

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to postsecondary education; amending s.
3 1004.04, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the
4 College-Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST); amending s.
5 1004.68, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the use of
6 test scores for assessment of college-level communication
7 and computation skills; amending s. 1007.01, F.S.;
8 providing legislative intent and requirements relating to
9 articulation; requiring the establishment of the
10 Articulating Coordinating Committee and providing its
11 responsibilities; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; deleting
12 provisions relating to the CLAST and authorized
13 examinations that demonstrate mastery of certain academic
14 competencies; revising degree requirements; amending ss.
15 1007.264 and 1007.265, F.S.; deleting provisions that
16 exclude students with intellectual disabilities from
17 eligibility for substitute requirements for admission to
18 or graduation from a public postsecondary educational
19 institution; amending s. 1008.30, F.S.; revising
20 requirements of the common placement testing program;
21 requiring access to approved remedial instruction;
22 requiring rules for remediation opportunities, retesting,
23 and academic competencies; requiring that students be
24 advised of academic requirements, financial aid
25 eligibility, and certain costs; amending s. 1008.345,
26 F.S.; deleting Department of Education duties relating to
27 tests and assessment procedures that measure student
28 achievement of college-level communication and computation

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skills; amending s. 1008.38, F.S.; revising and conforming provisions relating to the articulation process; amending s. 1009.534, F.S.; revising provisions relating to approval of community service work for eligibility for the Florida Academic Scholars award; amending ss. 467.009 and 1012.56, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the CLAST; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 1004.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.04 Public accountability and state approval for teacher preparation programs.—

(4) INITIAL STATE PROGRAM APPROVAL.—

(b) Each teacher preparation program approved by the Department of Education, as provided for by this section, shall require students to meet the following as prerequisites for admission into the program:

1. Have a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale for the general education component of undergraduate studies or have completed the requirements for a baccalaureate degree with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale from any college or university accredited by a regional accrediting association as defined by State Board of Education rule or any college or university otherwise approved pursuant to State Board of Education rule.

2. Demonstrate mastery of general knowledge, including the

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57 ability to read, write, and compute, by passing the General
58 Knowledge Test of the Florida Teacher Certification Examination,
59 ~~the College Level Academic Skills Test,~~ a corresponding
60 component of the National Teachers Examination series, or a
61 similar test pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education.
62

63 Each teacher preparation program may waive these admissions
64 requirements for up to 10 percent of the students admitted.
65 Programs shall implement strategies to ensure that students
66 admitted under a waiver receive assistance to demonstrate
67 competencies to successfully meet requirements for
68 certification.

69 Section 2. Section 1004.68, Florida Statutes, is amended
70 to read:

71 1004.68 Community college; degrees and certificates; ~~tests~~
72 ~~for certain skills.~~—

73 ~~(1)~~ Each community college board of trustees shall adopt
74 rules establishing student performance standards for the award
75 of degrees and certificates.

76 ~~(2) Each community college board of trustees shall require~~
77 ~~the use of scores on tests for college-level communication and~~
78 ~~computation skills provided in s. 1008.345(7) as a condition for~~
79 ~~graduation with an associate in arts degree.~~

80 Section 3. Section 1007.01, Florida Statutes, is amended
81 to read:

82 1007.01 Articulation; legislative intent; purpose; role of
83 the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors;
84 articulation coordinating committee.—

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85 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to facilitate
86 articulation and seamless integration of the K-20 education
87 system by building, ~~and~~ sustaining, and strengthening
88 relationships among K-20 public organizations, between public
89 and private organizations, and between the education system as a
90 whole and Florida's communities. The purpose of building, ~~and~~
91 sustaining, and strengthening these relationships is to provide
92 for the efficient and effective progression and transfer of
93 students within the education system and to allow students to
94 proceed toward their educational objectives as rapidly as their
95 circumstances permit. The Legislature further intends that
96 articulation policies and budget actions be implemented
97 consistently in the practices of the Department of Education and
98 postsecondary educational institutions and expressed in the
99 collaborative policy efforts of the State Board of Education and
100 the Board of Governors.

101 (2) To improve and facilitate articulation systemwide, the
102 State Board of Education and the Board of Governors shall
103 collaboratively establish ~~recommend~~ policies and guidelines ~~to~~
104 ~~the Legislature~~ with input from statewide K-20 advisory groups
105 established by the Commissioner of Education and the Chancellor
106 of the State University System and shall recommend the policies
107 and guidelines to the Legislature. The policies and guidelines
108 shall relate ~~relating~~ to:

109 (a) The alignment between the exit requirements of one
110 system and the admissions requirements of another system into
111 which students typically transfer.

112 (b) The identification of common courses, the level of

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113 courses, institutional participation in a statewide course
114 numbering system, and the transferability of credits among such
115 institutions.

116 (c) Identification of courses that meet general education
117 or common degree program prerequisite requirements at public
118 postsecondary educational institutions.

119 (d) Dual enrollment course equivalencies.

120 (e) Articulation agreements.

121 (3) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with
122 the Chancellor of the State University System, shall establish
123 the Articulation Coordinating Committee, which shall report to
124 the commissioner. The committee shall be a K-20 advisory group
125 that consists of members representing the State University
126 System, the Florida College System, public career and technical
127 education, public K-12 education, and nonpublic education, with
128 at least one member representing students. The commissioner
129 shall appoint a chair from the membership. The committee shall:

130 (a) Propose monitoring, compliance, and reporting systems
131 to facilitate and ensure institutional compliance with state
132 articulation policies.

133 (b) Propose guidelines for interinstitutional agreements
134 between and among public schools, career and technical education
135 centers, Florida College System institutions, and state
136 universities.

137 (c) Establish groups of public and nonpublic educational
138 institution representatives to facilitate articulation.

139 (d) Conduct a continuing review of statewide articulation
140 statutes, rules, regulations, and agreements and make

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141 recommendations to the State Board of Education and the Board of
142 Governors for revisions.

143 (e) Review the application of transfer credit requirements
144 from public and nonpublic institutions participating in the
145 statewide course numbering system, including, but not limited
146 to, instances of student transfer and admissions difficulties.

147 (f) Examine statewide data regarding articulation,
148 recommend resolutions for issues, and propose programmatic and
149 budget policies and procedures to improve articulation
150 throughout the K-20 education system.

151 (g) Recommend roles and responsibilities of public
152 education entities in interfacing with the single, statewide
153 computer-assisted student advising system established pursuant
154 to s. 1007.28, including, but not limited to, functionality
155 requirements, data needs, and appropriate reporting timelines.

156 Section 4. Subsection (12) of section 1007.25, Florida
157 Statutes, is amended to read:

158 1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites;
159 ~~and~~ other degree requirements.—

160 (12) ~~(a)~~ A public postsecondary educational institution may
161 not confer an associate in arts or baccalaureate degree upon any
162 student who fails to ~~successfully complete one of the following~~
163 ~~requirements:~~

164 ~~1. Achieve a score that meets or exceeds a minimum score~~
165 ~~on a nationally standardized examination, as established by the~~
166 ~~State Board of Education in conjunction with the Board of~~
167 ~~Governors; or~~

168 ~~2. demonstrate successful mastery remediation of any~~

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169 academic competencies ~~deficiencies~~ and achieve a cumulative
170 grade point average of 2.0 ~~2.5~~ or above, on a 4.0 scale, in
171 postsecondary-level coursework identified by the State Board of
172 Education in conjunction with the Board of Governors. ~~The~~
173 ~~Department of Education shall specify the means by which a~~
174 ~~student may demonstrate successful remediation.~~

175 ~~(b) Any student who, in the best professional opinion of~~
176 ~~the postsecondary educational institution, has a specific~~
177 ~~learning disability such that the student cannot demonstrate~~
178 ~~successful mastery of one or more of the authorized examinations~~
179 ~~but is achieving at the college level in every area despite his~~
180 ~~or her disability, and whose diagnosis indicates that further~~
181 ~~remediation will not succeed in overcoming the disability, may~~
182 ~~appeal through the appropriate dean to a committee appointed by~~
183 ~~the president or the chief academic officer for special~~
184 ~~consideration. The committee shall examine the evidence of the~~
185 ~~student's academic and medical records and may hear testimony~~
186 ~~relevant to the case. The committee may grant a waiver for one~~
187 ~~or more of the authorized examinations based on the results of~~
188 ~~its review.~~

189 ~~(c) Each public postsecondary educational institution~~
190 ~~president shall establish a committee to consider requests for~~
191 ~~waivers from the requirements in paragraph (a). The committee~~
192 ~~shall be chaired by the chief academic officer of the~~
193 ~~institution and shall have four additional members appointed by~~
194 ~~the president as follows:~~

- 195 ~~1. One faculty member from the mathematics department;~~
- 196 ~~2. One faculty member from the English department;~~

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197 ~~3. The institutional test administrator; and~~
198 ~~4. One faculty member from a department other than English~~
199 ~~or mathematics.~~

200 ~~(d) Any student who has taken the authorized examinations~~
201 ~~and has not achieved a passing score, but has otherwise~~
202 ~~demonstrated proficiency in coursework in the same subject area,~~
203 ~~may request a waiver from the examination requirement. Waivers~~
204 ~~shall be considered only after students have been provided test~~
205 ~~accommodations or other administrative adjustments to permit the~~
206 ~~accurate measurement of the student's proficiency in the subject~~
207 ~~areas measured by the authorized examinations. The committee~~
208 ~~shall consider the student's educational records and other~~
209 ~~evidence as to whether the student should be able to pass the~~
210 ~~authorized examinations. A waiver may be recommended to the~~
211 ~~president upon a majority vote of the committee. The president~~
212 ~~may approve or disapprove the recommendation. The president may~~
213 ~~not approve a request that the committee has disapproved. If a~~
214 ~~waiver is approved, the student's transcript shall include a~~
215 ~~statement that the student did not meet the requirements of this~~
216 ~~subsection and that a waiver was granted.~~

217 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1007.264, Florida
218 Statutes, is amended to read:

219 1007.264 Persons with disabilities; admission to
220 postsecondary educational institutions; substitute requirements;
221 rules and regulations.—

222 (1) Any student with a disability, as defined in s.
223 1007.02(2), who is otherwise eligible ~~except those students who~~
224 ~~have been documented as having intellectual disabilities,~~ shall

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be eligible for reasonable substitution for any requirement for admission into a public postsecondary educational institution where documentation can be provided that the person's failure to meet the admission requirement is related to the disability.

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 1007.265, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1007.265 Persons with disabilities; graduation, study program admission, and upper-division entry; substitute requirements; rules and regulations.—

(1) Any student with a disability, as defined in s. 1007.02(2), in a public postsecondary educational institution, ~~except those students who have been documented as having intellectual disabilities,~~ shall be eligible for reasonable substitution for any requirement for graduation, for admission into a program of study, or for entry into the upper division where documentation can be provided that the person's failure to meet the requirement is related to the disability and where failure to meet the graduation requirement or program admission requirement does not constitute a fundamental alteration in the nature of the program.

Section 7. Subsections (2) and (3) and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 1008.30, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1008.30 Common placement testing for public postsecondary education.—

(2) The common placement testing program shall include ~~at a minimum~~ the following: the capacity to diagnose basic competencies in the areas of English, reading, and mathematics

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253 which are essential to perform college-level work; an assessment
254 of prerequisite skills that relate to progressively advanced
255 instruction in mathematics and, ~~such as algebra and geometry;~~
256 ~~prerequisite skills that relate to progressively advanced~~
257 ~~instruction in language arts, such as English composition and~~
258 ~~literature; prerequisite skills which relate to the College~~
259 ~~Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST);~~ and provision of specific
260 ~~test~~ information to students on skill ~~the specific~~ deficiencies.
261 The State Board of Education shall establish by rule the test
262 scores a student must achieve to demonstrate readiness.

263 (3) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules that
264 require high schools to evaluate before the beginning of grade
265 12 the college readiness of each student who indicates an
266 interest in postsecondary education and scores at Level 2 or
267 Level 3 on the reading portion of the grade 10 FCAT or Level 2,
268 Level 3, or Level 4 on the mathematics assessments under s.
269 1008.22(3)(c). High schools shall perform this evaluation using
270 results from the corresponding component of the common placement
271 test prescribed in this section, or an equivalent test
272 identified by the State Board of Education. The Department of
273 Education shall adopt ~~purchase~~ or develop the assessments
274 necessary to perform the evaluations required by this subsection
275 and shall work with the school districts to administer the
276 assessments. ~~The State Board of Education shall establish by~~
277 ~~rule the minimum test scores a student must achieve to~~
278 ~~demonstrate readiness.~~ Students who demonstrate readiness by
279 achieving the minimum test scores established by the state board
280 and enroll in a community college within 2 years after ~~of~~

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281 achieving such scores shall not be required to enroll in
282 remediation courses as a condition of acceptance to any
283 community college. The high school shall use the results of the
284 test to advise the students of any identified deficiencies and
285 ~~to the maximum extent practicable~~ provide 12th grade students
286 access to approved ~~appropriate~~ remedial instruction prior to
287 high school graduation. The remedial instruction provided under
288 this subsection shall be a collaborative effort between
289 secondary and postsecondary educational institutions, as
290 prescribed by State Board of Education rule. To the extent
291 courses are available, the Florida Virtual School may be used to
292 provide the remedial instruction required by this subsection.
293 Students who demonstrate readiness through successful completion
294 of the approved remedial instruction are eligible to repeat the
295 common placement test prior to high school graduation.

296 (4) (a) ~~Public postsecondary educational institution~~
297 Students who have been identified as requiring additional
298 preparation pursuant to subsection (1) shall enroll in college-
299 preparatory or other adult education pursuant to s. 1004.93 in
300 community colleges to develop needed college-entry skills. The
301 State Board of Education shall specify by rule provisions for
302 alternative remediation opportunities and retesting policies.
303 These students shall be permitted to take courses within their
304 degree program concurrently in other curriculum areas for which
305 they are qualified while enrolled in college-preparatory
306 instruction courses. A student enrolled in a college-preparatory
307 course may concurrently enroll only in college credit courses
308 that do not require the skills addressed in the college-

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309 preparatory course. ~~The State Board of Education, in conjunction~~
310 ~~with the Board of Governors, shall specify the college credit~~
311 ~~courses that are acceptable for students enrolled in each~~
312 ~~college-preparatory skill area.~~ A degree-seeking student ~~who~~
313 ~~wishes to earn an associate in arts or a baccalaureate degree,~~
314 ~~but~~ who is required to complete a college-preparatory course,
315 must successfully complete the required college-preparatory
316 studies by the time the student has accumulated 12 hours of
317 lower-division college credit degree coursework; however, a
318 student may continue enrollment in degree-earning coursework
319 provided the student maintains enrollment in college-preparatory
320 coursework for each subsequent semester until college-
321 preparatory coursework requirements are completed, and provided
322 the student demonstrates satisfactory performance in degree-
323 earning coursework. A student who has accumulated 12 college
324 credit hours and has not yet demonstrated proficiency in the
325 basic competency areas of reading, writing, and mathematics must
326 be advised in writing of the requirements for associate degree
327 completion and state university admission, including information
328 about future financial aid eligibility and the potential costs
329 of accumulating excessive college credit as described in s.
330 1009.286. ~~A passing score on a standardized, institutionally~~
331 ~~developed test must be achieved~~ Before a student is considered
332 to have met basic computation and communication skills
333 requirements, the student must demonstrate successful mastery of
334 the required developmental education competencies as defined in
335 State Board of Education rule; ~~however, no student shall be~~
336 ~~required to retake any test or subtest that was previously~~

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337 ~~passed by said student.~~ Credit awarded for college-preparatory
338 instruction may not be counted toward fulfilling the number of
339 credits required for a degree.

340 Section 8. Subsection (7) of section 1008.345, Florida
341 Statutes, is amended to read:

342 1008.345 Implementation of state system of school
343 improvement and education accountability.—

344 (7) As a part of the system of educational accountability,
345 the Department of Education shall:

346 (a) Develop minimum standards for various grades and
347 subject areas, as required in ss. 1001.03, 1008.22, and 1008.34.

348 (b) Administer the statewide assessment testing program
349 created by s. 1008.22.

350 (c) Review the school advisory councils of each district
351 as required by s. 1001.452.

352 (d) Conduct the program evaluations required by s.
353 1001.03.

354 (e) Maintain a listing of college-level communication and
355 mathematics skills ~~defined pursuant to s. 1008.29 as being~~
356 associated with successful student performance through the
357 baccalaureate level and submit it to the State Board of
358 Education and the Board of Governors for approval.

359 ~~(f) Maintain a listing of tests and other assessment~~
360 ~~procedures which measure and diagnose student achievement of~~
361 ~~college-level communication and computation skills and submit it~~
362 ~~to the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors for~~
363 ~~approval.~~

364 ~~(g) Maintain for the information of the State Board of~~

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Education, the Board of Governors, and the Legislature a file of data to reflect achievement of college-level communication and mathematics competencies by students in state universities and community colleges.

~~(h) Develop or contract for, and submit to the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors for approval, tests which measure and diagnose student achievement of college-level communication and mathematics skills. Any tests and related documents developed are exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). The commissioner shall maintain statewide responsibility for the administration of such tests and may assign administrative responsibilities for the tests to any state university or community college. The state board, upon recommendation of the commissioner, may enter into contracts for such services beginning in one fiscal year and continuing into the next year which are paid from the appropriation for either or both fiscal years.~~

(f)~~(i)~~ Perform any other functions that may be involved in educational planning, research, and evaluation or that may be required by the commissioner, the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors, or law.

Section 9. Subsections (4) and (6) of section 1008.38, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1008.38 Articulation accountability process.—The State Board of Education, in conjunction with the Board of Governors, shall develop articulation accountability measures which assess the status of systemwide articulation processes authorized under s. 1007.23 and establish an articulation accountability process

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which at a minimum shall address:

(4) The smooth transfer of Florida College System
~~community college~~ associate ~~in arts~~ degree graduates to a
Florida College System institution or a state university.

(6) The relationship between student attainment of
college-level ~~the College Level~~ academic skills ~~Test Program~~ and
articulation to the upper division in public postsecondary
institutions.

Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 1009.534, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.—

(1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars
award if the student meets the general eligibility requirements
for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and the
student:

(a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as
calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or its equivalent, in high
school courses that are designated by the State Board of
Education as college-preparatory academic courses; and has
attained at least the score pursuant to s. 1009.531(6)(a) on the
combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic
Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered
Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination,
or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

(b) Has attended a home education program according to s.
1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 or has completed the
International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the
International Baccalaureate Diploma or has completed the

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Advanced International Certificate of Education curriculum but failed to earn the Advanced International Certificate of Education Diploma, and has attained at least the score pursuant to s. 1009.531(6)(a) on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

(c) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office or an Advanced International Certificate of Education Diploma from the University of Cambridge International Examinations Office;

(d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a scholar or finalist; or

(e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Program as a scholar recipient.

A student must complete a program of community service work, as approved by the district school board, ~~or~~ the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home school students, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service work and require the student to identify a social problem that interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.

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448 Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 467.009, Florida
449 Statutes, is amended to read:

450 467.009 Midwifery programs; education and training
451 requirements.—

452 (3) To be accepted into an approved midwifery program, an
453 applicant shall have:

454 (a) A high school diploma or its equivalent.

455 (b) ~~Passed the college level academic scholastic test~~
456 ~~(CLAST) or~~ Taken three college-level credits each of math and
457 English or demonstrated competencies in communication and
458 computation.

459 Section 12. Subsection (3) of section 1012.56, Florida
460 Statutes, is amended to read:

461 1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

462 (3) MASTERY OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.—Acceptable means of
463 demonstrating mastery of general knowledge are:

464 (a) Achievement of passing scores on basic skills
465 examination required by state board rule;

466 ~~(b) Achievement of passing scores on the College Level~~
467 ~~Academic Skills Test earned prior to July 1, 2002;~~

468 (b) ~~(e)~~ A valid professional standard teaching certificate
469 issued by another state;

470 (c) ~~(d)~~ A valid certificate issued by the National Board
471 for Professional Teaching Standards or a national educator
472 credentialing board approved by the State Board of Education; or

473 (d) ~~(e)~~ Documentation of two semesters of successful
474 teaching in a community college, state university, or private
475 college or university that awards an associate or higher degree

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476 | and is an accredited institution or an institution of higher
477 | education identified by the Department of Education as having a
478 | quality program.

479 | Section 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.