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MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida College System Presidents

FROM: Henry Mack, Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education

DATE: November 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-14.0303, Florida Administrative Code, General Education Core Course Options

On October 20, 2021, the State Board of Education approved revisions to Rule 6A-14.0303, General Education Core Course Options. This rule amendment is in accordance with Section (s.) 1007.25, Florida Statutes (F.S.), as modified by House Bill 1507, which passed during the 2021 Legislative Session. A copy of the rule is attached for your reference.

Previously, prior to the awarding of an associate in arts (AA) or baccalaureate degree, first-time-in-college (FTIC) students entering a Florida College System institution were required to complete at least one (1) course from each of the general education core subject areas. The core subject areas include:

- Communication.
- Humanities.
- Mathematics.
- Natural Sciences.
- Social Sciences.

The rule amendment now includes students earning a technical education degree, defined in s. 1004.02(13), F.S., as an associate in science (AS) or associate in applied science (AAS) degree program. The effect of this amendment is to align the rule with the new requirement, which specifies students entering a technical education degree program in the 2022-2023 academic year, and thereafter, to complete at least one identified core course in each subject area as part of the general education course requirements (15 credit hours total) before a degree is awarded. The other significant change with the amendment relates to the term, FTIC. The FTIC requirement was removed for the 2022-23 academic year and beyond. The practical effect of this change is, students entering an AAS, AS, AA, or Baccalaureate degree under the 2022-23 catalog year and thereafter must meet the general education core course requirement prior to the award of the degree.

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Action Required: Each institution should review the statutory and rule requirements and update their existing policies and procedures to comply with the new provisions. This may include updating institutional catalogs, degree plans and websites, informing admissions advisors and modifying reporting mechanisms.

To assist institutions in implementing the provisions, attached are responses to several implementation questions that emerged during rule development. The division is hosting a webinar on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 11:00 am ET, to review several rule revisions, including general education core course options. The registration link is available at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8280444477088431632>

Please contact the Office of Articulation at Articulation@fldoe.org or 850-245-0427 for questions regarding the rule.

HM/EM/aa

Attachment

cc: Kathryn S. Hebda, Chancellor, Florida College System
Marshall M. Criser III, Chancellor, State University System
Jacob Oliva, Senior Chancellor, Division of Public Schools
Dakeyan C. Graham, Executive Director, Independent Education and Parental Choice
Suzanne Pridgeon, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations
Parker Campbell, Director, State Scholarship and Grant Programs
Traci Ray, Vice President for Advocacy and Special Projects, Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida