

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**

July 11, 2025

SUBJECT: Approval of the creation of the Commission for Public Higher Education, Inc., a non-profit corporation that will serve as an accreditor for institutions of higher education.

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve the creation of a non-profit corporation named Commission for Public Higher Education, with the Board of Governors as a member. This corporation will serve as a higher education accreditor with the mission to advance the quality and improvement of higher education by accrediting state public colleges and universities that are incorporated, chartered, licensed, or authorized in the United States.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; § 1001.70, Florida Statutes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Commission for Public Higher Education ("CPHE") will be established as a non-profit organization incorporated in Florida, with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code. The Florida Board of Governors, as a body corporate, will serve as the entity's initial sole member for purposes of incorporation. The Board of Governors will hold powers as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, unless otherwise delegated to a designee.

The administration and oversight of the affairs of CPHE will be overseen by a non-paid Board of Directors. The higher education systems from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas A&M and Tennessee (Founding University Systems) will have representation on CPHE's Board of Directors (BOD) through a designated director selected by each respective state. This BOD shall establish accreditation standards, policies, and procedures, and take accreditation actions (e.g., approval of institutional accreditation applications). The initial six members of the Board of Directors will consist of individuals appointed by the Founding University Systems.

CPHE's mission will be to advance the quality and improvement of higher education by accrediting state public colleges and universities that are incorporated, chartered, licensed or authorized in the United States. CPHE shall serve as an institutional accrediting agency for state public colleges and universities that award associate's, bachelor's, or higher degrees. By establishing rigorous, transparent, and adaptable outcomes-based accreditation standards and practices, CPHE will ensure that colleges and universities meet and maintain academic quality and excellence on behalf of their

students. CPHE's competitive advantage lies in modern accreditation frameworks that emphasize data-driven assessment, institutional innovation and regulatory compliance.

Contemporaneous with authorizing the filing and incorporation of CPHE, the Board of Governors will also consider the delegation of authority to the Board of Directors of CPHE to: Incur capital expenditures and select or remove the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.

Supporting Documentation Included:

Articles of Incorporation,
Bylaws, and CPHE Business
Plan

Facilitators/Presenters:

Rachel Kamoutsas, Chief of Staff
and Corporate Secretary, Board
of Governors