Statewide Email

DATE SENT: July 19, 2021

FROM: Henry Mack, Chancellor of Career and Adult Education

TO: District Career and Technical Education Directors Florida College System Workforce Administrators District Adult Education Directors Florida College System Adult Education Directors

Via: Chancellor2@fldoe.org

SUBJECT: Rule 6A-14.0303 General Education

Colleagues:

The Department of Education (department) plans to initiate rule development for Rule 6A-14.0303, Florida Administrative Code, General Education Core Course Options. The purpose of the amendment is to align the rule with the new requirement under House Bill (HB) 1507 which specifies that students entering a technical education degree program in the 2022-2023 academic year, and thereafter, must complete at least one identified core course in each subject area as part of the general education course requirements.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the AS General Education workgroup, which was established by the department for colleagues at institutions to provide input and develop recommendations for statewide AS general education requirements. We sincerely appreciate the work and time the group invested in this project and extend a special thanks to the chairs of the workgroup, Sheila Rios and Doug Wymer, and our 21 members representing the Council of Instructional Affairs and the Council on Workforce Education.

The Florida Legislature has a strong interest in promoting workforce education programs, as evidenced by the bills that passed this session. HB 1507 modified two provisions related to general education. It created a digital credential for general education core courses and modified general education for AS programs:

Beginning in the 2022-2023 academic year, students entering a technical degree education program, which is defined in statute as an associate in science or associate in applied science, **must complete at least one identified core course in each subject area** as part of the general education course requirements before a degree is awarded. The amendment brings consistency across associate in science programs and will aid in the development of AS-to-baccalaureate articulation agreements. We welcome opportunities to engage in longer-term discussions regarding the workgroup's second recommendation, which was to expand the general education core course options to include courses more commonly found in AS programs.

The rule workshop will be held on **August 3, 2021, from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM** EDT via webinar. You may register for the workshop at: <u>https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5798680704157860877</u>

Please visit our website for updated information regarding rule development: <u>https://web02.fldoe.org/Rules/Default.aspx</u>

Best,

Henry

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Florida's Workforce Education Initiative