DATE: November 9, 2023

REGULATION NUMBER AND TITLE: 6.006 Acceleration Mechanisms

SUMMARY:

Board of Governors Regulation 6.006, Acceleration Mechanisms, defines and outlines acceleration mechanisms available for students to earn college credits prior to enrolling at a state university and shorten their time to a degree.

The regulation includes a specific list of approved credit-by-examinations, including those associated with the Advanced Placement Program of the College Board, the International Baccalaureate Program, the Advanced International Certificate of Education Program, DANTES/DSST, Excelsior College, Defense Language Proficiency Test, and the College-Level Examination Program.

Board staff propose an amendment to align the regulation with House Bill 1537, which was signed into law on May 10, 2023. The law requires the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to develop courses that align with section 1007.25, Florida Statutes, for students in secondary education. For each course developed, the Department of Education must annually identify and publish the minimum scores, maximum credit, and course or courses for which credit is to be awarded.

To accommodate these new courses, Board staff propose deleting the specific list of examinations from the regulation and referencing the Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit-by-Exam Guidelines as annually approved by the Board of Governors.

The second part of the proposed amendment recognizes the Credit or Clock Hour for Law Enforcement Experience Equivalency List as an acceleration mechanism that the Board of Governors approved at its August 30, 2023, meeting. This is a list of postsecondary course equivalencies and the minimum postsecondary credit or career education clock hours that must be awarded for law enforcement training and experience.

FULL TEXT OF THE REGULATION IS INCLUDED WITH THIS NOTICE.

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS’ OFFICIAL INITIATING THE PROPOSED REGULATION: Dr. Lynn Nelson, Assistant 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 St., Suite 1614, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, (850) 245-0466 (phone), (850) 245-9685 (fax), or generalcounsel@flbog.edu.

(1) Definition – Within the context of these regulations, an early college dual enrollment course is defined as a postsecondary course creditable toward high school completion and a college degree (as opposed to a career or technical certificate).

(2) Each baccalaureate degree program offered by a university shall be designed so that students may complete a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of degree requirements through the acceleration mechanisms listed below:
   (a) Achievement of specified performance levels on standardized institutional or departmental examinations;
   (b) Recognition of satisfactory performance on examinations identified in the Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit-by-Exam Guidelines as approved by the Board of Governors. These examinations include those associated with the Advanced Placement Programs of the College Board, the International Baccalaureate Program, the Advanced International Certificate of Education Program, DANTES/DSST, Excelsior College, Defense Language Proficiency Test, and the College-Level Examination Program;
   (c) Satisfactory performance in community college or university early college dual enrollment courses taken prior to graduation from high school;
   (d) Achievement of specified performance of military experience as identified in the Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit for Military Experience Equivalency List as approved by the Board of Governors; or
   (e) Achievement of specified performance of law enforcement experience as identified in the Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit for Law Enforcement Experience Equivalency List as approved by the Board of Governors; or
   (f) Any combination of the above acceleration mechanisms.

(3) In order to facilitate acceleration, each university must award credit for specific courses for which competency has been demonstrated by successful passage of an approved dual enrollment course or examination as outlined in this regulation.

(4) Dual Enrollment
   (a) Each university may provide dual enrollment opportunities for students who meet the specified requirements in section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, and additional initial student eligibility requirements. Such additional initial eligibility requirements shall be included in the dual enrollment articulation agreement to ensure student readiness for postsecondary instruction. Additional requirements included in the agreement may not arbitrarily prohibit students who have demonstrated the ability to master advanced courses from participating in dual enrollment courses or limit the number of dual enrollment courses in which a student may enroll based solely upon enrollment by the student at an independent postsecondary institution.
   (b) The initial and continued eligibility requirements for home education student participation shall not exceed those required of other dually enrolled students. A high school grade point average may not be required for home education
students who meet the minimum score on a test designated in Regulation 6.008(1), indicating that the student is ready for college-level coursework. However, home education student eligibility requirements for continued enrollment in dual enrollment courses must include the maintenance of the minimum postsecondary grade point average established by the postsecondary institution.

(c) Instructional materials assigned for use within dual enrollment courses shall be made available to all dual enrollment free of charge.

(d) Each university shall establish a program of early admission (full-time early college dual enrollment) for eligible secondary school students qualifying for such a program under provisions of subsection 1007.271(2), Florida Statutes.

(5) Public secondary school students enrolled in the articulated acceleration programs specified in section 1007.27, Florida Statutes, shall be eligible to use electronic library resources funded by the Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network (FPALN). The Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network shall host the Florida Library Access – Pass for Accelerated Secondary Students (FLA-PASS) webpage to allow public secondary schools to input required information, pursuant to State Board of Education Rule 6A-7.077.

(6) Effective beginning with students admitted Summer Semester 2009, early college dual enrollment courses that meet core state university admission requirements in English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, or Foreign Languages (as specified in Board of Governors Regulation 6.002(2)(a)) shall receive the same weighting as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Advanced International Certificate of Education courses in the calculation of the high school grade point average used for admission decisions.

(7) Each university shall describe clearly the various options available for acceleration and the criteria governing such options in its catalog, university website, and other appropriate publications or advisement materials.

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; Sections 1007.27 and 1007.271, Florida Statutes; History: Formerly 6C-2.69, and 6C-6.06 1- 7-73, 12-17-74, 1-10-78, 8-11-85, 10-19-88, 3-29-89, 3-27-08, 08-31-17, 03-23-21; Amended: 11-04-21, 08-26-22, 09-08-23: XX-XX-XX.