

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Action Item
January 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Approval of Recommendation of Articulating Coordinating Council (ACC) for a Framework to Analyze Prior Military Training, Courses and Occupations for Postsecondary Credit

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1004.096, Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

House Bill 171 (2020), signed by Governor DeSantis on June 23, 2020, amends section 1004.096, Florida Statutes, by establishing a process to enable veterans and service members to earn uniform credit in all Florida public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level training and education acquired in the military. The revised process began with the convening of a workgroup, chaired by the chair of the Articulation Coordinating Committee, and composed of academic administrators and faculty from state universities and colleges, faculty from career centers and members representing veterans. The workgroup is charged with recommending a framework for reviewing courses taken and occupations held by individuals during service in the military for credit or clock hours to be awarded by Florida's public postsecondary institutions. The workgroup's recommendations are before this Board, as well as the Board of Governors, for review. Once the recommendations are approved by both boards, the process of reviewing military courses and occupations for postsecondary course equivalencies and the award of credit or clock hours, will be undertaken. Upon completion of the review, a list of course equivalencies and credit or clock hours to be awarded by all public postsecondary institutions in Florida will be produced and then, presented to this Board and the Board of Governors for approval. The amended statute requires the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to adopt regulations or rules for the uniform award of postsecondary credit or clock hours to certain service members and veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

The workgroup's recommendations for review are found in the attached document entitled, *The Policy Regarding the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Prior Military Training, Courses and Occupations*. As can be seen from Section 3 of the attached document, the workgroup's recommendation proposes to utilize subject area discipline committees composed of an equal number of representatives from the university system, the college system and the career center system and use the recommendations of the American Council of Education (ACE) Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Forces. The guide was produced by ACE, while under contract with the Department of Defense to review military training courses and occupations to assist institutions of higher learning in the award of college credit.

Supporting Documentation Included: Policy Regarding the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Prior Military Training, Courses and Occupations

Facilitators/Presenters: Dr. William E. Hudson, Jr., Chair, Articulation Coordinating Committee and Elizabeth Moya, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Articulation & Career Education Policy