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**DFC Memorandum Number: 2022-02**

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Florida College System Presidents

**FROM:** Kathryn S. Hebda 

**DATE:** February 10, 2022

**SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-10.0315, Florida Administrative Code, Demonstration of Readiness for College-Level Communication and Computation**

On February 09, 2022, the State Board of Education (SBOE) approved revisions to Rule 6A-10.0315, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Demonstration of Readiness for College-Level Communication and Computation (formerly Common Placement Testing and Instruction). This rule amendment is in accordance with section (s.) 1008.30, Florida Statutes (F.S.), which was modified by Senate Bill (SB) 366 (Chapter No. 2021-162, Laws of Florida) in 2021. A copy of the rule is attached for your reference.

In addition to identifying approved common placement tests, the SBOE is required to adopt rules to develop and implement alternative methods for assessing communication and computation skills. Specifically, Florida College System (FCS) institutions may implement alternative methods that students may use to demonstrate readiness in college-level communication and computation for dual enrollment eligibility purposes (s. 1007.271, F.S.), admissions into college credit programs (s. 1007.263, F.S.), and developmental education placement and meta-major advising (s. 1008.30, F.S.).

Previously, students could only demonstrate college readiness in communication and computation via an approved common placement test, including the:

- Florida Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT);
- Next-Generation ACCUPLACER;
- SAT; and
- ACT with Writing or ACT, Inc.

KATHRYN S. HEBDA  
FLORIDA COLLEGE SYSTEM CHANCELLOR

The amendment to Rule 6A-10.0315, F.A.C., expands the mechanisms FCS institutions may use to assess readiness for college-level work pursuant to s. 1008.30, F.S. Specifically, it adds the following categories of alternative methods and associated minimum standards:

- Tests and assessments;
- Performance in high school coursework (courses taught at Florida public high schools and accelerated high school courses);
- Credit-by-examination; and
- Local placement methods (Form No. ALTPLACE-01) (Developmental Education Only).

Please note that while SB 366 established a deadline for the SBOE to adopt alternative methods in rule, it did not establish dates by which institutions must implement the alternative methods. Once the rule becomes effective, FCS institutions may begin using the alternative placement methods. Additionally, FCS institutions may opt to implement alternative methods at a later date if additional time is needed for planning purposes.

### **Action Required**

Each college should review the statutory and rule requirements to determine whether the institution is going to implement alternative methods, giving consideration to whom alternative methods will apply and the timeline for implementation. If the institution wishes to seek approval to use a local placement method for developmental education, Form No. ALTPLACE-01 will need to be completed. If the institution wishes to use alternative methods for dual enrollment eligibility determinations, the Dual Enrollment Articulation Agreement will need to be updated.

Once institutions have made determinations about the usage of alternative methods, they may need to update existing policies and procedures and/or create new ones to comply with the provisions where applicable. This may include updating institutional catalogs and websites, informing academic and admissions advisors, and modifying reporting mechanisms. More information regarding state reporting will be transmitted to reports coordinators as soon as practicable.

### **Next Steps**

The Division of Florida Colleges (Division) is hosting a webinar on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., EST, to review the rule revision. The registration link is available at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2959914310053374989>. At that point, a technical assistance document to assist institutions in implementing the provisions will be shared. The Division will continue to provide technical assistance on the implementation of alternative methods.

Additionally, the Florida Student Success Center (Center) is pleased to offer all 28 colleges the ability to participate in a professional development engagement from summer 2022 through spring 2023 that will involve convenings, toolkits and coaching opportunities with national experts. This engagement is targeted at institutional leaders responsible for implementing alternative methods. The Center is hosting a webinar on Monday, February 28, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. EST, to provide an update that will include additional information for institutions that wish to receive support in implementing alternative methods. Register for the webinar here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcqc-Ctpz0iEtNbWV-X4Yldtthdev8bvjam>.

Please note, the Division anticipates entering into rule development at a later date to replace the current Next-Generation ACCUPLACER interim standard scores (since September 2019) with the final Next-Generation ACCUPLACER standard scores once they are set and to remove the outdated ACCUPLACER scores (through January 2020).

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  
Abbey Ivey, Director, Florida Student Success Center  
FCS Council of Instructional Affairs  
FCS Council of Student Affairs  
FCS Reports Coordinators