

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**  
**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**Strategic Planning Committee**  
September 16, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Professional Licensure & Certification Exam First-time Pass Rates

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

For information

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Professional licensures and certification first-time pass rates are an important indicator of both graduate and program quality. As part of the annual university accountability plans, each institution's exam passage rates are compared against national or state average passage rates. At the Committee's July 21, 2020 meeting, there was discussion regarding institutions that did not meet the benchmarks for these exams. In response to this discussion and at the direction of the Committee Chair, Board staff developed a framework for an improvement plan for the institutions that were not within five points of the benchmarks on the exams. The plans will include information on improvements in the short-term for students currently enrolled, additional exam and student outcomes, admission requirements, curriculum, student progression, faculty support, accreditation, and how the institution has worked with other State University System institutions on best practices to improve the rates.

Additionally, the Committee also requested additional information from institutions that have had declines on exam pass rates for two years in a row. Those institutions provided updates to the Board office and those documents are included in the meeting materials.

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University will present an improvement plan on each of the four licensure exams that are five points below the benchmarks that was submitted to the Board of Governors office in September 2020. Representatives from the following institutions will be available to respond to any questions regarding two-year declines in pass rates: Florida Atlantic University for nursing, the University of Florida for dentistry, the University of South Florida for physical therapy, and the University of West Florida for nursing.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:**

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical  
University Licensure Exam Improvement  
Plans

Updates on Declining Passage Rates:  
Florida Atlantic University, University of  
Florida, University of South Florida, and  
University of West Florida

**Facilitators/Presenters:**

University Representatives