

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
September 20, 2023

SUBJECT: University of Central Florida Education Site Closures and Reclassification Requests

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Consider approval for reclassifying University of Central Florida (UCF) Ocala from a type III campus to a special purpose site; closing UCF South Orlando, a special purpose center; closing UCF Leesburg, a type III campus; and closing UCF Palm Bay, a type III campus.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Regulation 8.009, Educational Sites, provides definitions for a range of university sites, along with the process for establishing, relocating, and closing sites. The types of sites include main campus, additional campus (type I campus, type II campus, and type III campus), special purpose center, instructional site, and special purpose site. The regulation specifies that reclassifying or closing an additional campus or special purpose center requires university board of trustees approval followed by Board of Governors approval. The University of Central Florida (UCF) is requesting to reclassify the UCF Ocala site and requesting to close the UCF Leesburg, UCF Palm Bay, and UCF South Orlando sites.

The University of Central Florida proposes reclassifying the Ocala site from a type III campus to a special purpose site. Regulation 8.009 defines a type III campus as a university unit, separate from the main campus, that typically provides a limited range of instruction, research activity, and student services, maintaining enrollment between 300 and 1,000 students. The Board approved the Ocala site as a type III campus in November 2013 as a joint-use facility with the College of Central Florida located at 3001 S.W. College Road in Ocala, Florida. The Ocala site provided instruction and provided academic support services for the university's DirectConnect to UCF partnership to support transfer students. The university discontinued educational programming at the site in the spring of 2018 due to a lack of demand but plans to maintain a presence at the site with one staff member assisting students transition from the college to UCF. Without the instructional component, the site now meets the definition of a special purpose center, which is a university unit, apart from the main campus, that provides services of an educational or community outreach nature that do not lead to a postsecondary degree in facilities not owned by the university. The University of Central Florida Board of Trustees approved this reclassification on June 29, 2023.

The University of Central Florida proposes closing UCF South Orlando, a special purpose center. The Board approved UCF South Orlando in November 2013. Consistent with Regulation 8.009, the site was used primarily for non-credit courses, conferences, seminars, short courses, and workshops. The University of Central Florida ceased all activity at the site in 2015, relocating all instructional activities to other locations. The site consists of two buildings and 20 acres of land and is located at 7300 Lake Ellenor Dr. in Orlando, Florida. In December 2019, UCF signed a 50-year sublease with Orange County to establish and operate a public park and recreational facility. The University of Central Florida Board of Trustees approved this closure on February 18, 2021.

The University of Central Florida proposes closing the Leesburg site, a type III campus. The Board approved the Leesburg site as a type III campus in November 2013 as a joint-use facility with Lake-Sumter State College located at 9501 U.S. Highway 441 in Leesburg, Florida. The site hosted instruction and provided academic support services for the university's DirectConnect to UCF partnership to support transfer students. The University of Central Florida discontinued educational programming at the site in the spring of 2018 due to a lack of demand. The University of Central Florida Board of Trustees approved this closure on June 29, 2023.

The University of Central Florida proposes closing the Palm Bay site, a type III campus. The Board approved UCF Palm Bay as a type III campus in November 2013. The University of Central Florida Palm Bay is a joint-use facility with Eastern Florida State College located at 250 Community College Parkway in Palm Bay, Florida. Most recently, UCF Palm Bay hosted instruction and provided academic support services for the university's DirectConnect to UCF partnership to support transfer students. The university discontinued educational programming at the site after spring of 2018 due to the expansion of the online programs and relocation of programs. The University of Central Florida Board of Trustees approved this reclassification on June 29, 2023.

If approved by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, the proposal will be forwarded to the full Board for consideration.