

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
March 30, 2022

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-20.0281, Benacquisto Scholarship Program

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Sections 1001.02(1) and 1009.893(14), Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this amendment is to clarify statutory changes made by the 2018, 2020, and 2021 Florida Legislatures regarding enrollment hours and award amounts for specified students and institutional responsibilities. The effect will be a rule that is consistent with governing law.

First, to provide for students with disabilities to enroll in fewer than 12 credit hours, reference to sections 1009.40 and 1009.41, Florida Statutes, is proposed. Second, to administer the program according to statutory changes, the proposed amendment addresses inclusion of out-of-state students into the program for a specified time period. Third, the proposed amendment removes the obsolete provision for students initially enrolled in the 2014-15 academic year. Fourth, reference to the institutional GPA has been removed, as the terminology is redundant and causes confusion in administration at eligible institutions. Last, although the law requires full-time enrollment of at least 12 credit hours per term, the proposed amendment clarifies this requirement for students who require fewer than 12 credit hours in their last term of enrollment prior to receiving a first baccalaureate degree.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-20.0281 F.A.C.

Facilitator: Suzanne Pridgeon, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations