoe.org

SUBJECT: COVID Flexibility for Basic Skills Exit Requirements- URGENT

Colleagues,

Last August, I shared that the flexibility afforded to school districts, technical colleges and Florida College System institutions around the kinds of assessments used to determine basic skills functioning levels, pursuant to section [1004.91](#) Florida Statute (F.S.) and [Rule 6A-10.040](#) Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), was effective **through the 2020 fall semester only**. This flexibility provided authorization for local programs to assess basic skills by any reasonable means and was not limited to the assessments listed in Rule 6A-10.040, F.A.C. or bound by the time limits set forth in order to exit a student who meets all other criteria for completion of a clock hour certificate program that is 450 hours or greater.

This is an important reminder that the aforementioned flexibility is no longer effective for the 2021 spring semester. Unless otherwise exempt, in accordance with section 1004.91 F.S., students must be evaluated utilizing an assessment identified in Rule 6A-10.040 F.A.C. within the first six weeks after admission into the program.

My office will be issuing subsequent guidance in the near future that will address reporting implications and the lifespan associated with transferability of basic skills functioning levels that were satisfied through local means afforded during the period of time the flexibility was effective.

In the meantime, for questions or additional information, please contact Kathleen Taylor, Bureau Chief for Career and Adult Education at Kathleen.taylor@fldoe.org.

Many thanks,

Henry

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