

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

June 21, 2012

SUBJECT: Bachelor of Science in Biology, Major in Medical Laboratory Science at the University of North Florida to exceed 120 credit hours to degree

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Consider the Bachelor of Science in Biology, Major in Medical Laboratory Science (CIP 26.0101) at the University of North Florida to exceed 120 credit hours to degree.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Subsection 1007.25(8), Florida Statutes; Board of Governors Regulation 8.014

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The University of North Florida (UNF) is seeking approval for its major in Medical Laboratory Science under the Bachelor of Science in Biology program to exceed 120 credit hours to degree. The increase in credit hours is needed because the upper division of the program includes 65 semester hours of core didactic coursework and practicum required by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). The program major has been created to fulfill a partnership agreement with local hospitals and must meet NAACLS standards in order to prepare graduates for employment.

The exception to 120 credit hours to degree will apply only to the Medical Laboratory Science major under the B.S. in Biology. The University intends to convert the major into a stand-alone degree program next year and the exception will then apply to the new program.

If the Board of Governors approves the request, it would bring the program major into conformity with existing medical technology bachelor's degree programs in the State University System. UNF will implement the exception to 120 credit hours beginning in fall 2012.

Supporting Documentation Included: Materials are in Committee Packet