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MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida College System Presidents
State University System Presidents

FROM: Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Jr.
Chancellor Raymond Rodrigues

DATE: January 25, 2024

SUBJECT: **Amendment to Rule 6A-14.0303, Florida Administrative Code, General Education Course Options, and Board of Governors Regulation 8.005, General Education Course Options**

On January 17, 2024, the State Board of Education (SBOE) approved revisions to Rule 6A-14.0303, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), General Education Course Options, and on January 24, 2024, the Board of Governors (BOG) approved revisions to Regulation 8.005. The amended rule and regulation identify the list of general education core courses and set forth requirements for all general education courses and institutional requirements for reporting general education course offerings. A copy of the rule and regulation are attached for your reference.

As a background to the amendment, Senate Bill 266 (2023) modified section 1007.25, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and created section 1007.55, F.S., to require revisions to the general education core course options based on new principles for general education and standards for each of the five subject discipline areas. Faculty committees appointed by the SBOE and the BOG are now required by July 1, 2024, and every four years thereafter, to review and recommend to the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC), the SBOE and BOG changes to the core course options.

In accordance with the new requirements, faculty committees were convened in the fall of 2023 and developed course and course description recommendations for general education core courses that students may take to meet each subject discipline requirement for an associate or baccalaureate degree. These recommendations were then reviewed by the ACC and submitted to the SBOE and BOG. The rule and regulation attached to this memorandum codify the list of general education core course options for students beginning in the fall of 2024. The Statewide Course Numbering System has been updated with revised course descriptions for each general education core course which institutions must follow for each general education core course that they offer.

Amendment to Rule 6A-14.0303, F.A.C., and BOG Regulation 8.005
January 25, 2024
Page Two

Section 1007.55, F.S., also establishes, and as revisions to this rule describe, a process for an annual institutional review by each institution's Board of Trustees of all general education courses offered by the institution with a subsequent submission to the SBOE or BOG for approval. Institutions must review the requirements of the statute, rule and regulation carefully and make necessary changes to courses, catalogs, websites and student advising.

Additional information specific to the institutional review and submission process will be provided in a separate memorandum. A webinar to provide technical assistance will be held on February 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Please register your attendance at https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_z6YZSuf1Ty6u1BiU8C6Vmw. If you or your staff have questions, please contact the BOG or the Division of Florida Colleges, or Mr. Shannon Mercer, Director of Acceleration and Transfer, in the Office of Articulation at shannon.mercer@fldoe.org for any questions regarding the rule.

MD/RR

Attachments

cc: Dr. William Hudson, Chair, ACC
Kimberly Richey, Senior Chancellor, Department of Education
Kathy Hebda, Florida College System Chancellor, Department of Education
Emily Sikes, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, BOG
Lynn Nelson, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, BOG
State University System Council of Academic Vice Presidents
State University System General Counsels
Florida College System Chief Academic Officers