

By Senator Grall

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to higher education; amending s.  
3       1001.706, F.S.; revising the mission of each state  
4       university; revising requirements for the Board of  
5       Governors' strategic plan relating to the goals and  
6       objectives of the State University System; requiring  
7       each state university to submit documentation of its  
8       efforts to promote specified educational topics and  
9       information relating to the removal of certain  
10      courses; requiring the Board of Governors to annually  
11      require each state university to include certain  
12      information in its economic security report;  
13      authorizing a post-tenure review of state university  
14      faculty at any time, with cause; amending s.  
15      1001.7065, F.S.; requiring each state university to  
16      annually report certain research expenditures of a  
17      specified amount; creating s. 1001.725, F.S.;  
18      providing that each state university board of trustees  
19      is responsible for hiring faculty; authorizing the  
20      board to delegate hiring authority to the president;  
21      prohibiting a university from using specified methods  
22      in its hiring process; authorizing each state  
23      university board of trustees to review any faculty  
24      member's tenure status; requiring each state  
25      university board of trustees to confirm specified  
26      employee reappointments and contracts; requiring each  
27      state university president to annually present  
28      specified performance evaluations and salaries to the  
29      board of trustees; amending s. 1004.06, F.S.;

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

30 prohibiting specified educational institutions from  
31 expending funds to promote specified concepts;  
32 providing construction; amending s. 1004.6496, F.S.;  
33 authorizing the Board of Trustees of the University of  
34 Florida to use funds to establish and fund the  
35 Hamilton College for Classical and Civic Education;  
36 revising the goals of the college; providing powers of  
37 the college; amending s. 1004.6499, F.S.; renaming the  
38 Florida Institute of Politics at the Florida State  
39 University as the Florida Institute for Governance and  
40 Civics; providing the goals of the institute; amending  
41 s. 1004.64991, F.S.; authorizing the Adam Smith Center  
42 for the Study of Economic Freedom to perform certain  
43 tasks in order to carry out its established purpose;  
44 amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; revising how general  
45 education core courses are established; requiring the  
46 Commissioner of Education and Chancellor of the State  
47 University System to consider approval of certain  
48 courses; requiring faculty committees to submit  
49 recommendations to the Articulation Coordinating  
50 Committee and the commissioner relating to certain  
51 courses by a specified date and every three years  
52 thereafter; prohibiting general education core courses  
53 from teaching certain topics or presenting information  
54 in specified ways; providing requirements for general  
55 education core courses; requiring specified  
56 educational institutions to offer certain courses;  
57 creating s. 1007.55, F.S.; providing legislative  
58 findings; requiring the Articulation Coordinating

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

59 Committee to submit an annual report to specified  
60 entities relating to courses that have been approved  
61 as meeting specified requirements to be used by public  
62 postsecondary educational institutions; providing  
63 requirements for general education courses; requiring  
64 public postsecondary educational institution boards of  
65 trustees and presidents to annually review and approve  
66 general education requirements; providing a penalty  
67 for failing to meet such review and approval  
68 requirements; requiring public postsecondary  
69 educational institutions to report certain courses to  
70 the department; amending s. 1008.47, F.S.; removing a  
71 prohibition against a public postsecondary institution  
72 from being accredited by the same accrediting body for  
73 multiple consecutive accreditation cycles; providing  
74 an effective date.

75

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

77

78 Section 1. Paragraphs (a) through (d) of subsection (5) and  
79 paragraph (b) of subsection (6) of section 1001.706, Florida  
80 Statutes, are amended to read:

81 1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

82 (5) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY.—

83 (a) The Legislature intends that the Board of Governors  
84 shall align the missions of each constituent university with the  
85 academic success of its students; the education for citizenship  
86 of the constitutional republic; the alignment of its programs to  
87 Florida's existing and emerging workforce needs; the national

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

88 reputation of its faculty and its academic and research  
89 programs; the quantity of externally generated research,  
90 patents, and licenses; and the strategic and accountability  
91 plans required in paragraphs (b) and (c). The Board of Governors  
92 shall periodically review the mission of each constituent  
93 university and make updates or revisions as needed. Upon  
94 completion of a review of the mission, the board shall review  
95 existing academic programs to ensure alignment with the mission.  
96 The board shall include in its review direction to each  
97 constituent university to examine its programs for the inclusion  
98 of any specified major or minor in critical race theory, gender  
99 studies, or intersectionality or any derivative major of these  
100 belief systems, that is, any major that engenders beliefs in  
101 those concepts defined in s. 1000.05(4)(a). The mission  
102 alignment and strategic plan shall consider peer institutions at  
103 the constituent universities. The mission alignment and  
104 strategic plan shall acknowledge that universities that have a  
105 national and international impact have the greatest capacity to  
106 promote the state's economic development through: new  
107 discoveries, patents, licenses, and technologies that generate  
108 state businesses of global importance; research achievements  
109 through external grants and contracts that are comparable to  
110 nationally recognized and ranked universities; the creation of a  
111 resource rich academic environment that attracts high-technology  
112 business and venture capital to the state; and this generation's  
113 finest minds focusing on solving the state's economic, social,  
114 environmental, and legal problems in the areas of life sciences,  
115 water, sustainability, energy, and health care. A nationally  
116 recognized and ranked university that has a global perspective

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

117 and impact shall be afforded the opportunity to enable and  
118 protect the university's competitiveness on the global stage in  
119 fair competition with other institutions of other states in the  
120 highest Carnegie Classification.

121 (b) The Board of Governors shall develop a strategic plan  
122 specifying goals and objectives for the State University System  
123 and each constituent university, including each university's  
124 contribution to overall system goals and objectives. The  
125 strategic plan must:

126 1. Include performance metrics and standards common for all  
127 institutions and metrics and standards unique to institutions  
128 depending on institutional core missions, including, but not  
129 limited to, student admission requirements, the education for  
130 citizenship of the constitutional republic, retention,  
131 graduation, percentage of graduates who have attained  
132 employment, percentage of graduates enrolled in continued  
133 education, licensure passage, industry certification attainment,  
134 average wages of employed graduates, average cost per graduate,  
135 excess hours, student loan burden and default rates, faculty  
136 awards, total annual research expenditures, patents, licenses  
137 and royalties, intellectual property, startup companies, annual  
138 giving, endowments, and well-known, highly respected national  
139 rankings for institutional and program achievements.

140 2. Consider reports and recommendations of the Florida  
141 Talent Development Council under s. 1004.015 and the  
142 Articulation Coordinating Committee under s. 1007.01.

143 3. Include student enrollment and performance data  
144 delineated by method of instruction, including, but not limited  
145 to, traditional, online, and distance learning instruction.

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

146 4. Include criteria for designating baccalaureate degree  
147 and master's degree programs at specified universities as high-  
148 demand programs of emphasis. The programs of emphasis list  
149 adopted by the Board of Governors before July 1, 2021, shall be  
150 used for the 2021-2022 academic year. Beginning in the 2022-2023  
151 academic year, the Board of Governors shall adopt the criteria  
152 to determine value for and prioritization of degree credentials  
153 and degree programs established by the Credentials Review  
154 Committee under s. 445.004 for designating high-demand programs  
155 of emphasis. The Board of Governors must review designated  
156 programs of emphasis, at a minimum, every 3 years to ensure  
157 alignment with the prioritization of degree credentials and  
158 degree programs identified by the Credentials Review Committee.

159 5. Include criteria for nondegree credential offerings.

160 (c) The Board of Governors shall develop an accountability  
161 plan for the State University System and each constituent  
162 university. The accountability plan must address institutional  
163 and system achievement of goals and objectives specified in the  
164 strategic plan adopted pursuant to paragraph (b) and must be  
165 submitted as part of its legislative budget request. Each  
166 university shall submit, as a component of the university's  
167 annual accountability plan, information on the effectiveness of  
168 its plan for improving 4-year graduation rates and the level of  
169 financial assistance provided to students pursuant to paragraph  
170 (h). In addition, each university must submit documentation of  
171 its efforts to promote the education for citizenship of the  
172 constitutional republic and the cultivation of the intellectual  
173 autonomy of its undergraduates. It must also submit, as a  
174 component of the university's annual accountability plan,

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

175 information on the university's process to remove from its  
176 course catalogues any specified major or minor in critical race  
177 theory, gender studies, or intersectionality or any derivative  
178 major of these belief systems, that is, any major that engenders  
179 beliefs in those concepts described in s. 1000.05(4) (a).

180 (d) ~~Beginning in the 2014-2015 academic year and annually~~  
181 ~~thereafter,~~ The Board of Governors shall annually require a  
182 state university prior to registration to provide each enrolled  
183 student electronic access to the economic security report of  
184 employment and earning outcomes prepared by the Department of  
185 Economic Opportunity pursuant to s. 445.07. In addition, the  
186 Board of Governors shall require a state university to provide  
187 each student electronic access to the following information each  
188 year prior to registration using the data described in s.  
189 1008.39:

190 1. The top 25 percent of degrees reported by the university  
191 in terms of highest full-time job placement and highest average  
192 annualized earnings in the year after earning the degree.

193 2. The bottom 10 percent of degrees reported by the  
194 university in terms of lowest full-time job placement and lowest  
195 average annualized earnings in the year after earning the  
196 degree.

197 (6) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO PERSONNEL.—

198 (b) The Board of Governors may adopt a regulation requiring  
199 each tenured state university faculty member to undergo a  
200 comprehensive post-tenure review every 5 years. Each university  
201 may initiate a post-tenure review of a faculty member at any  
202 time, with cause. The board may include other considerations in  
203 the regulation, but the regulation must address:

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

- 204 1. Accomplishments and productivity;
- 205 2. Assigned duties in research, teaching, and service;
- 206 3. Performance metrics, evaluations, and ratings; and
- 207 4. Recognition and compensation considerations, as well as
- 208 improvement plans and consequences for underperformance.

209 Section 2. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (2) of  
 210 section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, to read:

211 1001.7065 Preeminent state research universities program.—

212 (2) ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE STANDARDS.—The  
 213 following academic and research excellence standards are  
 214 established for the preeminent state research universities  
 215 program and shall be reported annually in the Board of Governors  
 216 Accountability Plan:

217 (m) Total annual research expenditures of \$50 million or  
 218 more benefiting STEM-related occupations, businesses, or  
 219 industry partners located in this state and currently employing,  
 220 or seeking to employ, residents of this state.

221 Section 3. Section 1001.725, Florida Statutes, is created  
 222 to read:

223 1001.725 University boards of trustees; personnel.—

224 (1) Each university board of trustees is responsible for  
 225 hiring faculty. The president may provide hiring recommendations  
 226 to the board. The president and the board are not bound by  
 227 recommendations or opinions of faculty or other individuals or  
 228 groups.

229 (a) The board may delegate its hiring authority to the  
 230 president; however, the president may not delegate hiring  
 231 authority, and the board shall approve or deny any selection by  
 232 the president.



29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

233 (b) A university is prohibited from using diversity,  
234 equity, and inclusion statements, critical race theory, or other  
235 forms of political identity filters as part of the hiring  
236 process, including as part of employment applications, including  
237 applications for promotion and tenure, conditions of employment,  
238 or reviewing job qualifications. This prohibition applies to all  
239 hiring at the institution, including the president.

240 (2) Each university board of trustees may, at the request  
241 of its chair, initiate a process to review any faculty member's  
242 tenure status.

243 (3) Each university board of trustees shall confirm its  
244 president's selection and reappointment of the university's  
245 executive management team members and their respective contracts  
246 and annual salaries, in accordance with the university's  
247 personnel program established by the Board of Governors.  
248 Contracts and responsibilities of the president and executive  
249 team members, including, but not limited to, provost positions,  
250 must explicitly delineate that the duties of positions, other  
251 than the president, are limited to administrative oversight and  
252 operational supervision of curricular, instructional, and  
253 research affairs, as applicable to the position.

254 (4) Each university president shall annually present to his  
255 or her board of trustees for review the results of performance  
256 evaluations and associated salaries of all evaluated personnel  
257 earning an annual compensation of \$200,000 or more, regardless  
258 of fund source.

259 Section 4. Section 1004.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
260 read:

261 1004.06 Prohibited expenditures.-

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

262       (1) No Florida College System institution, state  
263 university, Florida College System institution direct-support  
264 organization, or state university direct-support organization  
265 shall expend any funds, regardless of source, to purchase  
266 membership in, or goods and services from, any organization that  
267 discriminates on the basis of race, national origin, gender, or  
268 religion.

269       (2) (a) No Florida College System institution, state  
270 university, Florida College System institution direct-support  
271 organization, or state university direct-support organization  
272 may expend any funds, regardless of source, to promote, support,  
273 or maintain any programs or campus activities that violate s.  
274 1000.05(4) (a) or that espouse diversity, equity, and inclusion  
275 or critical race theory rhetoric.

276       (b) Programs required for compliance with federal  
277 regulations, or access programs for military veterans, Pell  
278 Grant recipients, first generation college students,  
279 nontraditional students, "2+2" transfer students from the  
280 Florida College System, students from low-income families, or  
281 students with unique abilities, are not prohibited by this  
282 subsection.

283       Section 5. Section 1004.6496, Florida Statutes, is amended  
284 to read:

285       1004.6496 Hamilton College Center for Classical and Civic  
286 Education.—

287       (1) By July 1, 2024, the Board of Trustees of the  
288 University of Florida may use funds as provided in the General  
289 Appropriations Act and charitable donations to establish and  
290 fund the Hamilton College Center for Classical and Civic

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

291 Education as an academic unit within the University of Florida.  
292 The purpose of the college center ~~center~~ is to support teaching and  
293 research concerning the ideas, traditions, and texts that form  
294 the foundations of Western and American civilization.

295 (2) The goals of the college center ~~center~~ are to:

296 (a) Educate university students in core texts and great  
297 debates of Western civilization and the Great Books.

298 (b) Educate university students in the principles, ideals,  
299 and institutions of the American political order.

300 (c) Educate university students in the foundations of  
301 responsible leadership and informed citizenship.

302 (d) Provide programming and training related to civic  
303 education and the values of open inquiry and civil discourse to  
304 support the K-20 system.

305 (e) Coordinate with the Florida Institute for Governance  
306 and Civics ~~of Politics~~ created pursuant to s. 1004.6499 and the  
307 Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom created  
308 pursuant to s. 1004.64991 and assist in the curation and  
309 implementation of Portraits in Patriotism created pursuant to s.  
310 1003.44.

311 (3) In order to carry out the purposes set forth in  
312 subsection (2), the college is authorized to:

313 (a) Hire necessary faculty and staff;

314 (b) Enroll students;

315 (c) Develop curriculum and offer new courses, including  
316 honors courses, certificates, and major and minor programs;

317 (d) Award degrees;

318 (e) Hold events, including fundraisers;

319 (f) Fulfill other actions approved by the president of the

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

320 university; and

321 (g) Generate resources based on student credit hour  
322 enrollment, in the same manner as any other college within the  
323 institution.

324 (4) The president of the university may hire a dean for the  
325 college, subject to the approval of the board of trustees.

326 (a) If at any time the position of dean becomes vacant, the  
327 president of the university may appoint a faculty member of the  
328 college to serve as the acting dean. The president of the  
329 university may remove the dean in accordance with the policies  
330 and procedures established at the university.

331 (b) The dean of the college must report directly to the  
332 president of the university.

333 (c) The dean of the college has the same delegated  
334 authority, in the same manner, as any other dean at the  
335 university.

336 (5) Faculty of the college may be awarded tenure subject to  
337 the tenure policies of the university.

338 (6) Funds appropriated specifically to the college may not  
339 be used for any other purpose at the university; however, the  
340 university can provide additional funding as available to the  
341 college.

342 Section 6. Section 1004.6499, Florida Statutes, is amended  
343 to read:

344 1004.6499 Florida Institute for Governance and Civics ~~of~~  
345 ~~Politics.~~—

346 (1) The Florida Institute for Governance and Civics ~~of~~  
347 ~~Politics~~ is established at the Florida State University ~~within~~  
348 ~~the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy. The purpose of~~

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

349 ~~the institute is to provide the southeastern region of the~~  
350 ~~United States with a world class, bipartisan, nationally~~  
351 ~~renowned institute of politics.~~

352 (2) The goals of the institute are to:

353 (a) Provide students with access to an interdisciplinary  
354 hub that will develop academically rigorous scholarship and  
355 coursework on the origins of the American system of government,  
356 its foundational documents, its subsequent political traditions  
357 and evolutions, and its impact on comparative political systems  
358 ~~Motivate students throughout the Florida State University to~~  
359 ~~become aware of the significance of government and civic~~  
360 ~~engagement at all levels and politics in general.~~

361 (b) Encourage civic literacy in this state through the  
362 development of educational tools and resources for K-12 and  
363 postsecondary students which foster an understanding of how  
364 individual rights, constitutionalism, separation of powers, and  
365 federalism function within the American system ~~Provide students~~  
366 ~~with an opportunity to be politically active and civically~~  
367 ~~engaged.~~

368 (c) Model civic discourse that recognizes the importance of  
369 viewpoint diversity, intellectual rigor, and an evidence-based  
370 approach to history ~~Nurture a greater awareness of and passion~~  
371 ~~for public service and politics.~~

372 (d) Plan and host forums to allow students and guests to  
373 hear from exceptional individuals who have excelled in a wide  
374 range of sectors of American life, to highlight the  
375 possibilities created by individual achievement and  
376 entrepreneurial vision ~~and interact with experts from~~  
377 ~~government, politics, policy, and journalism on a frequent~~

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

378 ~~basis.~~

379 (e) Become a national and state resource on using polling  
380 instruments and other assessments to measure civic literacy and  
381 make recommendations for improving civic education information  
382 and survey methodology.

383 (f) Provide fellowships and internship opportunities to  
384 students in government, ~~nonprofit organizations, and community~~  
385 ~~organizations.~~

386 (g) Create through scholarship, original research,  
387 publications, symposia, testimonials, and other means a body of  
388 resources that can be accessed by students, scholars, and  
389 government officials to understand the innovations in public  
390 policy in this state over a rolling 30-year time period Provide  
391 ~~training sessions for newly elected state and local public~~  
392 ~~officials.~~

393 ~~(h) Organize and sponsor conferences, symposia, and~~  
394 ~~workshops throughout this state to educate and inform citizens,~~  
395 ~~elected officials, and appointed policymakers regarding~~  
396 ~~effective policymaking techniques and processes.~~

397 ~~(i) Create and promote research and awareness regarding~~  
398 ~~politics, citizen involvement, and public service.~~

399 ~~(j) Collaborate with related policy institutes and research~~  
400 ~~activities at the Florida State University and other~~  
401 ~~institutions of higher education to motivate, increase, and~~  
402 ~~sustain citizen involvement in public affairs.~~

403 Section 7. Subsection (3) is added to section 1004.64991,  
404 Florida Statutes, to read:

405 1004.64991 The Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic  
406 Freedom.—

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

407 (3) In order to carry out the purpose set forth in this  
408 section, the institute is authorized to:

409 (a) Hire necessary faculty and staff;

410 (b) Enroll students;

411 (c) Develop curriculum and offer new courses, including  
412 honors courses, certificates, and major and minor programs;

413 (d) Award degrees;

414 (e) Hold events, including fundraisers;

415 (f) Fulfill other actions approved by the president of the  
416 university; and

417 (g) Generate resources based on student credit hour  
418 enrollment, in the same manner as any other college within the  
419 institution.

420 Section 8. Subsection (3) of section 1007.25, Florida  
421 Statutes, is amended to read:

422 1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites;  
423 other degree requirements.-

424 (3) The chair of the State Board of Education and the chair  
425 of the Board of Governors, or their designees, shall jointly  
426 appoint faculty committees to review and recommend to the  
427 Articulation Coordinating Committee for approval by the  
428 Commissioner of Education and Chancellor of the State University  
429 System ~~identify~~ statewide general education core course options  
430 for inclusion in the statewide course numbering system  
431 established under s. 1007.24. Faculty committees shall, by  
432 December 1, 2023, and by December 1 every 3 years thereafter,  
433 review and submit recommendations to the Articulation  
434 Coordinating Committee and the commissioner for the removal,  
435 alignment, realignment, or addition of general education core

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

436 courses that satisfy the requirements of this subsection.

437 (a) General education core course options shall consist of  
438 a maximum of five courses within each of the subject areas of  
439 communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and  
440 natural sciences. The core courses may be revised, ~~or the five-~~  
441 ~~course maximum within each subject area may be exceeded,~~ if  
442 approved by the State Board of Education and the Board of  
443 Governors, as recommended by the subject area faculty committee  
444 and approved by the Articulation Coordinating Committee as  
445 necessary for a subject area.

446 (b) Each general education core course option must contain  
447 high-level academic and critical thinking skills and common  
448 competencies that students must demonstrate to successfully  
449 complete the course.

450 (c) General education core courses may not suppress or  
451 distort significant historical events or include a curriculum  
452 that teaches identity politics, such as critical race theory, or  
453 defines American history as contrary to the creation of a new  
454 nation based on universal principles stated in the Declaration  
455 of Independence.

456 (d) General education core courses must meet the following  
457 standards:

458 1. Communication courses must afford students the ability  
459 to communicate effectively, including the ability to write  
460 clearly and engage in public speaking, through engagement with  
461 the Western literary tradition.

462 2. Humanities courses must afford students the ability to  
463 think critically through the mastering of subjects concerned  
464 with human culture, especially literature, history, art, music,



29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

465 and philosophy.

466 3. Social science courses must afford students an  
467 understanding of the basic social and behavioral science  
468 concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavior and  
469 past and present social, political, and economic issues.

470 4. Natural science courses must afford students the ability  
471 to critically examine and evaluate the principles of the  
472 scientific method, model construction, and use the scientific  
473 method to explain natural experiences and phenomena.

474 5. Mathematics courses must afford students a mastery of  
475 foundational mathematical and computation models and methods by  
476 applying such models and methods in problem solving.

477 (e) Beginning with students initially entering a Florida  
478 College System institution or state university in 2015-2016 and  
479 thereafter, each student must complete at least one identified  
480 core course in each subject area as part of the general  
481 education course requirements. Beginning in the 2022-2023  
482 academic year and thereafter, students entering a technical  
483 degree education program as defined in s. 1004.02(13) must  
484 complete at least one identified core course in each subject  
485 area as part of the general education course requirements before  
486 a degree is awarded.

487 (f) All public postsecondary educational institutions shall  
488 offer at least one general education core course in each of the  
489 identified subject areas and accept ~~these~~ courses as meeting  
490 general education core course requirements upon transfer,  
491 regardless of whether the receiving institution offers the  
492 identical general education core courses. The remaining general  
493 education course requirements shall be identified by each

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

494 institution as approved in accordance with this section and  
495 listed in the statewide course numbering system ~~and reported to~~  
496 ~~the department by their statewide course number.~~

497 (g) The general education core course options shall be  
498 adopted in rule by the State Board of Education and in  
499 regulation by the Board of Governors.

500 Section 9. Section 1007.55, Florida Statutes, is created to  
501 read:

502 1007.55 General education course principles, standards, and  
503 content.-

504 (1) The Legislature finds it necessary to ensure that every  
505 undergraduate student of a Florida public postsecondary  
506 educational institution graduates as an informed citizen through  
507 participation in rigorous general education courses that promote  
508 values necessary to preserve the constitutional republic through  
509 traditional, historically accurate, and high-quality coursework.  
510 Courses with a curriculum based on unproven, theoretical, or  
511 exploratory content are best suited as elective or specific  
512 program prerequisite credit, not general education credit.

513 (2) In performing its duties under ss. 1007.24 and 1007.25,  
514 by July 1, 2023, and each July 1 thereafter, the Articulation  
515 Coordinating Committee shall submit to the State Board of  
516 Education and Board of Governors courses that have been approved  
517 to be used by public postsecondary educational institutions as  
518 meeting the additional general education requirements.

519 (3) General education courses must meet the following  
520 criteria:

521 (a) Be in the general education core subject areas and meet  
522 the course standards as provided in s. 1007.25;

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

523 (b) Be offered by at least half of all public postsecondary  
524 educational institutions;

525 (c) Be identified as lower level in the statewide course  
526 numbering system; and

527 (d) Whenever applicable, promote the philosophical  
528 underpinnings of Western civilization and include studies of  
529 this nation's historical documents, such as the United States  
530 Constitution, the Bill of Rights and subsequent amendments, and  
531 the Federalist Papers.

532 (4) If a course is approved as a general education course,  
533 that course must be accepted as a general education course, in  
534 the same subject area and regardless of whether it is offered by  
535 the institution, by all public postsecondary educational  
536 institutions.

537 (5) Public postsecondary educational institution boards of  
538 trustees and presidents are responsible for annually reviewing  
539 and approving, at a public meeting, general education course  
540 requirements, as authorized and approved in accordance with ss.  
541 1007.24 and 1007.25 and this section, at their respective  
542 institutions. Public postsecondary educational institutions that  
543 fail to comply with the requirements of this section are not  
544 eligible to receive performance-based funding pursuant to ss.  
545 1001.66 and 1001.92.

546 (6) Public postsecondary educational institutions must  
547 report courses meeting institutional general education subject  
548 requirements to the department by their statewide course number.

549 Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
550 1008.47, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

551 1008.47 Postsecondary education institution accreditation.—

29-01465B-23

2023266\_\_

552 (2) ACCREDITATION.—

553 (a) By September 1, 2022, the Board of Governors or the  
554 State Board of Education, as applicable, shall identify and  
555 determine the accrediting agencies or associations best suited  
556 to serve as an accreditor for public postsecondary institutions.  
557 Such accrediting agencies or associations must be recognized by  
558 the database created and maintained by the United States  
559 Department of Education. ~~A public postsecondary institution may~~  
560 ~~not be accredited by the same accrediting agency or association~~  
561 ~~for consecutive accreditation cycles.~~ In the year following  
562 reaffirmation or fifth-year review by its accrediting agencies  
563 or associations, each public postsecondary institution must seek  
564 and obtain accreditation from an accrediting agency or  
565 association identified by the Board of Governors or State Board  
566 of Education, respectively, before its next reaffirmation or  
567 fifth-year review date. The requirements in this section are  
568 limited to a one-time change in accreditation. The requirements  
569 of this subsection are not applicable to those professional,  
570 graduate, departmental, or certificate programs at public  
571 postsecondary institutions that have specific accreditation  
572 requirements or best practices, including, but not limited to,  
573 law, pharmacy, engineering, or other similarly situated  
574 educational programs.

575 Section 11. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.