MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida College System Presidents

FROM: Kathryn S. Hebda

DATE: August 19, 2021


On August 18, 2021, the State Board of Education approved Rule 6A-10.0240, Florida Administrative Code, Minimum Standards for Out-of-State High School Equivalency Diplomas. The rule establishes minimum standards for a high school equivalency diploma issued by a state other than Florida for the purpose of admission to an associate degree program at Florida College System institutions. A copy of the rule is attached for your reference.

In 2021, Senate Bill 366 (Chapter No. 2021-162, Laws of Florida) amended section 1007.263, Florida Statutes, revising the requirements for admission to associate degree programs. To implement the new requirement, the rule recognizes state-issued high school equivalency diplomas based on a student achieving a passing score on the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) or the California High School Proficiency Exam, or based on a student achieving a combination of passing scores on HiSET, TASC or GED® subtests.

To assist institutions in implementing the provisions, attached are responses to several implementation questions that emerged during rule development. Each college should review the statutory and rule requirements and update their existing admissions policies and procedures to comply with the provisions. This may include updating institutional catalogs and websites, informing admissions advisors and modifying reporting mechanisms. More information regarding state reporting will be transmitted to reports coordinators as soon as practicable.
Please contact Dr. Mike Sfiropoulos, Director of Academic Affairs, at Mike.Sfiropoulos@fldoe.org for questions regarding the rule.

KH/ms

Attachments

Cc: Dr. Carrie Henderson, Executive Vice Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges (DFC)
    Dr. Mike Sfiropoulos, Director, Academic Affairs, DFC
    Dr. Hayley Spencer, Director, Research and Analytics, DFC
    Dr. Shanna Autry, Director, Student Affairs, DFC
    Katie Grissom, Deputy Director, Academic Affairs, DFC
    Caleb Hawkes, Director of External and Governmental Affairs, DFC
    FCS Council of Instructional Affairs
    FCS Council of Student Affairs
    FCS Reports Coordinators

This rule establishes the following minimum standards for a high school equivalency diploma issued by a state other than Florida for the purpose of admission to an associate degree program at Florida College System institutions:

(1) The diploma was issued based on a student achieving a passing score on the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), or the California High School Proficiency Exam; or

(2) The diploma was issued based on a student achieving a combination of passing scores on HiSET, TASC or GED® subtests.

Rulemaking Authority 1007.263(2)(a), and 1001.02(1), F.S. Law Implemented 1007.263, F.S. History—New