

Rule Workshop: 6A-10.02413, Civic Literacy Competency

Florida Department of Education, Division of Florida Colleges

August 16, 2021



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Webinar Logistics

Participants will be on mute for the duration of the webinar.

Material from today's webinar:

In the handouts area you will find a copy of today's presentation.

How to submit questions:

To submit questions during the webinar, please utilize the Questions function. During the Q&A portion of the webinar, questions will be addressed.





Agenda

- Current Requirements
- Overview of Senate Bill 1108 and House Bill 311
- Proposed Rule
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Q&A
- Public Comment



Current Requirements



Current Rule

6A-10.02413 Civic Literacy Competency.

Prior to the award of an associate in arts or baccalaureate degree, first-time-in-college students entering a Florida College System institution in the 2018-19 school year, and thereafter must demonstrate competency in civic literacy through one of the following options prior to graduation:

(1) Successfully passing either POSX041 American Government or AMHX020 Introductory Survey Since 1877. Each of the courses must include the following competencies:

(a) Understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government;

(b) An understanding of the United States Constitution and its application;

(c) Knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-government; and

(d) An understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation and landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society.

(2) Achieving the standard score on one of the following assessments:

| Assessment | Standard Score |
|---|----------------|
| AP Government and Politics: United States | 3 |
| AP United States History | 4 |
| CLEP: American Government | 50 |



Summary of 2021 Legislation





Senate Bill 1108: Course and Assessment

 SB 1108 amended s. 1007.25, F.S., to require students initially entering an FCS institution in 2021-22 and thereafter to complete a course <u>and</u> pass an assessment to demonstrate competency in civic literacy.



Senate Bill 1108: Opportunities for Political Discussions

 SB 1108 added a requirement for the State Board of Education to develop new or revise existing courses to include, at a minimum, opportunities to engage synchronously in political discussions and civil debates with multiple points of view and to master the ability to synthesize information that informs civic decision-making.



Senate Bill 1108: High School Government

- SB 1108 added a requirement that high school students in U.S. Government take a civic literacy assessment.
- The bill specified that high school students who pass the civic literacy assessment will be exempt from the civic literacy competency assessment requirement when they matriculate to postsecondary.



Senate Bill 1108: Acceleration Mechanisms

- The bill specified that credits earned through authorized acceleration mechanisms in s. 1007.27, F.S., will count toward the civic literacy requirement.
- In other words, credit received for courses in Rule 6A-10.02413, F.A.C., (AMHX020 and POSX041) via <u>credit-by-exam</u> will count toward the course requirement.



House Bill 311: Confidentiality of Assessment Instruments

 House Bill 311 added all examinations and assessment instruments, including developmental materials and workpapers, which are prepared, prescribed or administered pursuant to s. 1007.25, F.S., as confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.



Proposed Rule



Proposed Rule Amendment

(1) Prior to the award of an associate in arts or baccalaureate degree, first-time-in-college students entering a Florida College System institution between the 2018-19 to 2020-21 in the 2018-19 school year, and thereafter school year, and thereafter, must demonstrate competency in civic literacy through one of the following options prior to graduation:

(a) (1) Successfully passing either POSX041 American Government or AMHX020 Introductory Survey Since 1877. Each of the courses must include the following competencies:

<u>1. (a)</u> Understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government;

<u>2.</u> (b) An understanding of the United States Constitution and its application;

3. (c)-Knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-government; and

<u>4.</u> (d) An understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation and landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society.

(b) (2) Achieving the standard score on one of the following assessments:

| Assessment | Standard Score |
|---|----------------|
| AP Government and Politics: United States | 3 |
| AP United States History | 4 |
| CLEP: American Government | 50 |



Proposed Rule Amendment

(2) Prior to the award of an associate in arts or baccalaureate degree, students initially entering a Florida College System institution in the 2021-22 school year, and thereafter, must demonstrate competency in civic literacy by completing (a) and (b) prior to graduation:

(a) Successfully passing either POSX041 American Government or AMHX020 Introductory Survey Since 1877. Each of the courses must include the following competencies:

<u>1. Understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government;</u>

2. An understanding of the United States Constitution and its application;

3. Knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-government; and

4. An understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation and landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society.

(b) Achieving the standard score on one of the following assessments:

| Assessment | Standard Score |
|---|----------------|
| AP Government and Politics: United States | <u>3</u> |
| AP United States History | <u>4</u> |
| CLEP: American Government | <u>50</u> |
| Florida Civic Literacy Examination | <u>60</u> |



Proposed Rule Amendment

(3) Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, institutions must ensure they provide opportunities for students to engage synchronously in political discussions and civil debates with multiple points of view and to master the ability to synthesize information that informs civic decisionmaking.

(4) Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, credit received for POSX041 and AMHX020 under Rule 6A-10.02413, F.A.C., will count toward meeting the course requirement.

(5) Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, students who earned a passing score on the Florida Civic Literacy Examination while in high school are exempt from the postsecondary civic literacy assessment requirement.











1. To whom does the civic literacy requirement apply?

| For students entering in: | The civic literacy requirement applies to: | In the following programs: | These students must: |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2018-19 – 2020-21 | First-time-in-college students | A.A. Baccalaureate | Pass a course OR pass an assessment |
| 2021-22 | Students entering FCS under 2021-22 catalog year | A.A. Baccalaureate | Pass a course AND pass an assessment |
| 2022-23* | Students entering FCS 2022-23 catalog year | Associate in Science (A.S.) | Pass a course AND pass an assessment |

* The Department anticipates entering into rule development to add the civic literacy requirement as a condition of A.S. degree completion to coincide with general education changes from House Bill 1507.



- 2. How was the Florida Civic Literacy Examination (FCLE) developed?
 - In 2018, the Office of Assessment worked with the Board of Governors and FCS to develop the Florida Civic Literacy Test. The Department partnered with the Lou Frey Institute (LFI) for content area and test development expertise. After working with LFI on item review and edits to address bias, accuracy and readability, the Department had subject matter experts (SMEs) review the items and conducted committee meetings Bias and Sensitivity/Validation. Following a final review by LFI, the Department approved the initial Florida Civic Literacy Test.
 - The Department is in the process of revising the current instrument. The revised assessment underwent reviews by external experts in July 2021. Beginning in late fall 2021, the revised test known as the Florida Civic Literacy Examination will be available as a computer-based assessment as part of the Office of Assessment's contract with Cambium Assessment, Inc. (CAI).



- 3. How many test questions appear on the FCLE?
 - Approximately 80 test items appear on the FCLE.
- 4. What is the passing score on the FCLE?
 - The passing score will remain at 60 percent, which is 48 correct out of 80.
 - Once there are sufficient impact data on the FCLE, the Department will proceed with a formal, scientific-based process to set new cut scores (standard setting). It is customary in postsecondary and other assessment programs to implement an interim cut score for a limited timeframe for new assessments, until which time sufficient impact data can be collected from a representative test-taking population. Typically, this interim score is based on a prior cut score for an earlier version of the assessment or one similar in content and scope. Oftentimes, this interim/temporary cut score is set lower than the eventual permanent score adopted in rule. This impact data collection period can be referred to as a "hold harmless" period in advance of formal standard setting and an eventual approved cut score.



- 5. When will the FCLE be available for institutional use and what is the cost?
 - The FCLE will be available beginning in late fall 2021 at no cost to institutions.
- 6. Will there be online test preparation resources?
 - Yes. Basic information for fall 2021 and more robust resources in spring 2022.
- 7. What testing accommodations will be available?
 - Accommodations will be available for the Florida Civic Literacy Test, some beginning in fall 2021 with more available in spring 2022. The timeline for implementation and a description of allowed accommodations will be announced later.
- 8. Can institutions set up the assessment in their learning management systems?
 - No. The FCLE will need to be offered through the institution's testing center via the CAI computer-based testing system.



- 9. If high school students pass the FCLE, will they have fulfilled both the assessment and the course requirements?
 - No. Students who pass the FCLE in high school will still be required to pass an approved course once they enter the FCS.
- 10. Do high school students who pass the FCLE have to pass the high school U.S. government course to demonstrate civic literacy competency?
 - A passing score on the FCLE is what is required for students to demonstrate postsecondary civic literacy competency.
- 11. How will FCS institutions know if a student passed the FCLE while in high school?
 - The secondary to postsecondary FASTER transcript will be updated to reflect if a student passed the FCLE.



- 12. How can institutions learn more about implementing the FCLE?
 - Cambium Assessment, Inc., (CAI) will host a training webinar for test coordinators at Florida Colleges and State Universities on the new Florida Civic Literacy Exam (FCLE) available in fall 2021. The training will cover the following topics:
 - Brief overview of the test
 - Technical specifications and set up
 - Student and staff enrollment and management in TIDE
 - Test Delivery System (TDS) student testing platform
 - Real-time reporting of results
 - The webinar, which will be recorded and posted for future viewing, will take place on Wednesday, August 18, from 3:00–4:00 p.m. ET. Register here:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3122292382276949518



- 13. If students complete AMHX020 or POSX041, do they still need to complete an assessment? Does the final exam in one of the courses count?
 - Completion of AMHX020 or POSX041 only fulfills the course requirement for postsecondary civic literacy competency. Because final exams in courses are not approved by the SBOE, they do not count toward the assessment requirement. These students would still be required to pass an approved assessment.
- 14. Can institutions make passing the FCLE a condition of passing either AMHX020 or POSX041?
 - There is nothing prohibiting institutions from requiring a passing score on the FCLE as a condition for passing an approved course. However, institutions should give consideration to the logistics of making test scores available to faculty, what happens if a student needs to retake the exam after the term ends, etc.
- 15. How will faculty members teaching AMHX020 or POSX041 know the content to cover in the courses that will prepare the students for the FCLE?
 - In addition to the four competencies outlined in statute, institutions may visit <u>https://www.fldoe.org/civicliteracy/</u> for additional resources.



- 16. Can additional postsecondary courses be added to the list of those approved to meet the civic literacy requirement?
 - Yes. The Department welcomes dialogue regarding the inclusion of additional courses that meet the competencies outlined in statute.
- 17. What if my institution does not have enough course sections available to meet student demand?
 - Students have the option of taking the course at another institution as a transient student. Visit <u>FloridaShines.org</u> for more information.
- 18. How does credit-by-exam apply toward the civic literacy requirement?
 - Credit received for courses in Rule 6A-10.02413, F.A.C., (AMHX020 and POSX041) via <u>credit-by-exam</u> will count toward the course requirement.
 - If the exam used as the basis of awarding of credit is in Rule 6A-10.02413, F.A.C., (e.g., AP and CLEP) the student would be considered as having met both the course and the assessment civic literacy competency.
 - If the exam used as the basis of awarding of credit is not in rule (e.g., AICE and IB), the student would be considered as having met only the course requirement. These students would need to be assessed using an approved assessment in rule.

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- 19. How will institutions know if transfer students from an FCS or SUS institution met the civic literacy competency requirement at their previous institution?
 - The postsecondary FASTER transcript will be updated to reflect if a student met the course requirement and assessment requirement.
- 20. What are some examples of how institutions can provide opportunities for students to engage synchronously in political discussions and civil debates?
 - Course lectures, discussion groups, registered student organizations, (e.g., speech or debate club, Student Government Association), guest speaker series, community partnership events, service learning, internships, etc.



- 21. How will the new requirements affect state reporting?
 - Currently, completion of the civic literacy competency requirement is captured in the Student Database, Data Element 1065. Given the modifications to the rule, the data element is no longer necessary for students in catalog year 2021-22 and beyond. Additional information about the sunset of this data element will be transmitted to reports coordinators.









Public Comment



Resources

State Board Rules Under Review https://web02.fldoe.org/Rules/Default.aspx

Recording of Today's Webinar <u>https://www.gotostage.com/channel/160535c1bdb84db88c27a16d288cc</u> <u>212</u>

Registration for Cambium Assessment, Inc., webinar on Wednesday, August 18, from 3:00–4:00 p.m. ET.

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3122292382276949518

Postsecondary Civics Literacy Resources https://www.fldoe.org/policy/articulation/postsec-civics-lit.stml



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