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**DFC Memorandum Number: 2021-09**

Contact: Dr. Mike Sfiropoulos

Email: [Mike.Sfiropoulos@fldoe.org](mailto:Mike.Sfiropoulos@fldoe.org)

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Florida College System Presidents

**FROM:** Kathryn S. Hebda 

**DATE:** August 19, 2021

**SUBJECT: Approval of New Rule 6A-10.0240, Florida Administrative Code, Minimum Standards for Out-of-State High School Equivalency Diplomas**

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.

KATHRYN S. HEBDA  
FLORIDA COLLEGE SYSTEM CHANCELLOR

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Please contact Dr. Mike Sfiropoulos, Director of Academic Affairs, at [Mike.Sfiropoulos@fldoe.org](mailto: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

**6A-10.0240 Minimum Standards for Out-of-state High School Equivalency Diplomas.**

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*