

By Senator Oelrich

14-01050-11

20111194__

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

14-01050-11

20111194__

college-level communication and computation 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.

14-01050-11

20111194

2. Demonstrate mastery of general knowledge, including the ability to read, write, and compute, by passing the General Knowledge Test of the Florida Teacher Certification Examination, ~~the College Level Academic Skills Test,~~ a corresponding component of the National Teachers Examination series, or a similar test pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education.

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

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

1004.68 Community college; degrees and certificates; ~~tests for certain skills.-~~

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

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

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

1007.01 Articulation; legislative intent; purpose; role of the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors; articulation coordinating committee.-

14-01050-11

20111194__

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

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

112 (a) The alignment between the exit requirements of one
113 system and the admissions requirements of another system into
114 which students typically transfer.

115 (b) The identification of common courses, the level of
116 courses, institutional participation in a statewide course

14-01050-11

20111194

117 numbering system, and the transferability of credits among such
118 institutions.

119 (c) Identification of courses that meet general education
120 or common degree program prerequisite requirements at public
121 postsecondary educational institutions.

122 (d) Dual enrollment course equivalencies.

123 (e) Articulation agreements.

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

133 (a) Propose monitoring, compliance, and reporting systems
134 to facilitate and ensure institutional compliance with state
135 articulation policies.

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

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

142 (d) Conduct a continuing review of statewide articulation
143 statutes, rules, regulations, and agreements and make
144 recommendations to the State Board of Education and the Board of
145 Governors for revisions.

14-01050-11

20111194

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~2. demonstrate successful mastery remediation of any academic competencies deficiencies and achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 2.5 or above, on a 4.0 scale, in postsecondary-level coursework identified by the State Board of~~

14-01050-11

20111194__

175 Education in conjunction with the Board of Governors. The
176 ~~Department of Education shall specify the means by which a~~
177 ~~student may demonstrate successful remediation.~~

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

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

- 198 ~~1. One faculty member from the mathematics department;~~
199 ~~2. One faculty member from the English department;~~
200 ~~3. The institutional test administrator; and~~
201 ~~4. One faculty member from a department other than English~~
202 ~~or mathematics.~~

203 ~~(d) Any student who has taken the authorized examinations~~

14-01050-11

20111194__

and has not achieved a passing score, but has otherwise demonstrated proficiency in coursework in the same subject area, may request a waiver from the examination requirement. Waivers shall be considered only after students have been provided test accommodations or other administrative adjustments to permit the accurate measurement of the student's proficiency in the subject areas measured by the authorized examinations. The committee shall consider the student's educational records and other evidence as to whether the student should be able to pass the authorized examinations. A waiver may be recommended to the president upon a majority vote of the committee. The president may approve or disapprove the recommendation. The president may not approve a request that the committee has disapproved. If a waiver is approved, the student's transcript shall include a statement that the student did not meet the requirements of this subsection and that a waiver was granted.

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

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

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

14-01050-11

20111194__

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 which are essential to perform college-level work; an assessment of prerequisite skills that relate to progressively advanced instruction in mathematics and, ~~such as algebra and geometry;~~ ~~prerequisite skills that relate to progressively advanced instruction in language arts, such as English composition and literature; prerequisite skills which relate to the College~~

14-01050-11

20111194__

~~Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST);~~ and provision of specific
~~test~~ information to students on skill ~~the specific~~ deficiencies.
The State Board of Education shall establish by rule the test
scores a student must achieve to demonstrate readiness.

(3) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules that
require high schools to evaluate before the beginning of grade
12 the college readiness of each student who indicates an
interest in postsecondary education and scores at Level 2 or
Level 3 on the reading portion of the grade 10 FCAT or Level 2,
Level 3, or Level 4 on the mathematics assessments under s.
1008.22(3)(c). High schools shall perform this evaluation using
results from the corresponding component of the common placement
test prescribed in this section, or an equivalent test
identified by the State Board of Education. The Department of
Education shall adopt ~~purchase~~ or develop the assessments
necessary to perform the evaluations required by this subsection
and shall work with the school districts to administer the
assessments. ~~The State Board of Education shall establish by~~
~~rule the minimum test scores a student must achieve to~~
~~demonstrate readiness.~~ Students who demonstrate readiness by
achieving the minimum test scores established by the state board
and enroll in a community college within 2 years after ~~of~~
achieving such scores shall not be required to enroll in
remediation courses as a condition of acceptance to any
community college. The high school shall use the results of the
test to advise the students of any identified deficiencies and
~~to the maximum extent practicable~~ provide 12th grade students
access to approved ~~appropriate~~ remedial instruction prior to
high school graduation. The remedial instruction provided under

14-01050-11

20111194__

291 this subsection shall be a collaborative effort between
292 secondary and postsecondary educational institutions, as
293 prescribed by State Board of Education rule. To the extent
294 courses are available, the Florida Virtual School may be used to
295 provide the remedial instruction required by this subsection.
296 Students who demonstrate readiness through successful completion
297 of the approved remedial instruction are eligible to repeat the
298 common placement test prior to high school graduation.

299 (4) (a) ~~Public postsecondary educational institution~~
300 Students who have been identified as requiring additional
301 preparation pursuant to subsection (1) shall enroll in college-
302 preparatory or other adult education pursuant to s. 1004.93 in
303 community colleges to develop needed college-entry skills. The
304 State Board of Education shall specify by rule provisions for
305 alternative remediation opportunities and retesting policies.
306 These students shall be permitted to take courses within their
307 degree program concurrently in other curriculum areas for which
308 they are qualified while enrolled in college-preparatory
309 instruction courses. A student enrolled in a college-preparatory
310 course may concurrently enroll only in college credit courses
311 that do not require the skills addressed in the college-
312 preparatory course. ~~The State Board of Education, in conjunction~~
313 ~~with the Board of Governors, shall specify the college credit~~
314 ~~courses that are acceptable for students enrolled in each~~
315 ~~college-preparatory skill area.~~ A degree-seeking student who
316 ~~wishes to earn an associate in arts or a baccalaureate degree,~~
317 ~~but~~ who is required to complete a college-preparatory course,
318 must successfully complete the required college-preparatory
319 studies by the time the student has accumulated 12 hours of

14-01050-11

20111194__

lower-division college credit degree coursework; however, a student may continue enrollment in degree-earning coursework provided the student maintains enrollment in college-preparatory coursework for each subsequent semester until college-preparatory coursework requirements are completed, and provided the student demonstrates satisfactory performance in degree-earning coursework. A student who has accumulated 12 college credit hours and has not yet demonstrated proficiency in the basic competency areas of reading, writing, and mathematics must be advised in writing of the requirements for associate degree completion and state university admission, including information about future financial aid eligibility and the potential costs of accumulating excessive college credit as described in s. 1009.286. ~~A passing score on a standardized, institutionally developed test must be achieved~~ Before a student is considered to have met basic computation and communication skills requirements, the student must demonstrate successful mastery of the required developmental education competencies as defined in State Board of Education rule; ~~however, no student shall be required to retake any test or subtest that was previously passed by said student.~~ Credit awarded for college-preparatory instruction may not be counted toward fulfilling the number of credits required for a degree.

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

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

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

14-01050-11

20111194__

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

14-01050-11

20111194__

~~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 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

14-01050-11

20111194

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 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

14-01050-11

20111194__

436 programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a
437 scholar or finalist; or

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

440
441 A student must complete a program of community service work, as
442 approved by the district school board, ~~or~~ the administrators of
443 a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home
444 school students, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of
445 service work and require the student to identify a social
446 problem that interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her
447 personal involvement in addressing the problem, and, through
448 papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or
449 her experience.

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

452 467.009 Midwifery programs; education and training
453 requirements.—

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

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

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

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

463 1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

464 (3) MASTERY OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.—Acceptable means of

14-01050-11

20111194__

demonstrating mastery of general knowledge are:

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

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

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

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

(d) ~~(e)~~ Documentation of two semesters of successful teaching in a community college, state university, or private college or university that awards an associate or higher degree and is an accredited institution or an institution of higher education identified by the Department of Education as having a quality program.

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