

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATION AMENDMENT

DATE: November 13, 2014

REGULATION NUMBER AND TITLE: 3.006, Accreditation

SUMMARY:

The regulation is being amended in the following way:

- Language is incorporated to require that specialized accreditation be earned and maintained for academic programs in which graduation from an accredited program is a prerequisite to achieve licensure or certification for professional practice.
- Language was removed that directed institutions to provide the Office of the Board of Governors with a rationale explaining why a certain program is not seeking accreditation.
- Language is added to require institutions to provide immediate notification to the Office of the Board of Governors when an accredited academic program is placed on warning, probation, or when the accreditation status is revoked by an accrediting body, and to provide any report on the adverse accreditation findings provided by the discipline-specific accrediting body.

FULL TEXT OF THE REGULATION IS INCLUDED WITH THIS NOTICE.

AUTHORITY TO PROPOSE REGULATION(S): Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; BOG Regulation Development Procedure dated March 23, 2006.

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS' OFFICIAL INITIATING THE PROPOSED REGULATION: Richard P. Stevens, Director Academic and Student Affairs

COMMENTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED REGULATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE TO THE CONTACT PERSON IDENTIFIED BELOW. The comments must identify the regulation on which you are commenting:

General Counsel, Board of Governors, State University System, 325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1614, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, (850) 245-0466 (phone), (850) 245-9685 (fax), or generalcounsel@flbog.edu.

3.006 Accreditation.

(1) Each university board of trustees shall develop policies on accreditation that are consistent with the mission of the institution and Board of Governors' guidelines.

(2) Regional accreditation

- (a) Each institution shall seek and take action to maintain regional accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).
- (b) Each president shall immediately inform the Chancellor upon verbal or written notification of any visit scheduled or any action taken by SACSCOC ~~the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools~~ related to the institution's compliance certification or interim report.
- (c) Each institution shall provide a copy of the certification letter for initial accreditation or accreditation reaffirmance ~~compliance certification or public disclosure statement~~ to the Board of Governors immediately upon receipt from SACSCOC ~~the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools~~.
- (d) Upon request, an institution shall provide the Office of the Board of Governors with a copy of any institution response to SACSCOC ~~the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools~~.

(3) Discipline-Specific Accreditation

- (a) Each institution is encouraged to seek and take action to maintain national or discipline-specific ~~specialized~~ accreditation for its colleges, schools, and academic programs for which there are established standards for programmatic accreditation.
- (b) Discipline-specific accreditation is required for academic programs in which graduation from an accredited program is a prerequisite to achieving licensure or certification for professional practice.
- (b) ~~If an institution does not seek national or specialized accreditation, it shall provide the Office of the Board of Governors its rationale as part of the State University System Accreditation Survey.~~
- (c) Each institution must provide immediate notification to the Office of the Board of Governors when an accredited academic program is placed on warning or probation, or when the accreditation status is revoked by a discipline-specific accrediting body. The notification must include a report of any adverse accreditation findings provided by the discipline-specific accrediting body that outline the basis for the change in accreditation status.

(4) Each institution shall submit annually the State University System Accreditation Survey to the Office of the Board of Governors.