

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
Academic and Student Affairs Committee  
January 24, 2024**

**SUBJECT:** Bachelors' Degree Exceptions to 120 Credit Hour Requirement

---

**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

For information

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Board of Governors Regulation 8.014, Bachelors' Degree Exceptions to 120 Credit Hours Requirement, authorizes the Board of Governors to consider requests for exceptions to the number of credit hours required for baccalaureate degree completion. Regulation 8.014 delineates the following reasons for which baccalaureate degree programs can be approved for more than 120 credit hours.

- Additional courses are required to meet specialized accreditation standards for program content, and such accreditation is expected or required for program graduates to become employed in the profession for which they are being prepared.
- Additional courses are required to meet state or federally-mandated criteria for professional licensing.
- The degree program offers a unique and innovative learning experience, such as honors programs, individualized study, and other non-traditional educational approaches.

The Board of Governors requested that Board staff review current degree programs offered by State University System institutions that require more than 120 credit hours to complete a degree. Board staff compiled the list of programs approved to exceed 120 credit hours and requested that each institution review and verify the list for accuracy. As of January 2024, the System has 102 baccalaureate degree programs approved to exceed 120 credit hours. These programs are in various disciplines, such as engineering, education, and performing arts.

Dr. Lynn Nelson, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, will provide an update on the current baccalaureate programs in the State University System with exceptions to the 120 credit hours requirement.

---

**Supporting Documentation Included:**

None

**Facilitators/Presenters:**

Dr. Lynn Nelson