SUBJECT: Articulation Coordinating Committee’s Policy on the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Prior Law Enforcement Training

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Consider approval of the Articulation Coordinating Committee’s Policy on the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Prior Law Enforcement Training.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The 2022 Legislature amended section 1004.0981, Florida Statutes, providing eligible law enforcement officers to earn uniform postsecondary credit across all Florida public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level training and education acquired while serving as a law enforcement officer. The Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) was directed by the legislature to convene a workgroup to develop a process for determining postsecondary course equivalences and the minimum postsecondary credit or career education clock hours that must be awarded for law enforcement training and experience.

The workgroup included the chair of the ACC; four members representing academic affairs administrators and faculty from the State University System institutions; four members representing academic affairs administrators and faculty from Florida College System institutions; two members representing faculty from district career centers; one representative from the Florida Sheriffs Association; one from the Florida Police Chiefs Association; and one member representing the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission. State University System institutions were given the opportunity to review the workgroup’s recommendation and provide feedback. The ACC approved the workgroup’s recommendation at its December 2, 2022, meeting. The workgroup’s recommendation is now being provided to the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to consider for approval.

The workgroup’s recommendation outlines two phases for evaluating and awarding postsecondary credit. The first phase outlines a statewide evaluation process the Office of Articulation will use to incorporate specific law enforcement experience into the Credit or Clock Hour for Law Enforcement Training Equivalency List. The second phase outlines a process that the Office of Articulation will use to identify any additions and updates for Criminal Justice Standards Training Commission courses not previously reviewed. The Office of Articulation will work with the commission to identify any
updates to the current courses included on the equivalency list. The ACC will adopt a recommended equivalency list that will be submitted to the State Board of Education and Board of Governors to consider for approval later in 2023.

If approved by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, the policy will be forwarded to the full Board for consideration. If approved by the Board of Governors and State Board of Education, the ACC will implement this process to facilitate the review of law enforcement training and experience.

Dr. England, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, will provide an overview of the proposed policy.