

FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
NOTICE OF PROPOSED NEW REGULATION

DATE: June 22, 2010

REGULATION TITLE AND NUMBER: 8.010 Common Prerequisites

SUMMARY: Regulation 8.010 was approved for public notice for adoption at the June 18, 2010, meeting of the Board of Governors. Common prerequisites were first implemented by the State in 1995. Common prerequisites, lower-division courses that are required for progression into the upper division of baccalaureate degree programs at state universities, ensure that students are prepared for upper-division coursework while providing smooth articulation between State University System and Florida College System institutions and programs. This regulation provides the framework for policy ensuring smooth articulation into baccalaureate programs.

FULL TEXT OF THE REGULATION IS INCLUDED WITH THIS NOTICE.

AUTHORITY TO PROPOSE REGULATION(S): Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; BOG Regulation Development Procedure dated March 23, 2006.

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS' OFFICIAL INITIATING THE PROPOSED REGULATION: Mr. Richard Stevens, Director, Academic and Student Affairs.

COMMENTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED REGULATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE TO THE CONTACT PERSON IDENTIFIED BELOW. The comments must identify the regulation on which you are commenting:

General Counsel, Board of Governors, State University System, 325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1614, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, (850) 245-0466 (phone), (850) 245-9685 (fax), or generalcounsel@flbog.edu.

8.010 Common Prerequisites

(1) A “common prerequisite” (or alternative), as approved by the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC), is a lower-division course that is required for progression into the upper division of a particular baccalaureate degree program (or a specific major within a degree program, if approved separately by the ACC) at any public institution of higher education in Florida. Common prerequisites also apply to graduate degree programs that begin with lower-division coursework and do not require a baccalaureate for admission (e.g., Pharmacy and Audiology). Successful completion of common prerequisites alone does not guarantee a student admission into a specific degree program at a specific institution.

(2) Proposals for common prerequisite courses and acceptable alternatives (including substitute courses or subsets of approved prerequisite courses) for all programs specified in paragraph (1) shall be submitted for approval to the ACC through the Board of Governors Office.

(3) Universities shall adhere to the common prerequisite requirements specified in Regulation 8.011 (3)(a)5a for new degree program proposals.

(4) Each university may indicate a preference for specific courses from a list of ACC-approved common prerequisites and alternatives for progression into the upper division of a program specified in paragraph (1). However, any ACC-approved common prerequisite or alternative shall be accepted by each university offering that program.

(5) A university may choose to allow a student who has not completed all common prerequisites to progress into a program with the expectation that the student will finish the common prerequisites prior to the completion of the program.

(6) Although all lower-division prerequisite courses shall be approved by the ACC, this requirement does not preclude a program’s curriculum from including additional lower-division courses, provided these additional courses are not required for progression into the upper division of the program and can be completed in the second half of the program without extending the program’s curriculum beyond its approved length.

(7) Each university shall designate one faculty or staff member to serve as the primary university common prerequisite liaison between the university and the Board of Governors Office.

(8) Each university that offers one or more programs as specified in paragraph (1) within a discipline cluster as identified by the ACC shall designate a faculty representative to the related cross-sector, statewide common prerequisites discipline committee. Board of Governors staff may request additional members to ensure equal representation from across sectors, as needed. By November 1 of each year, the university liaison shall review information regarding discipline committee membership and notify the Board of Governors Office of any changes.

(9) Each university shall provide, in a form accessible to students, the ACC-approved common prerequisites, acceptable alternatives, and any related minimum grades required for progression into the upper division of its programs as specified in paragraph (1). Each university shall ensure that information provided in the university catalog, on departmental Web sites, in advising tracking/mapping systems, and through other venues includes the same ACC-approved common prerequisite information or a link to that information.

(10) New College of Florida is exempt from the requirements of this regulation due to the unique nature of its curriculum and its special mission to create innovative, highly personalized educational experiences. The College does not use common course codes or have common prerequisites, but is responsible for continuing to work towards smooth transition for transfer students by including transfer information with the published ACC-approved common prerequisite information.

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const., History: New XX-XX-10.