FLORIDA COLLEGE SYSTEM

1004.101 Florida college system.

1. There is hereby established the Florida college system comprised of the institutions identified in s. 1004.102. There shall continue to be maximum local autonomy in the governance and operation of the individual institutions of the Florida college system.

2. The Florida college system is established to maximize open access for students; respond to community and regional needs for postsecondary academic education and career degree education; and provide the associate and baccalaureate degrees that will best meet community, regional, and statewide employment needs.

3. Institutions in the Florida college system may award academic degrees at the associate degree level and at the baccalaureate degree level if authorized pursuant to s. 1004.73 or s. 1007.33. These institutions may also award postsecondary certificates and diplomas and associate degrees in workforce education programs. These institutions may not award graduate credit or graduate degrees.

4. (a) An institution in the Florida college system may drop the term “community” from the name of the institution if it has been authorized to grant baccalaureate degrees pursuant to ss. 1004.73 or 1007.33 or if it has received approval from the State Board of Education pursuant to the provisions of this subsection.

(b) With the approval of an institution’s local board of trustees, any institution in the Florida college system may request approval from the State Board of Education to drop the term “community” from the institution’s name. The State Board of Education may approve the request if the institution enters into an agreement with the State Board of Education to do the following:

1. Maintain as the institution’s primary mission responsibility for responding to community needs for postsecondary academic education and career degree education as prescribed in s. 1004.65(6).

2. Maintain an open-door admissions policy for associate level degree programs and workforce education programs.

3. Continue to provide outreach to underserved populations.

4. Continue to provide remedial education.

5. Comply with all provisions of the statewide articulation agreement that relate to 2-year and 4-year public degree-granting institutions as adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to s. 1007.23.

7. The State Board of Education shall establish a system-wide program planning process to address the need for increased baccalaureate degree production to meet the demands of the State and the role of the institutions in the Florida college system in meeting these needs. Each institution in the Florida college system must participate in this planning process.