

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

DATE: June 30, 2022

REGULATION NUMBER AND TITLE: 8.007, Articulation

SUMMARY:

Board of Governors Regulation 8.007 provides guidance on numerous articulation issues outlined in, among others, sections 1007.23 and 1007.25, Florida Statutes. The regulation ensures consistency among universities and the Florida College System, thereby allowing students to proceed toward their educational objectives as rapidly as their circumstances permit.

The proposed amendment to this regulation addresses two issues to align the regulation to recent statutory changes. First, the 2021 Legislature amended section 1007.25, Florida Statutes, directing students entering an associate in science program in the 2022-2023 academic year to complete one general education core course in each subject area as part of the general education requirements. Second, the 2022 Legislature amended section 1007.24, Florida Statutes, directing institutions to require transfer credit be applied towards general education requirements before being applied as elective credit.

The proposed changes to this regulation align regulatory language with the new statutory requirements.

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, 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.

8.007 Articulation

- (1) Each board of trustees shall plan and adopt policies and procedures to provide articulated programs so students can proceed toward their educational objectives as rapidly as their circumstances permit.
- (2) General education.
 - (a) Regulation 6.017 requires the completion of thirty-six (36) semester hours of general education courses in communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences. Specific general education core requirements are found in Regulation 8.005.
 - (b) After a State University System (SUS) or Florida College System (FCS) institution has published its general education curriculum, the integrity of that curriculum shall be accepted by other Florida public postsecondary institutions. Once the full general education requirement is certified on the official transcript as being satisfactorily completed, no SUS institution may require any further general education coursework.
 - (c) Certain degree programs may expect students to complete specified course(s) that meet both general education and program common prerequisite requirements. Students and advisors should plan early so that students do not run the risk of acquiring excess hours.
 - (d) If a student does not complete the general education curriculum before he or she transfers, the student must meet the general education requirements of the receiving institution, consistent with section 1007.25, Florida Statutes.
- (3) Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree.
 - (a) An associate in arts degree from a SUS institution shall include, for purposes of articulation consistent with section 1007.23, Florida Statutes:
 1. Completion of sixty (60) semester hours of college credit courses in an established program of study that includes a general education curriculum of thirty-six (36) semester hours of college credit in communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.
 2. Competence in civic literacy pursuant to section 1007.25, Florida Statutes.
 3. Completion of the foreign language admission requirement pursuant to Regulations 6.002 and 6.004.
 - (b) Nothing herein shall prevent a SUS institution from denying admission or continued enrollment based on an applicant's past misconduct, both on or off-campus, or when past actions were found to disrupt or interfere with the orderly conduct, processes, functions, or programs at any other postsecondary institution.
 - (c) Every associate in arts graduate of an FCS or SUS institution shall be granted admission to the upper division of a public postsecondary institution consistent with section 1007.23, Florida Statutes. Admission to the student's preferred public postsecondary institution or program is not guaranteed. Additional requirements may be required for admission to limited access degree programs.
 - (d) State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.030(2), Florida Administrative Code,

defines an associate in arts degree earned at an FCS institution (A copy of the rule may be viewed at <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?title=COMMUNITY%20COLLEGE&ID=6A-14.030>).

- (e) SUS institution shall recognize that an FCS associate in arts graduate meets SUS foreign language admission and civic literacy graduation requirements if their official FCS postsecondary transcript reflects the student satisfied those requirements.
- (f) Each SUS institution shall allow FCS associate in arts degree graduates to continue to earn additional credits at the FCS institution, provided that the following is met.
 - 1. The course is the same prefix and course number as a course listed by the SUS institution as required for the degree or as a course prerequisite for a required course for the degree.
 - 2. Students must meet the same minimum grade requirements as the course grade minimums required of native students.
 - 3. The earning of such credit does not conflict with the SUS institution's residency requirements in the final semesters.
- (g) Students may apply for an associate in arts degree through two different options. Some students may meet the requirements for both options and be able to choose the avenue for possibly receiving the degree. Students may not, however, receive an A.A. degree from both the SUS and the home FCS institution:
 - 1. Associate in arts degree awarded at a SUS institution:
 - a. Students are informed of the criteria and process for requesting an associate in arts degree at new student orientation as well as in individual advising sessions.
 - b. Eligible students who stop out, do not re-enroll, and become inactive at the institution may meet the requirements of subsection (3)(a) above. Beginning with students enrolled at the SUS institution in the 2018-2019 academic year and thereafter, those who do not re-enroll at the institution the subsequent fall shall receive specific instructions from the SUS institution on how to apply for an A.A. degree.
 - 2. Associate in arts degree awarded to FCS transfer students by the awarding FCS institution through the reverse transfer of credit earned at the SUS institution:
 - a. SUS students who transfer more than 30 semester hours from a single Florida College System institution are notified about being eligible to receive an associate in arts degree at their home FCS institution if the student has earned at least a combined total of 60 semester hours, including the 30 or more semester hours from the home FCS with an overall cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher.
 - b. SUS institutions must notify transfer students meeting the subsection (3)(g)2 requirements above of their possible eligibility to receive an associate in arts degree from their home FCS institution. Students must consent to the sharing of information from the SUS institution to

their home FCS institution regarding this option. If consent is given, SUS institutions must inform the appropriate FCS institution about the student's interest in receiving an A.A. degree and provide any applicable information.

- (4) Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree. The associate in science degree earned by FCS students is defined in Rule 6A-14.030, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to Rule 6A-14.030, the A.S. degree consists of lower-division college credit courses to prepare for entry into employment. It is a transfer degree and basis for admission to a related baccalaureate degree.
- (a) Courses taken as part of the associate in science degree at an FCS institution to meet the general education requirements will transfer and apply toward the thirty-six (36) general education semester hours required for the baccalaureate degree. No additional general education semester hours can be required except to complete the total thirty-six (36) general education hours. Beginning in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter, students entering a technical degree education program as defined in section 1004.02(13), Florida Statutes, must complete at least one identified core course in each subject area as part of the general education course requirements before a degree is awarded. Such credit earned shall transfer as meeting general education core coursework for the baccalaureate degree.
- (b) Capstone and Career Ladder Degree Articulation Agreements. A capstone agreement provides for the acceptance of a specific associate in science degree from any FCS institution. A career ladder agreement integrates specific associate in science degree programs with identified baccalaureate degree programs statewide.
- (c) The SUS shall work through the Articulation Coordinating Committee to establish appropriate statewide associate in science to baccalaureate degree program articulation agreements and to recommend revisions that are consistent with board policies. Final statewide agreements must be approved by the ACC, the State Board of Education, and the Board of Governors before implementation.
- (5) 2+2 Enhancement Programs:
- (6) Pursuant to section 1007.23, Florida Statutes, SUS institutions must partner with at least one FCS institution in providing 2+2 targeted program(s) specifically designed to strengthen Florida's 2+2 system of articulation and to improve student retention and on-time graduation. SUS institutions shall:
- (a) Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with individual FCS partner(s), detailing the components of the 2+2 Enhancement Program, including academic transition, campus cultural transition, administrative oversight, and data support, as appropriate.
- (b) Conduct a biennial review of each Enhancement Program, starting in 2020, using the State University System Rubric for Self-Evaluation for Effective 2+2 Enhancement Programs.
1. Make appropriate adjustments to the program if possible.
 2. Submit the completed rubric(s) to the Board of Governors' office by

March 1. The SUS institution shall provide the name(s) and contact information of the individual(s) who can provide details about the enhancement program(s) to the Board.

(7) Each SUS institution shall provide the name and contact information of the faculty or staff member(s) who will serve as the initial contact for articulation issues, including articulation issues brought forth by the Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC). Each institution shall work with FLVC in providing timely and accurate information necessary for the promotion of articulation to students, parents, academic advisors, and other interested parties.

(8) Each SUS institution shall maintain the electronic exchange of student transcripts between other SUS institutions, FCS institutions, and the Department of Education and utilize the Florida Automated System for Transferring Educational Records (FASTER) or another system that converts educational records into a compatible format.

(9) All SUS institutions, except for New College of Florida, shall enter all postsecondary college credit courses in the Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS). The SCNS uses a course designation that consists of a three-letter prefix and a four-digit number. Courses that have the same academic content and are taught by faculty with comparable credentials are given the same prefix and number (i.e., the last three digits of the number). The credit awarded for these equivalent courses will satisfy the receiving institution's requirements on the same basis as credits awarded to native students. Participating postsecondary institutions receiving transfer course credit must accept and apply general education courses and credit in accordance with section 1007.25, Florida Statutes, and other provisions of law, including credit earned through dual enrollment, course equivalencies, and other acceleration mechanisms, as first satisfying general education core course credit requirements and other general education subject area course credit requirements before applying the course credit as elective credit. Institutions must refer to the *Florida Statewide Course Numbering System Handbook* for exceptions to the policy. New College of Florida is exempt from this requirement due to the unique nature of its curriculum and its special mission to create innovative, highly personalized educational experiences. New College of Florida must, however, recognize the academic integrity of SCNS credit and award equivalent and appropriate credit as earned.

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const., Sections 1001.92, 1007.23, 1007.24, 1007.25, Florida Statutes; New 05-05-20. Amended 03-23-21, XX-XX-22.