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MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida College System Presidents

FROM: Kathryn S. Hebda 

DATE: August 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Recommendations for Alternative Methods to Assess College Readiness

DEADLINE: September 8, 2021

The Division of Florida Colleges (Division) is seeking recommendations from institutions regarding alternative methods for assessing college-level computation and communication skills in accordance with Senate Bill (SB) 366 that was passed during the 2021 Legislative session. Specifically, SB 366 amends multiple Florida Statutes to expand the mechanisms institutions may use to assess readiness for college-level work.

- *College Credit Admissions Counseling:* SB 366 amends section (s.) 1007.263, Florida Statutes (F.S.), to add alternative methods for measuring achievement in college-level computation and communication skills for admissions counseling in college credit programs. The bill specifies that career education program advising must measure achievement in basic skills pursuant to s. 1004.91, F.S.
- *College Credit Dual Enrollment Eligibility:* SB 366 amends s. 1007.271, F.S., revising eligibility requirements to specify that students must demonstrate achievement in college-level communication and computation skills as provided in s. 1008.30, F.S. In effect, this revision allows approved alternative methods to be used in eligibility determinations. The usage of alternative methods includes public, private and home education students.
- *Developmental Education and Meta-Majors:* SB 366 amends s. 1008.30, F.S., authorizing Florida College System (FCS) institutions to use alternative methods to assess student readiness as it relates to meta-majors and developmental education placement. Also related to developmental education, SB 366 eliminates annual developmental education accountability reporting requirements.

SB 366 requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt rules by January 2022 to develop and implement alternative methods for assessing computation and communication skills. To that end, the Division invites institutions to submit recommendations for the SBE's consideration via SurveyMonkey at (<https://www.research.net/r/AlternativeMethods>). Attached you will find a copy of the recommendation submission form. Colleges have until September 8, 2021, to submit their recommendations.

KATHRYN S. HEBDA
FLORIDA COLLEGE SYSTEM CHANCELLOR

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The Division will host a webinar (<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1440270489184630541>) on August 19, 2021, from 2:00-3:00 p.m., EDT, to answer any questions regarding alternative methods and to review the recommendation submission process. If you have any questions about your submission, please contact Dr. Mike Sfiropoulos, Director of Academic Affairs, at Mike.Sfiropoulos@fldoe.org or 850-245-9523 if you have any questions.

KH/ms

Attachment

Cc: Carrie Henderson, Ph.D., Executive Vice Chancellor, FCS
Mike Sfiropoulos, Ph.D., Director, Academic Affairs, FCS