

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Action Item
January 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Approval of New Bachelor Degree Program in the Florida College System

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1007.33, Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Florida SouthWestern State College (FSWSC) submitted a notice of intent followed by a proposal to the Department of Education to offer a Bachelor of Applied Science in Information Systems Technology. 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 degree program will prepare students for higher level employment in information technology administration and/or management in areas such as systems programming, systems design and architecture, network security, and help desk support services. Typical job titles include computer and information systems managers, computer systems analysts, software developers, and computer network architects.

Labor market projections indicate a projected increase in demand of more than 280 annual job openings in FSWSC's service area. The 5-year average supply has been approximately 46, which brings the estimated annual workforce unmet need to roughly 234.

A letter of support was written by the President of Florida Gulf Coast University, and a number of industry organizations, businesses, and educational institutions in and around FSWSC's service area support the proposal, including but not limited to WorkforceNow and the Computer Technology Advisory Board. 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.

Supporting Documentation Included: Florida SouthWestern State College's Proposal Summary; Florida SouthWestern State College's Full Proposal for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Information Systems Technology (under separate cover)

Facilitators/Presenters: Chancellor Kathy Hebda, Florida College System, Dr. Jeffery S. Allbritten, President, Florida SouthWestern State College, and guests