

By the Committee on Higher Education; and Senator Oelrich

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to postsecondary education; amending  
3           s. 1004.68, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the  
4           use of test scores for assessment of college-level  
5           communication and computation skills; amending s.  
6           1007.01, F.S.; providing legislative intent and  
7           requirements relating to articulation; requiring the  
8           establishment of the Articulation Coordinating  
9           Committee and providing its responsibilities; amending  
10          s. 1007.25, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the  
11          CLAST and authorized examinations that demonstrate  
12          mastery of certain academic competencies; revising  
13          degree requirements; amending ss. 1007.264 and  
14          1007.265, F.S.; deleting provisions that exclude  
15          students with intellectual disabilities from  
16          eligibility for substitute requirements for admission  
17          to or graduation from a public postsecondary  
18          educational institution; amending s. 1008.30, F.S.;  
19          revising requirements of the common placement testing  
20          program; requiring access to approved remedial  
21          instruction; requiring rules for remediation  
22          opportunities, retesting, and academic competencies;  
23          requiring that students be advised of academic  
24          requirements, financial aid eligibility, and certain  
25          costs; amending s. 1008.345, F.S.; deleting Department  
26          of Education duties relating to tests and assessment  
27          procedures that measure student achievement of  
28          college-level communication and computation skills;  
29          amending s. 1008.38, F.S.; revising and conforming

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30 provisions relating to the articulation process;  
31 amending s. 1009.534, F.S.; revising provisions  
32 relating to approval of community service work for  
33 eligibility for the Florida Academic Scholars award;  
34 amending ss. 1001.64 and 1011.30, F.S.; removing  
35 provisions requiring that a budget of a community  
36 college be transmitted to the Department of Education  
37 for approval; amending ss. 467.009 and 1012.56, F.S.;

38 deleting provisions relating to the CLAST; repealing  
39 s. 6 of chapter 2006-58, Laws of Florida; abrogating  
40 the repeal of s. 1004.226, F.S., which created the  
41 21st Century World Class Scholars Program; providing  
42 an effective date.

43  
44 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

45  
46 Section 1. Section 1004.68, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
47 read:

48 1004.68 Community college; degrees and certificates; ~~tests~~  
49 ~~for certain skills.~~

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

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

57 Section 2. Section 1007.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
58 read:

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59           1007.01 Articulation; legislative intent; purpose; role of  
60 the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors;  
61 articulation coordinating committee.—

62           (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to facilitate  
63 articulation and seamless integration of the K-20 education  
64 system by building, ~~and~~ sustaining, and strengthening  
65 relationships among K-20 public organizations, between public  
66 and private organizations, and between the education system as a  
67 whole and Florida's communities. The purpose of building, ~~and~~  
68 sustaining, and strengthening these relationships is to provide  
69 for the efficient and effective progression and transfer of  
70 students within the education system and to allow students to  
71 proceed toward their educational objectives as rapidly as their  
72 circumstances permit. The Legislature further intends that  
73 articulation policies and budget actions be implemented  
74 consistently in the practices of the Department of Education and  
75 postsecondary educational institutions and expressed in the  
76 collaborative policy efforts of the State Board of Education and  
77 the Board of Governors.

78           (2) To improve and facilitate articulation systemwide, the  
79 State Board of Education and the Board of Governors shall  
80 collaboratively establish ~~recommend~~ policies and guidelines ~~to~~  
81 ~~the Legislature~~ with input from statewide K-20 advisory groups  
82 established by the Commissioner of Education and the Chancellor  
83 of the State University System and shall recommend the policies  
84 and guidelines to the Legislature. The policies and guidelines  
85 shall relate ~~relating~~ to:

86           (a) The alignment between the exit requirements of one  
87 system and the admissions requirements of another system into

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88 which students typically transfer.

89 (b) The identification of common courses, the level of  
90 courses, institutional participation in a statewide course  
91 numbering system, and the transferability of credits among such  
92 institutions.

93 (c) Identification of courses that meet general education  
94 or common degree program prerequisite requirements at public  
95 postsecondary educational institutions.

96 (d) Dual enrollment course equivalencies.

97 (e) Articulation agreements.

98 (3) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the  
99 Chancellor of the State University System, shall establish the  
100 Articulation Coordinating Committee, which shall report to the  
101 commissioner. The committee shall be a K-20 advisory group that  
102 consists of members representing the State University System,  
103 the Florida College System, public career and technical  
104 education, public K-12 education, and nonpublic education, with  
105 at least one member representing students. The commissioner  
106 shall appoint a chair from the membership. The committee shall:

107 (a) Propose monitoring, compliance, and reporting systems  
108 to facilitate and ensure institutional compliance with state  
109 articulation policies.

110 (b) Monitor the alignment between the exit requirements of  
111 one system and the admissions requirements of another system  
112 into which students typically transfer.

113 (c) Propose guidelines for interinstitutional agreements  
114 between and among public schools, career and technical education  
115 centers, Florida College System institutions, and state  
116 universities.

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117 (d) Establish dual enrollment course and high school  
118 subject area equivalencies.

119 (e) Establish groups of public and nonpublic educational  
120 institution representatives to facilitate articulation.

121 (f) Conduct a continuing review of statewide articulation  
122 statutes, rules, regulations, and agreements and make  
123 recommendations to the State Board of Education and the Board of  
124 Governors for revisions.

125 (g) Review the statewide course numbering system, the  
126 levels of courses, and the application of transfer credit  
127 requirements from public and nonpublic institutions  
128 participating in the statewide course numbering system,  
129 including, but not limited to, instances of student transfer and  
130 admissions difficulties.

131 (h) Identify courses that meet general education or common  
132 degree program prerequisite requirements at public postsecondary  
133 institutions.

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

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

143 Section 3. Subsection (12) of section 1007.25, Florida  
144 Statutes, is amended to read:

145 1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites;

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146 ~~and other degree requirements.-~~

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

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

155 ~~2. demonstrate successful mastery remediation of any~~  
156 ~~academic competencies ~~deficiencies~~ and achieve a cumulative~~  
157 ~~grade point average of 2.0 ~~2.5~~ or above, on a 4.0 scale, in~~  
158 ~~postsecondary-level coursework identified by the State Board of~~  
159 ~~Education in conjunction with the Board of Governors. The~~  
160 ~~Department of Education shall specify the means by which a~~  
161 ~~student may demonstrate successful remediation.~~

162 ~~(b) Any student who, in the best professional opinion of~~  
163 ~~the postsecondary educational institution, has a specific~~  
164 ~~learning disability such that the student cannot demonstrate~~  
165 ~~successful mastery of one or more of the authorized examinations~~  
166 ~~but is achieving at the college level in every area despite his~~  
167 ~~or her disability, and whose diagnosis indicates that further~~  
168 ~~remediation will not succeed in overcoming the disability, may~~  
169 ~~appeal through the appropriate dean to a committee appointed by~~  
170 ~~the president or the chief academic officer for special~~  
171 ~~consideration. The committee shall examine the evidence of the~~  
172 ~~student's academic and medical records and may hear testimony~~  
173 ~~relevant to the case. The committee may grant a waiver for one~~  
174 ~~or more of the authorized examinations based on the results of~~

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175 ~~its review.~~

176 ~~(c) Each public postsecondary educational institution~~  
177 ~~president shall establish a committee to consider requests for~~  
178 ~~waivers from the requirements in paragraph (a). The committee~~  
179 ~~shall be chaired by the chief academic officer of the~~  
180 ~~institution and shall have four additional members appointed by~~  
181 ~~the president as follows:~~

- 182 ~~1. One faculty member from the mathematics department;~~
- 183 ~~2. One faculty member from the English department;~~
- 184 ~~3. The institutional test administrator; and~~
- 185 ~~4. One faculty member from a department other than English~~  
186 ~~or mathematics.~~

187 ~~(d) Any student who has taken the authorized examinations~~  
188 ~~and has not achieved a passing score, but has otherwise~~  
189 ~~demonstrated proficiency in coursework in the same subject area,~~  
190 ~~may request a waiver from the examination requirement. Waivers~~  
191 ~~shall be considered only after students have been provided test~~  
192 ~~accommodations or other administrative adjustments to permit the~~  
193 ~~accurate measurement of the student's proficiency in the subject~~  
194 ~~areas measured by the authorized examinations. The committee~~  
195 ~~shall consider the student's educational records and other~~  
196 ~~evidence as to whether the student should be able to pass the~~  
197 ~~authorized examinations. A waiver may be recommended to the~~  
198 ~~president upon a majority vote of the committee. The president~~  
199 ~~may approve or disapprove the recommendation. The president may~~  
200 ~~not approve a request that the committee has disapproved. If a~~  
201 ~~waiver is approved, the student's transcript shall include a~~  
202 ~~statement that the student did not meet the requirements of this~~  
203 ~~subsection and that a waiver was granted.~~

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204 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 1007.264, Florida  
205 Statutes, is amended to read:

206 1007.264 Persons with disabilities; admission to  
207 postsecondary educational institutions; substitute requirements;  
208 rules and regulations.—

209 (1) Any student with a disability, as defined in s.  
210 1007.02(2), who is otherwise eligible ~~except those students who~~  
211 ~~have been documented as having intellectual disabilities~~, shall  
212 be eligible for reasonable substitution for any requirement for  
213 admission into a public postsecondary educational institution  
214 where documentation can be provided that the person's failure to  
215 meet the admission requirement is related to the disability.

216 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1007.265, Florida  
217 Statutes, is amended to read:

218 1007.265 Persons with disabilities; graduation, study  
219 program admission, and upper-division entry; substitute  
220 requirements; rules and regulations.—

221 (1) Any student with a disability, as defined in s.  
222 1007.02(2), in a public postsecondary educational institution,  
223 ~~except those students who have been documented as having~~  
224 ~~intellectual disabilities~~, shall be eligible for reasonable  
225 substitution for any requirement for graduation, for admission  
226 into a program of study, or for entry into the upper division  
227 where documentation can be provided that the person's failure to  
228 meet the requirement is related to the disability and where  
229 failure to meet the graduation requirement or program admission  
230 requirement does not constitute a fundamental alteration in the  
231 nature of the program.

232 Section 6. Subsections (2) and (3) and paragraph (a) of



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233 subsection (4) of section 1008.30, Florida Statutes, are amended  
234 to read:

235 1008.30 Common placement testing for public postsecondary  
236 education.—

237 (2) The common placement testing program shall include ~~at a~~  
238 ~~minimum~~ the following: the capacity to diagnose basic  
239 competencies in the areas of English, reading, and mathematics  
240 which are essential to perform college-level work; an assessment  
241 of prerequisite skills that relate to progressively advanced  
242 instruction in mathematics and, such as algebra and geometry,  
243 ~~prerequisite skills that relate to progressively advanced~~  
244 ~~instruction in language arts, such as English composition and~~  
245 ~~literature; prerequisite skills which relate to the College~~  
246 ~~Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST);~~ and provision of specific  
247 ~~test~~ information to students on skill ~~the specific~~ deficiencies.  
248 The State Board of Education shall establish by rule the test  
249 scores a student must achieve to demonstrate readiness.

250 (3) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules that  
251 require high schools to evaluate before the beginning of grade  
252 12 the college readiness of each student who indicates an  
253 interest in postsecondary education and scores at Level 2 or  
254 Level 3 on the reading portion of the grade 10 FCAT or Level 2,  
255 Level 3, or Level 4 on the mathematics assessments under s.  
256 1008.22(3)(c). High schools shall perform this evaluation using  
257 results from the corresponding component of the common placement  
258 test prescribed in this section, ~~7~~ or an equivalent test  
259 identified by the State Board of Education. The Department of  
260 Education shall adopt ~~purchase~~ or develop the assessments  
261 necessary to perform the evaluations required by this subsection

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262 and shall work with the school districts to administer the  
263 assessments. ~~The State Board of Education shall establish by~~  
264 ~~rule the minimum test scores a student must achieve to~~  
265 ~~demonstrate readiness.~~ Students who demonstrate readiness by  
266 achieving the minimum test scores established by the state board  
267 and enroll in a community college within 2 years after ~~of~~  
268 achieving such scores shall not be required to enroll in  
269 remediation courses as a condition of acceptance to any  
270 community college. The high school shall use the results of the  
271 test to advise the students of any identified deficiencies and  
272 ~~to the maximum extent practicable~~ provide 12th grade students  
273 access to approved appropriate remedial instruction prior to  
274 high school graduation. The remedial instruction provided under  
275 this subsection shall be a collaborative effort between  
276 secondary and postsecondary educational institutions, as  
277 prescribed by State Board of Education rule. To the extent  
278 courses are available, the Florida Virtual School may be used to  
279 provide the remedial instruction required by this subsection.  
280 Students who demonstrate readiness through successful completion  
281 of the approved remedial instruction are eligible to repeat the  
282 common placement test prior to high school graduation.

283 (4) (a) ~~Public postsecondary educational institution~~  
284 Students who have been identified as requiring additional  
285 preparation pursuant to subsection (1) shall enroll in college-  
286 preparatory or other adult education pursuant to s. 1004.93 in  
287 community colleges to develop needed college-entry skills. The  
288 State Board of Education shall specify by rule provisions for  
289 alternative remediation opportunities and retesting policies.  
290 These students shall be permitted to take courses within their

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291 degree program concurrently in other curriculum areas for which  
292 they are qualified while enrolled in college-preparatory  
293 instruction courses. A student enrolled in a college-preparatory  
294 course may concurrently enroll only in college credit courses  
295 that do not require the skills addressed in the college-  
296 preparatory course. ~~The State Board of Education, in conjunction~~  
297 ~~with the Board of Governors, shall specify the college credit~~  
298 ~~courses that are acceptable for students enrolled in each~~  
299 ~~college-preparatory skill area.~~ A degree-seeking student ~~who~~  
300 ~~wishes to earn an associate in arts or a baccalaureate degree,~~  
301 ~~but~~ who is required to complete a college-preparatory course,  
302 must successfully complete the required college-preparatory  
303 studies by the time the student has accumulated 12 hours of  
304 lower-division college credit degree coursework; however, a  
305 student may continue enrollment in degree-earning coursework  
306 provided the student maintains enrollment in college-preparatory  
307 coursework for each subsequent semester until college-  
308 preparatory coursework requirements are completed, and provided  
309 the student demonstrates satisfactory performance in degree-  
310 earning coursework. A student who has accumulated 12 college  
311 credit hours and has not yet demonstrated proficiency in the  
312 basic competency areas of reading, writing, and mathematics must  
313 be advised in writing of the requirements for associate degree  
314 completion and state university admission, including information  
315 about future financial aid eligibility and the potential costs  
316 of accumulating excessive college credit as described in s.  
317 1009.286. ~~A passing score on a standardized, institutionally~~  
318 ~~developed test must be achieved~~ Before a student is considered  
319 to have met basic computation and communication skills

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320 requirements, the student must demonstrate successful mastery of  
321 the required developmental education competencies as defined in  
322 State Board of Education rule; however, no student shall be  
323 required to retake any test or subtest that was previously  
324 passed by said student. Credit awarded for college-preparatory  
325 instruction may not be counted toward fulfilling the number of  
326 credits required for a degree.

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

329 1008.345 Implementation of state system of school  
330 improvement and education accountability.-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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349 approval.

350 ~~(g) Maintain for the information of the State Board of~~  
351 ~~Education, the Board of Governors, and the Legislature a file of~~  
352 ~~data to reflect achievement of college-level communication and~~  
353 ~~mathematics competencies by students in state universities and~~  
354 ~~community colleges.~~

355 ~~(h) Develop or contract for, and submit to the State Board~~  
356 ~~of Education and the Board of Governors for approval, tests~~  
357 ~~which measure and diagnose student achievement of college-level~~  
358 ~~communication and mathematics skills. Any tests and related~~  
359 ~~documents developed are exempt from the provisions of s.~~  
360 ~~119.07(1). The commissioner shall maintain statewide~~  
361 ~~responsibility for the administration of such tests and may~~  
362 ~~assign administrative responsibilities for the tests to any~~  
363 ~~state university or community college. The state board, upon~~  
364 ~~recommendation of the commissioner, may enter into contracts for~~  
365 ~~such services beginning in one fiscal year and continuing into~~  
366 ~~the next year which are paid from the appropriation for either~~  
367 ~~or both fiscal years.~~

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

372 Section 8. Subsections (4) and (6) of section 1008.38,  
373 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

374 1008.38 Articulation accountability process.—The State  
375 Board of Education, in conjunction with the Board of Governors,  
376 shall develop articulation accountability measures which assess  
377 the status of systemwide articulation processes authorized under

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378 s. 1007.23 and establish an articulation accountability process  
379 which at a minimum shall address:

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

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

387 Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 1009.534, Florida  
388 Statutes, is amended to read:

389 1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.—

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

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

403 (b) Has attended a home education program according to s.  
404 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 or has completed the  
405 International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the  
406 International Baccalaureate Diploma or has completed the

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

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

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

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

424

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

434 Section 10. Subsection (11) of section 1001.64, Florida  
435 Statutes, is amended to read

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436 1001.64 Community college boards of trustees; powers and  
437 duties.—

438 (11) Each board of trustees shall submit an institutional  
439 budget request, including a request for fixed capital outlay,  
440 and an operating budget to the State Board of Education for  
441 review approval in accordance with guidelines established by the  
442 State Board of Education.

443 Section 11. Section 1011.30, Florida Statutes, is amended  
444 to read:

445 1011.30 Budgets for community colleges.—Each community  
446 college president shall recommend to the community college board  
447 of trustees a budget of income and expenditures at such time and  
448 in such form as the State Board of Education may prescribe. Upon  
449 approval of a budget by the community college board of trustees,  
450 such budget shall be transmitted to the Department of Education  
451 for review ~~and approval~~. Rules of the State Board of Education  
452 shall prescribe procedures for effecting budget amendments  
453 subsequent to the final approval of a budget for a given year.

454 Section 12. Subsection (3) of section 467.009, Florida  
455 Statutes, is amended to read:

456 467.009 Midwifery programs; education and training  
457 requirements.—

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

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

461 (b) ~~Passed the college level academic scholastic test~~  
462 ~~(CLAST) or~~ Taken three college-level credits each of math and  
463 English or demonstrated competencies in communication and  
464 computation.



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465 Section 13. Subsection (3) of section 1012.56, Florida  
466 Statutes, is amended to read:

467 1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

485 Section 14. Section 6 of chapter 2006-58, Laws of Florida,  
486 is repealed.

487 Section 15. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.