

**FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDED REGULATION**

DATE: September 18, 2024

REGULATION NUMBER AND TITLE: 8.007, Articulation

SUMMARY: Board of Governors Regulation 8.007, Articulation, provides guidance on statewide articulation requirements outlined in sections 1007.23 and 1007.25, Florida Statutes. The regulation also ensures consistency among universities and the Florida College System, providing seamless articulation for students across the two systems.

Board staff propose a comprehensive amendment to Regulation 8.007 to incorporate and address recent legislative changes made during the 2024 Florida Legislative Session, incorporate Regulation 8.010, better organize the regulation, and reduce reporting requirements.

As part of House Bill 1285 in the 2024 Legislative Session, the Legislature established a Specialized Associate in Arts Transfer (SAAT) Degree. The SAAT degrees will allow students to exceed the 60-credit hour statutory limit for the AA degree while maintaining eligibility for financial aid. The proposed amendment recognizes this new specialized degree and aligns with State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.094.

The proposed amendment incorporates provisions of Regulation 8.010, Common Prerequisites, which defines approving and setting alternatives to prerequisites for articulation purposes. Several technical changes were made to the common prerequisite approval process to align with the Florida Department of Education.

The proposed amendment makes several changes to the 2+2 Enhancement Programs. The name of the program is revised to 2+2 Targeted Pathway Articulation Agreements to align with section 1007.23(8), Florida Statutes. The proposed amendment also reduces the reporting requirements on these programs to focus on enrollment and student success.

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: Emily Sikes, Interim Vice Chancellor, 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 St.,
Suite 1614, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, (850) 245-0466 (phone),
(850) 245-9685 (fax), or generalcounsel@flbog.edu.

8.007—Articulation.

- (1) ~~Each board of trustees shall plan and adopt policies and procedures to provide articulated programs so students can proceed toward their educational objectives as rapidly as their circumstances permit.~~
- (2) ~~General education.~~
 - (a) ~~Regulation 6.017 requires the completion of 36 semester hours of general education courses in communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences. Specific general education core requirements are found in Regulation 8.005. Students entering the State University System (SUS) in the 2024-2025 academic year and thereafter shall be advised of the mathematics pathway that aligns with the mathematics skills needed for success in the corresponding academic programs aligned to their career goals. The three mathematics pathways include algebra through calculus, statistical reasoning, and mathematical thinking in context.~~
 - (b) ~~After an SUS or Florida College System (FCS) institution has published its general education curriculum, the integrity of that curriculum shall be accepted by other Florida public postsecondary institutions. Once the full general education requirement is certified on the official transcript as being satisfactorily completed, no SUS institution may require any further general education coursework.~~
 - (c) ~~Certain degree programs may expect students to complete specified course(s) that meet both general education and program common prerequisite requirements. Students and advisors should plan early so that students do not run the risk of acquiring excess hours.~~
 - (d) ~~If a student does not complete the general education curriculum before they transfer, the student must meet the general education requirements of the receiving institution, consistent with section 1007.25, Florida Statutes.~~
- (3) ~~Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree.~~
 - (a) ~~An associate in arts degree from an SUS institution shall include, for purposes of articulation consistent with section 1007.23, Florida Statutes:~~
 1. ~~Completion of 60 semester hours of college credit courses in an established program of study that includes a general education curriculum of 36 semester hours of college credit in communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.~~
 2. ~~Competence in civic literacy pursuant to section 1007.25, Florida Statutes.~~
 3. ~~Completion of the foreign language admission requirement pursuant to Regulations 6.002 and 6.004.~~
 - (b) ~~Nothing herein shall prevent an SUS institution from denying admission or continued enrollment based on an applicant's past misconduct, both on or off-campus, or when past actions were found to disrupt or interfere with the orderly conduct, processes, functions, or programs at any other postsecondary institution.~~

- ~~(c) Every associate in arts graduate of an FCS or SUS institution shall be granted admission to the upper division of a public postsecondary institution consistent with section 1007.23, Florida Statutes. Admission to the student's preferred public postsecondary institution or program is not guaranteed. Additional requirements may be required for admission to specialized admissions degree programs.~~
- ~~(d) State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.030(2), Florida Administrative Code, defines an associate in arts degree earned at an FCS institution (A copy of the rule may be viewed at <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?title=COMMUNITY%20COLLEGE&ID=6A-14.030>).~~
- ~~(e) SUS institutions shall recognize that an FCS associate in arts graduate meets SUS foreign language admission and civic literacy graduation requirements if their official FCS postsecondary transcript reflects the student satisfied those requirements.~~
- ~~(f) Each SUS institution shall allow FCS associate in arts degree graduates to continue to earn additional credits at the FCS institution, provided that the following is met.~~
- ~~1. The course is the same prefix and course number as a course listed by the SUS institution as required for the degree or as a course prerequisite for a required course for the degree.~~
 - ~~2. Students must meet the same minimum grade requirements as the course grade minimums required of native students.~~
 - ~~3. The earning of such credit does not conflict with the SUS institution's residency requirements in the final semesters.~~
- ~~(g) Students may apply for an associate in arts degree through two different options. Some students may meet the requirements for both options and be able to choose the avenue for possibly receiving the degree. Students may not, however, receive an A.A. degree from both the SUS and the home FCS institution.~~
- ~~1. Associate in arts degree awarded at a SUS institution:

 - ~~1. Students are informed of the criteria and process for requesting an associate in arts degree at new student orientation and in individual advising sessions.~~
 - ~~2. Eligible students who stop out, do not re-enroll, and become inactive at the institution may meet the requirements of subsection (3)(a) above. Beginning with students enrolled at the SUS institution in the 2018-2019 academic year and thereafter, those who do not re-enroll at the institution the subsequent fall shall receive specific instructions from the SUS institution on how to apply for an A.A. degree.~~~~
 - ~~2. Associate in arts degree awarded to FCS transfer students by the awarding FCS institution through the reverse transfer of credit earned at the SUS institution:

 - ~~1. SUS students who transfer more than 30 semester hours from a single FCS institution are notified about being eligible to receive an associate in arts degree at their home FCS institution if the student has earned at~~~~

~~least a combined total of 60 semester hours, including the 30 or more semester hours from the home FCS institution with an overall cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher.~~

- ~~2. SUS institutions must notify transfer students meeting the subsection (3)(g)(2) requirements above of their possible eligibility to receive an associate in arts degree from their home FCS institution. Students must consent to the sharing of information from the SUS institution to their home FCS institution regarding this option. If consent is given, SUS institutions must inform the appropriate FCS institution about the student's interest in receiving an A.A. degree and provide any applicable information.~~

~~(4) Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree. The associate in science degree earned by FCS students is defined in Rule 6A-14.030, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to Rule 6A-14.030, the A.S. degree consists of lower-division college credit courses to prepare for entry into employment. It is a transfer degree and basis for admission to a related baccalaureate degree.~~

- ~~(a) Courses taken as part of the associate in science degree at an FCS institution to meet the general education requirements will transfer and apply toward the 36 general education semester hours required for the baccalaureate degree. No additional general education semester hours can be required except to complete the total 36 general education hours. Beginning in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter, students entering a technical degree education program as defined in section 1004.02(13), Florida Statutes, 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. Such credit earned shall transfer as meeting general education core coursework for the baccalaureate degree.~~
- ~~(b) Capstone and Career Ladder Degree Articulation Agreements provide for the acceptance of a specific associate in science degree from any FCS institution. A career ladder agreement integrates specific associate in science degree programs with identified baccalaureate degree programs statewide.~~
- ~~(c) The SUS shall work through the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) to establish appropriate statewide associate in science to baccalaureate degree program articulation agreements and recommend revisions consistent with board policies. The ACC, the State Board of Education, and the Board of Governors must approve final statewide agreements before implementation.~~

~~(5) 2+2 Enhancement Programs. Pursuant to section 1007.23, Florida Statutes, SUS institutions must partner with at least one FCS institution in providing 2+2 targeted program(s) specifically designed to strengthen Florida's 2+2 system of articulation and to improve student retention and on-time graduation. SUS institutions shall:~~

- ~~(a) Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with individual FCS partner(s) detailing the components of the 2+2 Enhancement Program, including academic transition, campus cultural transition, administrative oversight,~~

and data support, as appropriate.

~~(b) Conduct a biennial review of each Enhancement Program, starting in 2020, using the State University System Rubric for Self-Evaluation for Effective 2+2 Enhancement Programs.~~

~~1. Make appropriate adjustments to the program if possible.~~

~~2. Submit the completed rubric(s) to the Board of Governors' office by March 1. The SUS institution shall provide the name(s) and contact information of the individual(s) who can provide details about the enhancement program(s) to the Board.~~

~~(6) College Credit for Law Enforcement Training and Experience~~

~~(a) For purposes of this regulation, the following definitions apply. Law enforcement officer is defined in section 943.10(1), Florida Statutes. Law enforcement training and experience is defined by section 1004.0981, Florida Statutes.~~

~~(b) The Board of Governors shall consider for approval the annual *Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit for Law Enforcement Training and Experience List* for use by SUS institutions in evaluating law enforcement experience for postsecondary credit.~~

~~(c) College credit will be granted to students with law enforcement experience in accordance with the standard process and considerations outlined in the *Articulation Coordinating Committee Policy Regarding the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Law Enforcement Training and Experience*.~~

~~1. SUS institutions must award postsecondary credit for law enforcement training and experience based on the *Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit for Law Enforcement Training and Experience List* adopted by the Board of Governors.~~

~~2. The equivalency list that is in effect at the time of a student's evaluation shall be used in determining the credit awarded.~~

~~3. SUS institutions must first apply any credit from law enforcement training and experience to satisfying general education and degree requirements before applying the course credit as elective credit.~~

~~4. Transfer credit awarded by a Florida public postsecondary degree-granting institution applicable to the student's major shall be accepted, subject to the receiving institution's limit on the amount and level of transfer credit allowed for a given degree. Credits awarded by all other postsecondary institutions shall be accepted if those credits are consistent with the current *Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit for Law Enforcement Training and Experience Equivalency List*.~~

~~(d) Each university shall provide a link to the process for receiving credit from law enforcement training and experience and the credit equivalencies in its catalog and on the appropriate university website.~~

~~(7) Each SUS institution shall provide the name and contact information of the faculty or staff member(s) who will be the initial contact for articulation issues, including articulation issues brought forth by the Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC). Each institution~~

shall work with FLVC to provide timely and accurate information necessary for the promotion of articulation to students, parents, academic advisors, and other interested parties.

~~(8) Each SUS institution shall maintain the electronic exchange of student transcripts between other SUS institutions, FGS institutions, and the Department of Education and utilize the Florida Automated System for Transferring Educational Records (FASTER) or another system that converts educational records into a compatible format.~~

~~(9) All SUS institutions, except for New College of Florida, shall enter all postsecondary college credit courses in the Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS). The SCNS uses a course designation that consists of a three-letter prefix and a four-digit number. Courses with the same academic content that are taught by faculty with comparable credentials are given the same prefix and number (i.e., the last three digits of the number). The credit awarded for these equivalent courses will satisfy the receiving institution's requirements on the same basis as credits awarded to native students. Participating postsecondary institutions receiving transfer course credit must accept and apply general education courses and credit in accordance with section 1007.25, Florida Statutes, and other provisions of law, including credit earned through dual enrollment, course equivalencies, and other acceleration mechanisms, as first satisfying general education core course credit requirements and other general education subject area course credit requirements before applying the course credit as elective credit. Institutions must refer to the *Florida Statewide Course Numbering System Handbook* for exceptions to the policy. New College of Florida is exempt from this requirement due to the unique nature of its curriculum and its special mission to create innovative, highly personalized educational experiences. New College of Florida must, however, recognize the academic integrity of SCNS credit and award equivalent and appropriate credit as earned.~~

8.007 Articulation

- (1) Each board of trustees shall adopt regulations and policies to facilitate seamless articulation consistent with Florida Statutes and Board of Governors' regulations.
- (2) Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS)
 - (a) All state universities shall enter all college credit courses into the SCNS.
 - (b) Courses in SCNS that transferred from another institution will satisfy the receiving institution's requirements on the same basis as credit awarded to native students.
 - (c) Participating SCNS institutions receiving transfer course credit must accept and apply courses first to general education requirements, then to other degree requirements, prioritizing those that will help the student satisfy the most required components of the program.
- (3) Common Prerequisites
 - (a) Common prerequisites are lower-division courses that have been approved by the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) and are required for progression into the upper division of a particular baccalaureate program.
 - (b) Proposals for common prerequisites and acceptable alternatives, including substitute courses, must be approved by the university board of trustees prior to submitting to the Chancellor or designee for ACC approval.
 1. All ACC-approved common prerequisite courses, alternative courses, or substitutions shall be accepted by each university offering the degree or program.
 - (c) Program curriculum may require other lower division courses as a condition of graduation, but only courses approved by the ACC as common prerequisites can be considered for admission to the upper division of the program.
 - (d) Each state university shall provide students with the ACC-approved common prerequisites, acceptable alternatives, and all other requirements for admission to the upper division of a baccalaureate program.
 - (e) Successful completion of common prerequisites alone does not guarantee a student admission to a particular degree program at a particular state university.
- (4) Associate in Arts (AA) Degrees and Statewide Articulation
 - (a) State universities may award a student an AA degree pursuant to Section 1007.25, Florida Statutes. An AA degree awarded by a state university shall be afforded the same articulation provisions as an AA degree awarded by a Florida College System (FCS) institution.

- (b) A student may also be awarded an AA degree from an FCS institution through the reverse transfer of credit earned at a state university pursuant to Section 1007.23(9), Florida Statutes.
- (c) Students with AA degrees from an FCS institution shall be granted admission to the upper division of a particular baccalaureate program at a state university. However, admission to a preferred university or program cannot be guaranteed, and some programs, such as those approved for specialized admission, may have additional requirements for admission.

(5) Specialized Associate in Arts Transfer (SAAT) Degrees

- (a) SAAT degrees are specialized AA degrees that will allow for a seamless transfer into specific university degree programs that require an AA degree-seeking student to go beyond the sixty credit hours required for the general AA degree for admission to specific baccalaureate degree programs as defined in State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.094, Florida Administrative Code.
- (b) State universities may enter into articulation agreements with FCS institutions to provide an articulation pathway for students enrolled in SAAT programs.
- (c) State universities shall notify the Chancellor or designee in writing when executing a new SAAT articulation agreement, and when modifying or terminating an existing agreement.
- (d) State universities shall annually report the student enrollment and number of graduates from SAAT degree programs to the Board of Governors' Office.

(6) 2+2 Targeted Pathway Articulation Agreements

- (a) Each state university shall partner with at least one FCS institution to develop a 2+2 targeted pathway agreement to provide admission pathways for students into specific programs.
- (b) State universities shall notify the Chancellor or designee in writing when executing a new 2+2 targeted pathway articulation agreement, and when modifying or terminating an existing agreement.
- (c) State universities shall annually report student enrollment and number of graduates from 2+2 targeted pathway programs to the Board of Governors' Office.

(7) Associate in Science Degree (AS)

- (a) The AS degree is defined in State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.030, Florida Administrative Code.
- (b) State universities may partner with FCS institutions to develop AS to baccalaureate degree articulation agreements. Such agreements shall be

consistent with Florida Statutes and Board of Governors' regulation and must be approved by the ACC.

(8) College Credit for Law Enforcement Training and Experience

- (a) State universities shall award credit for the prior training and experience of law enforcement personnel pursuant to the *Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit for Law Enforcement Training and Experience List* adopted by the Board of Governors.
- (b) The equivalency list in effect at the time of a student's evaluation shall be used for determining the credit awarded. Nothing in this regulation shall preclude a university from offering students a petition process for an additional review should additional equivalencies be added to the list.
- (c) Universities shall prioritize awarding credit that meets general education and degree requirements before applying credit to degree electives.
- (d) Transfer credit awarded by a Florida public postsecondary institution applicable to the student's degree shall be accepted. However, the credit awarded is subject to the receiving institution's limit on the amount and level of transfer credit allowed for a given degree.
- (e) Each university shall provide information on its website regarding the process for receiving credit from law enforcement training and experience.

(9) Each state university shall maintain the electronic exchange of student transcripts between other Florida public postsecondary institutions and the Florida Department of Education using the Florida Automated System for Transferring Educational Records (FASTER) or another system that converts educational records into a compatible format.

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; Sections 1001.92, 1004.0981, 1007.23, 1007.24, 1007.25, Florida Statutes; History: New 05-05-20, Amended: 03-23-21, 08-26-22, 08-30-23, XX-XX-XXXX.