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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Florida College System Presidents

**FROM:** Madeline Pumariega, Chancellor

**DATE:** May 30, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Rule 6A-10.02413, Civic Literacy Competency

**DFC Memo: 2018-06**  
Contact: Karinda Barrett  
[Karinda.barrett@fldoe.org](mailto:Karinda.barrett@fldoe.org)  
850-245-9523

On May 16, 2018, the State Board of Education approved Rule 6A-10.02413, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), *Civic Literacy Competency*, as required by section 1007.25(4), Florida Statutes (F.S.). The rule, which will become effective on June 19, 2018, and the related statute are attached. All first-time-in-college associate in arts or baccalaureate degree seeking students beginning in the 2018-19 academic year must demonstrate civic literacy competency prior to graduation either through successful completion of a course or by achieving a passing score on an assessment.

The competencies identified in rule have been added to the Statewide Profile for the two approved courses – POSX041 American Government or AMHX020 Introductory Survey Since 1877 – in the Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS) database. To ensure alignment at the local level, institutions should modify course outcomes to align with the competencies identified in Rule 6A-10.02413, F.A.C. Once course outcomes have been modified, institutions should work with the Office of Articulation to update course profiles in the SCNS database.

Institutions that do not offer POSX041 or AMHX020 are still required to provide students with options to meet this requirement. The rule includes three assessment options: AP Government and Politics: United States; AP United States History; and CLEP: American Government. In addition, students have the option to take one of the courses at another institution as a transient student. Institutions may consult Florida Shines for more information on the transient process. If POSX041 or AMHX020 do not align with a student's program of study, the institution may encourage students to consider demonstrating competency through an approved assessment to avoid possible excess credit hours at the baccalaureate level.

The Florida Department of Education's Office of Articulation, the Division of Florida Colleges and the State University System are working with the Florida Automated System for Transferring Educational Records (FASTER) to develop a common notation to be placed on a student's transcript once the student has demonstrated civic literacy competency. Technical requirements for reporting the demonstration of civic literacy competency will be transmitted to college reports coordinators as soon as practical.

Approval of Rule 6A-10.02413, Civic Literacy Competency

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Each institution is encouraged to review and update college catalogs, web pages and other material regarding graduation requirements for associate in arts and baccalaureate degree seeking students, as appropriate. For more information regarding Rule 6A-10.02413, F.A.C., *Civic Literacy Competency*, contact Karinda Barrett at 850-245-9523 or [Karinda.barrett@fldoe.org](mailto:Karinda.barrett@fldoe.org).

MP/kb

Attachments

cc: Dr. Carrie Henderson, Executive Vice Chancellor, DFC  
Dr. Karinda Barrett, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, DFC  
Mr. Jeremy Hudak, Coordinator for Academic and Student Affairs, DFC  
Mr. Todd Clark, Director, Articulation, FDOE  
FCS General Counsels  
FCS Council of Student Affairs/Council of Instructional Affairs  
FCS Registrars  
FCS Testing Administrators  
FCS Reports Coordinators

# CL Rule Workshop 3/30/18

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## Notice of Proposed Rule

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

#### State Board of Education

RULE NO.: RULE TITLE:

6A-10.02413 Civic Literacy Competency

**PURPOSE AND EFFECT:** The new rule provides information to colleges about which courses and existing assessments are authorized to demonstrate civic literacy competency and to provide notice of which students must demonstrate civic literacy.

**SUMMARY:** Changes to the statutory provisions resulting from House Bill 7069 passed during the 2017 Legislative session requires this rule be developed. The proposed rule identifies which students must demonstrate civic literacy, identifies two courses that can be used to meet the civic literacy requirement, sets forth competencies for those courses and lists three assessments, along with scores, that are authorized to demonstrate civic literacy competency.

#### SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED REGULATORY COSTS AND LEGISLATIVE RATIFICATION:

The Agency has determined that this will not have an adverse impact on small business or likely increase directly or indirectly regulatory costs in excess of \$200,000 in the aggregate within one year after the implementation of the rule. A SERC has not been prepared by the Agency.

The Agency has determined that the proposed rule is not expected to require legislative ratification based on the statement of estimated regulatory costs or if no SERC is required, the information expressly relied upon and described herein: 1) No requirement for SERC was triggered under s. 120.541(1), F.S., and 2.) Based on past experiences with common placement testing there would be no economic impact from this amendment and the adverse impact or regulatory cost, if any, does not exceed nor would be expected to exceed any one of the economic analysis criteria set forth in Section 120.541(2)(a), Florida Statutes.

Any person who wishes to provide information regarding a statement of estimated regulatory costs, or provide a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative must do so in writing within 21 days of this notice.

**RULEMAKING AUTHORITY:** 1001.02(2)(n), 1007.25(4), FS.

**LAW IMPLEMENTED:** 1007.25(4), FS.

**A HEARING WILL BE HELD AT THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE SHOWN BELOW:**

**DATE AND TIME:** May 16, 2018, 9:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** Pinellas County School Board: 301 4th St., SW, Largo, FL 33770.

**THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE IS:** Dr. Karinda Barrett, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs, (850) 245-9523, karinda.barrett@fldoe.org.

**THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS:**

#### 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

*Rulemaking Authority 1001.02(1), 1007.25(4), F.S. Law Implemented 1001.02, F.S. History-New*

NAME OF PERSON ORIGINATING PROPOSED RULE: Madeline Pumariega, Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges.

NAME OF AGENCY HEAD WHO APPROVED THE PROPOSED RULE: Pam Stewart, Commissioner, Department of Education.

DATE PROPOSED RULE APPROVED BY AGENCY HEAD: April 19, 2018

DATE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT PUBLISHED IN FAR: March 16, 2018

Select Year:  

## The 2018 Florida Statutes

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[Title XLVIII](#)  
K-20 EDUCATION CODE

[Chapter 1007](#)  
ARTICULATION AND ACCESS

[View Entire Chapter](#)

### **1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites; other degree requirements. –**

(1) The department shall identify the degree programs offered by public postsecondary educational institutions.

(2) The department shall identify postsecondary career education programs offered by Florida College System institutions and district school boards. The department shall also identify career courses designated as college credit courses applicable toward a career education diploma or degree. Such courses must be identified within the statewide course numbering system.

(3) The chair of the State Board of Education and the chair of the Board of Governors, or their designees, shall jointly appoint faculty committees to identify statewide general education core course options. General education core course options shall consist of a maximum of five courses within each of the subject areas of communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences. The core courses may be revised, or the five-course maximum within each subject area may be exceeded, if approved by the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors, as recommended by the subject area faculty committee and approved by the Articulation Coordinating Committee as necessary for a subject area. Each general education core course option must contain high-level academic and critical thinking skills and common competencies that students must demonstrate to successfully complete the course. Beginning with students initially entering a Florida College System institution or state university in 2015-2016 and thereafter, each student must complete at least one identified core course in each subject area as part of the general education course requirements. All public postsecondary educational institutions shall accept these courses as meeting general education core course requirements. The remaining general education course requirements shall be identified by each institution and reported to the department by their statewide course number. The general education core course options shall be adopted in rule by the State Board of Education and in regulation by the Board of Governors.

(4) Beginning with students initially entering a Florida College System institution or state university in the 2018-2019 school year and thereafter, each student must demonstrate competency in civic literacy. Students must have the option to demonstrate competency through successful completion of a civic literacy course or by achieving a passing score on an assessment. The State Board of Education must adopt in rule and the Board of Governors must adopt in regulation at least one existing assessment that measures competencies consistent with the required course competencies outlined in paragraph (b). The chair of the State Board of Education and the chair of the Board of Governors, or their respective designees, shall jointly appoint a faculty committee to:

(a) Develop a new course in civic literacy or revise an existing general education core course in American History or American Government to include civic literacy.

(b) Establish course competencies and identify outcomes that include, at a minimum, an understanding of the basic principles of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government, an understanding of the United States Constitution, knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-governance, and an understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases and their impact on law and society.

(5) The department shall identify those courses offered by universities and accepted for credit toward a degree. The department shall identify courses designated as either general education or required as a prerequisite

for a degree. The courses shall be identified by their statewide course numbers.

(6) The department shall identify common prerequisite courses and course substitutions for degree programs across all institutions. Common degree program prerequisites shall be offered and accepted by all state universities and Florida College System institutions, except in cases approved by the State Board of Education for Florida College System institutions and the Board of Governors for state universities. The department shall develop a centralized database containing the list of courses and course substitutions that meet the prerequisite requirements for each baccalaureate degree program.

(7) The universities and Florida College System institutions shall work with their school districts to ensure that high school curricula coordinate with the general education curricula and to prepare students for college-level work. General education curricula for associate in arts programs shall be identified by each institution and include 36 semester hours in the subject areas of communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.

(8) An associate in arts degree shall require no more than 60 semester hours of college credit and include 36 semester hours of general education coursework. Beginning with students initially entering a Florida College System institution or state university in 2014-2015 and thereafter, coursework for an associate in arts degree shall include demonstration of competency in a foreign language pursuant to s. [1007.262](#). Except for developmental education required pursuant to s. [1008.30](#), all required coursework shall count toward the associate in arts degree or the baccalaureate degree.

(9) A baccalaureate degree program shall require no more than 120 semester hours of college credit and include 36 semester hours of general education coursework, unless prior approval has been granted by the Board of Governors for baccalaureate degree programs offered by state universities and by the State Board of Education for baccalaureate degree programs offered by Florida College System institutions.

(10) A student who received an associate in arts degree for successfully completing 60 semester credit hours may continue to earn additional credits at a Florida College System institution. The university must provide credit toward the student's baccalaureate degree for an additional Florida College System institution course if, according to the statewide course numbering, the Florida College System institution course is a course listed in the university catalog as required for the degree or as prerequisite to a course required for the degree. Of the courses required for the degree, at least half of the credit hours required for the degree shall be achievable through courses designated as lower division, except in degree programs approved by the State Board of Education for programs offered by Florida College System institutions and by the Board of Governors for programs offered by state universities.

(11) Students at state universities may request associate in arts certificates if they have successfully completed the minimum requirements for the degree of associate in arts (A.A.). The university must grant the student an associate in arts degree if the student has successfully completed minimum requirements for college-level communication and computation skills adopted by the State Board of Education and 60 academic semester hours or the equivalent within a degree program area, including 36 semester hours in general education courses in the subject areas of communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences, consistent with the general education requirements specified in the articulation agreement pursuant to s. [1007.23](#).

(12) The Commissioner of Education shall appoint faculty committees representing both Florida College System institution and public school faculties to recommend to the commissioner for approval by the State Board of Education a standard program length and appropriate occupational completion points for each postsecondary career certificate program, diploma, and degree offered by a school district or a Florida College System institution.

**History.**—s. 351, ch. 2002-387; s. 107, ch. 2004-357; s. 115, ch. 2007-217; s. 20, ch. 2009-59; s. 93, ch. 2011-5; s. 8, ch. 2011-177; s. 10, ch. 2012-195; s. 15, ch. 2013-51; s. 18, ch. 2017-116.