

**FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDED REGULATION**

**DATE:** April 1, 2022

**REGULATION NUMBER AND TITLE:** 8.013, Limited Access

**SUMMARY:**

The proposed amendment changes the name of the regulation from “Limited Access” to “Specialized Admissions,” adds language to ensure institutions provide equitable access to these undergraduate programs and outlines the reporting requirements to ensure compliance with the regulation. The amendment also modifies the criteria for initial approval and continued approval of specialized admissions. The amendment allows the Board of Governors to consider approval of certain undergraduate degree programs as specialized admissions upon request by the university board of trustees if the programs meet one or more of the following criteria.

- The number of students who meet all the requirements for admission to the university and the program exceeds available resources such as space, equipment, other instructional facilities; clinical facilities; required student-faculty ratios, fiscal, or other resource limitations. If approved, the status would last three years, after which the institution may reapply for specialized admission status.
- The undergraduate program is of such nature that applicants must demonstrate through an audition or submission of a portfolio that they possess the minimum skills necessary to benefit from the undergraduate program. If approved, the status would last five years, after which the institution may reapply for specialized admission status.
- The undergraduate program is accredited by a national, state, regional, or programmatic body and has either limited resources or requires minimal skills. If approved, the status would last three to five years, depending on whether the status was granted based on limited resources or required minimal skills.

In addition, institutions will be required to submit plans for increasing capacity in undergraduate programs seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources and for programs classified as a Program of Strategic Emphasis.

**FULL TEXT OF THE REGULATION IS INCLUDED WITH THIS NOTICE.**

**AUTHORITY TO PROPOSE REGULATION(S):** Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; BOG Regulation Development Procedure dated March 23, 2006.

**THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS’ OFFICIAL INITIATING THE PROPOSED REGULATION:** Dr. Christy England, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

**COMMENTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED REGULATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE TO THE CONTACT PERSON IDENTIFIED BELOW.** The comments must identify the regulation on which you are commenting:

General Counsel, Board of Governors, State University System, 325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1614, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, (850) 245-0466 (phone), (850) 245-9685 (fax), or [generalcounsel@flbog.edu](mailto:generalcounsel@flbog.edu).

## **8.013 Limited Access Specialized Admissions**

~~(1) The Board of Governors may declare certain degree programs as limited access programs, upon request by university board of trustees. University degree programs may be approved as limited access programs for the following reasons:~~

- ~~(a) The number of students who have met all the requirements for admission to the university and to the program in excess of available resources (examples are: space, equipment or other instructional facilities; clinical facilities; adequate faculty to meet acceptable student faculty ratios; fiscal or other resource limitations). In the case of such programs, selection for admissions shall be competitive. The selection criteria may vary from term to term depending on the number of student spaces available and the quality of the applicant pool. The selection criteria shall be published in the university catalogue along with the standards used for admissions decisions at the time the catalogue is published.~~
- ~~(b) The program is of such nature (normally in the fine or performing arts) that applicants must demonstrate through an audition or submission of a portfolio that they already have the minimum skills necessary for them to benefit from the program.~~
- ~~(c) The program is of such nature that in order to demonstrate potential for success in the program, applicants must attain a grade point average (GPA) and/or other standards e.g. standardized test scores) that are above those required for admission to the university offering the program. [Note: Teacher preparation programs are mandated by Section 1004.04 (4) (b), F.S., to maintain certain admission requirements, and, therefore, will be classified and reported as limited access programs only if enrollment is limited for reasons (e.g. limited resources) that exceed statutory requirements. Teacher preparation programs will be monitored for compliance with requirements of Subsection 1004.04 (4) (b), F.S., through a report which is separate from the limited access reports.]~~
- ~~(d) When an institution has exceeded its upper-level FTE enrollment limit as assigned by the Legislature by more than five percent, programs which have not normally been designated as limited access programs may need to limit enrollment. If the institution's actual student credit hour productivity exceeds the institution's funded enrollment to this extent, the institution may take corrective actions in subsequent terms such as limiting admission of new students into upper level programs, limiting course loads of enrolled students and/or other measures as may be necessary to stay within funded enrollment levels.~~
- ~~(e) In the case of programs for which prerequisite courses are required for admission, the prerequisites, and grades for the prerequisite courses determined acceptable by the program, by themselves, will not cause a program to be declared limited access. That is, if all the applicants completing prerequisite courses, with any specified grade requirement, are admitted to the program, the program need not be designated a limited access program. Associate in Arts graduates from Florida public community colleges and universities who have not completed prerequisite courses for a given major shall be admitted to a university in order to complete those prerequisite~~

~~courses, after which program admission can be determined.~~

~~(2) Programs assigned limited access status will be reviewed by the university in the course of its cyclical program review process to determine if there is a need for the program to remain limited access. The university will report to the Board of Governors by October 1 each year with a list of all limited access programs, the minimum admissions standards for each program, the reasons the program is designated as limited access, and a copy of the most recent review demonstrating the need for retention of limited access status.~~

~~(3) Selection criteria for admission into limited access programs shall be appropriate indicators of academic ability, creativity, or talent to perform required work within the program and of the potential for success.~~

- ~~(a) Such criteria shall not discriminate against community college transfers with Associate in Arts degrees from Florida public community colleges in favor of SUS students who are applying for admission or plan to continue enrollment after completion of 60 semester credits at the lower division level.~~
- ~~(b) Selection criteria for limited access programs shall be publicized in catalogues, counseling manuals, and other appropriate publications with sufficient time for prospective students to adjust programs to meet criteria.~~
- ~~(c) Where necessary to achieve established equal access enrollment goals, up to ten percent of the students may be admitted to a limited access program with different criteria.~~
- ~~(d) Each university shall advise students who meet the minimum requirements for admission to the upper division of a state university, but are denied admission to limited access programs, of the availability of similar programs at other State University System institutions and the admission requirements of such programs.~~
- ~~(e) Florida community colleges Associate in Arts graduates and university students who have successfully completed 60 semester credit hours of course work, including the 36 credit hour General Education Requirement, and met the requirements of Section 1008.29, F.S., shall receive priority for admission to such limited access programs over out-of-state and transfer students from private institutions.~~

(1) Specialized admissions status allows the university to establish additional criteria for admission to undergraduate programs. The Board of Governors may approve certain undergraduate degree programs as specialized admissions programs upon request by the university board of trustees if the programs meet one or more of the following criteria.

- (a) The number of students who meet all the requirements for admission to the university and to the program are in excess of available resources such as: space, equipment, or other instructional facilities; clinical facilities; required student-faculty ratios; fiscal or other resource limitations. In the case of such

programs, selection for admissions shall be competitive.

1. Admissions criteria for undergraduate programs approved based on this criteria may vary from academic year to academic year, depending on program capacity. Criteria changes should also be reasonable, taking into consideration prospective program applicants who may need to make adjustments to meet the new criteria.

2. Undergraduate programs approved by the Board of Governors for specialized admissions due to limited resources will receive this status for a maximum of four years. At the end of four years, the university may reapply for specialized admissions status. If the university does not reapply at the end of four years, the status shall be removed, and the university may no longer utilize additional criteria for admission to the undergraduate program.

(b) The undergraduate program is of such nature that applicants must demonstrate through an audition or submission of a portfolio that they possess the minimum skills necessary for them to benefit from the undergraduate program.

1. Undergraduate programs receiving Board of Governors approval for specialized admissions because minimal skills are necessary will receive this status for a maximum of five years. At the end of five years, the university may reapply for specialized admissions status. If the university does not reapply at the end of five years, the status shall be removed, and the university may no longer utilize additional criteria for admission to the undergraduate program.

(c) If the undergraduate program is accredited by a national, state, regional, or programmatic body that imposes requirements or limitations that necessitates the use of additional admissions criteria, the undergraduate program must also meet the criteria outlined in (1)(a) or (1)(b) to be considered for specialized admissions status.

1. Undergraduate programs receiving Board of Governors approval for specialized admissions because of regulating body requirements and either (1)(a) or (1)(b) will receive this status for the maximum number of years associated with either (1)(a) or (1)(b). If the university does not reapply, the status shall be removed, and the university may no longer utilize additional criteria for admission to the undergraduate program.

(2) Undergraduate programs may have the following admissions requirements without seeking specialized admissions status.

(a) Prerequisite courses and minimum grades in prerequisite courses.

Establishment of prerequisite courses and grades in prerequisite courses must adhere to requirements established in Regulation 8.010, Common Prerequisites.

(b) Admission requirements and standards established in Florida Statutes.

(3) A plan and timeline for increasing capacity to meet student demand and/or workforce needs or sufficient rationale as to why capacity cannot be increased must be submitted with the application for the following undergraduate programs.

- (a) Undergraduate programs requesting Board of Governors approval for specialized admissions based only on the criteria in (1)(a).
- (b) Undergraduate programs requesting Board of Governors approval for specialized admissions that are classified as a Program of Strategic Emphasis at the time of application submission or renewal application submission.

(4) Selection criteria for admission into specialized admissions programs shall be appropriate indicators of academic ability, creativity, or talent to perform required work within the program and of the potential for success. Selection criteria shall not discriminate against students on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, religion, sex, or socioeconomic status. Selection criteria shall not disadvantage Associate in Arts graduates from Florida public postsecondary institutions in favor of students who are currently enrolled at a State University System institution. Qualified Associate in Arts graduates from Florida public postsecondary institutions shall receive priority for admission to such specialized admissions programs over out-of-state and transfer students from private institutions.

- (a) Selection criteria for specialized admissions programs shall be publicized in catalogs and all other sections of the university's public-facing website that provide information about the program, and any non-public websites or applications that provide information about the undergraduate program with sufficient time for prospective students to prepare to meet criteria.
- (b) Each university shall advise students who meet the minimum requirements for admission to the upper-division of a state university, but are denied admission to specialized admissions programs, of the availability of similar programs at other State University System institutions and the admission requirements of such programs.

(5) Monitoring and Reporting Requirements: Each State University System institution is required to regularly review specialized admissions programs and provide a report to the Board of Governors Office by October 1 each year. The annual report must include the following information.

- (a) Minimum admissions standards for each approved undergraduate program.
- (b) Supporting documentation as to why the undergraduate program should remain specialized admissions for the next academic year based on the criteria under which the undergraduate program was approved.
- (c) Documentation that the criteria is in compliance with (4).
- (d) Other documentation to ensure compliance with the regulation as requested by the Chancellor or their designee.

(6) The Chancellor will report to the Board of Governors a summary of institutions' specialized admissions reports annually.

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; History: New 3-29-07; Amended\_\_\_\_\_