

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
June 18, 2025

SUBJECT: Specialized Admissions Request, University of West Florida

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Consider approval of a specialized admissions request for the University of West Florida's Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy degree program.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Board of Governors Regulation 8.013

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions, authorizes the Board to approve specialized admissions status for certain undergraduate degree programs. The Board may consider approval of undergraduate degree programs as specialized admissions upon request of the university board of trustees if the programs meet one or more of the following criteria.

- **Resources:** The number of students who meet all the requirements for admission to the university and the program exceeds available resources such as space, equipment, clinical facilities, student-faculty ratios, and fiscal limitations. If approved, the status lasts four years, after which the institution may reapply for specialized admissions status.
- **Minimal skills:** The undergraduate program requires applicants to demonstrate through an audition or submission of a portfolio that they possess the minimum skills necessary to benefit from the undergraduate program. If approved, the status lasts five years, after which the institution may reapply for specialized admissions status.
- **Accreditation:** The undergraduate program is accredited by a national, state, regional, or programmatic body that requires specific admissions criteria. Additionally, the program has limited resources or requires minimal skills. If approved, the status is active for four or five years, depending on whether the status was granted based on limited resources or required minimal skills.

The University of West Florida is requesting specialized admissions status for the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy program. The University of West Florida's Board of Trustees approved the program on June 12, 2025. The university is requesting specialized admissions status for this program under the limited resources and accreditation criteria. The criteria related to the program include a specific faculty-

to-student ratio, capacity limits for clinical sites, and limited clinical instructors.

If approved by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, the specialized admissions request will be forwarded to the full Board for consideration. If approved by the Board of Governors, specialized admission status for the program will be effective in the fall of 2025.

Dr. Lynn Nelson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Innovation, will provide an overview of the request.

Supporting Documentation Included:

UWF Specialized Admissions
Request

Facilitators/Presenters:

Dr. Lynn Nelson