

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
January 29, 2026**

SUBJECT: CIP Change Request, University of Florida

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Consider Approval of the CIP Change Request for the University of Florida.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Board of Governors Regulation 8.011

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The University of Florida proposes changing the CIP code for the Ph.D. in Zoology, CIP 26.0701, to Biology, CIP 26.0101. This request requires consideration of approval by the Board, as the Ph.D. was previously approved for the current CIP code. The request is based on the evolution of faculty research and the interdisciplinary nature of graduate training in the Department of Biology. The department's research profile has broadened over time, with faculty working across plant, animal, microbial, and theoretical systems. If approved, the program will be the System's fourth research doctorate in biology and will align with peer institutions of the Association of American Universities (AAU), many of which organize their doctoral training within broad biology departments rather than offering a separate Zoology program.

Graduates of the program will continue to be prepared for research-intensive careers in the biological sciences. The proposed CIP change will have no impact on the program's budget, faculty, curriculum, or resources. The university will continue to charge the approved graduate-level tuition for both in-state and out-of-state students. Reclassification to CIP 26.0101, Biology, will also designate the program as a Program of Strategic Emphasis.

If approved by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, the proposed CIP change request will be forwarded to the full Board for consideration. If approved by the Board of Governors, UF will implement the CIP change effective summer 2026.

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

Supporting Documentation Included:	1. Board Staff Analysis
	2. Proposal

Facilitators/Presenters:	Dr. Lynn Nelson
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