

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
Academic Affairs Committee  
March 26, 2026**

**SUBJECT:** Reduced Credit Hour Degrees Overview

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

For Information

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Board of Governors Regulation 6.017

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Board of Governors Regulation 6.017, Criteria for Awarding the Baccalaureate Degree, requires baccalaureate degrees to include at least 120 semester credit hours unless approved by the Board. However, reduced credit hour bachelor's degrees are now being considered by universities in other states and institutional accreditors as an accelerated pathway to the degree. The degree requires fewer than 120 credit hours, thereby reducing time to degree, lowering student costs, and accelerating workforce entry.

Dr. Lynn Nelson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Innovation, will present an overview of national initiatives for reduced credit hour degrees and considerations for the System.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Other State Overview

**Facilitators/Presenters:** Dr. Lynn Nelson