

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL: USF REGULATIONS

NOTICE OF AMENDED REGULATION

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

Regulation No: USF 3.007	TITLE: Degree Requirements: Baccalaureate/Undergraduate
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Summary

Florida Board of Governors (BOG) Regulation 1.001 (9-16-10) provides that each Board of Trustees is authorized to promulgate university regulations in accordance with the Regulation Development Procedure adopted by the Board of Governors, (7-21-05). Such regulations must be consistent with law, and the regulations and strategic plan of the Board of Governors. The Regulation Development Procedure also requires that the University Board of Trustees periodically review existing regulations to insure they are current and consistent.

The Board of Governors (9-15-11) amended BOG regulation [6.017](#), Criteria for Awarding the Baccalaureate Degree, to align with the 2011 Florida legislative action (CS/HB 7151 sec. 8) deleting requirements that undergraduates achieve certain minimum scores on nationally standardized exams prior to graduation.

The legislature does require that the State Board of Education and the BOG establish graduation requirements and the BOG outlined those requirements in the amended Criteria for Awarding the Baccalaureate Degree.

Accordingly, the Provost's office has reviewed and made corresponding amendments to the USF Regulation on Baccalaureate/Undergraduate Degree Requirements (3.007). The amended regulation follows this summary.

(End of Summary)

University of South Florida System Regulation

Number: USF3.007

Subject: Degree Requirements: Baccalaureate/Undergraduate

A student is academically eligible to receive a Baccalaureate degree from individual institutions in the University of South Florida System (USF System) when a student completes the requirements of entities including (1) the Board of Governors (BOG), (2) the USF System, (3) the Program, College or Institution requirements, and (4) general academic approval of the University. The requirements are outlined in more detail below.

(1) Board of Governors Basic Requirements: (established by Florida state law and the Board of Governors Regulation 6.017)

(a) Satisfactory completion of general education requirements consisting of a minimum of:

1. Thirty-six (36) semester hours in the subject areas of communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences, including:

a. Six (6) semester hours of English coursework (noted as Gordon Rule courses) in which the student is required to demonstrate college level writing skills through multiple assignments and six (6) additional semester hours of coursework with similar writing requirements. Students awarded college credit in English based on their demonstration of writing skills through dual enrollment, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate instruction shall be considered to have satisfied this requirement to the extent of the college credit awarded.

b. Six (6) semester hours of mathematics coursework (noted as Gordon Rule courses) at the level of college algebra or higher. Applied logic, statistics and other computation-based coursework that may not be offered by a mathematics department may be used to fulfill three (3) of the six (6) hours required by this section. Students awarded college credit based on their demonstration of mathematics skills at the level of college algebra or higher through dual enrollment, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate instruction shall be considered to have satisfied this requirement to the extent of the college credit awarded.

(b) Updates or changes to State and BOG Requirements.

The USF System must comply with any updates or changes to state mandates or BOG requirements. The USF System will incorporate those changes in this Regulation by technical amendment as quickly as possible. However, at all times, including what may be an interim processing time, students will be held to the most current standards established by the BOG or state law.

(2) USF System Requirements:

In addition to Florida Board of Governors and/or state requirements the USF System has the following USF specific minimum requirements:

(a) Successful completion of a minimum of 120 unduplicated semester credit hours through university coursework, acceleration mechanisms, and/or transfer credit, with no more than two (2) hours of that 120 in physical education activity courses;

(b) A minimum adjusted grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on all course work taken at the USF System Institution from which the degree is conferred and an overall 2.0 average on all college-level work attempted;

(c) Satisfactory completion of major requirements in a chosen degree program, including additional requirements set by the institution and college offering the degree.

(d) Successful completion of at least forty-eight (48) semester hours in courses numbered 3000 and above;

(e) Successful completion of at least 25% of the total credit hours required for the degree must be in courses offered by the USF System Institution conferring the degree;

(f) Registration and successful completion of at least thirty (30) of the last sixty (60) semester hours at the USF System Institution (home institution) from which the degree is to be conferred. In cases of emergency, a maximum of six (6) hours of the final thirty (30) semester hours may be completed by correspondence or residence at another accredited senior institution with the approval of the academic dean. *Exceptions* to the home institution rules in this paragraph may be made for students who are enrolled at other universities in USF-approved exchanges, study abroad programs, co-op training programs or correspondence courses from the University of Florida. CLEP credit does not count toward academic residence;

(g) Students who have entered a university in the State of Florida University System with fewer than sixty (60) hours of credit are required to earn at least nine (9) hours prior to graduation by attendance in one or more summer terms at one of the eleven State of Florida senior institutions. This requirement may be waived in cases of unusual hardship to the individual;

(h) Satisfaction of the foreign-language admissions requirement by having two (2) sequential units of the same foreign language in high school, or eight (8) semester hours of the same foreign language in college, or documented equivalent proficiency; and

(i) The student's degree program (major) will appear on the baccalaureate diploma. (If a student satisfies all requirements for two (2) majors, including admission, prerequisite, core, etc., both majors may appear on the diploma).

(3) Program, College, or Institutional Requirements: All students must be aware of and satisfactorily complete any additional requirements that may be required by a specific program, college or institution from which they are graduating as set forth in handbook, catalogue, or other published criteria.

(4) General Academic Approval: Successful completion of academic coursework constituting the student's program of studies, minor, honors thesis, or certification examination does not guarantee award of the baccalaureate degree. Faculty judgment of the academic performance of the student is inherent in the educational process in determining whether the award of the baccalaureate degree or admission into a higher level degree program is warranted.

Authority: Art. IX, Sec. 7, Fla. Constitution, Fla. Board of Governors Regulations 1.001, 6.017; 1007.25, F.S. History—New 10-6-75, Amended 7-3-79, 2-22-82, Formerly 6C4-3.07, F.A.C. Amended 4-19-90, 8-19-90, 12-2-92, 8-10-93, 7-17-94, 7-20-95, Formerly 6C4-3.007, F.A.C., Amended 2-21-11, 9-21-11.