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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: School District Superintendents, State College and University Presidents, and Presidents of Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF)

FROM: Dr. Eric J. Smith, Commissioner of Education

DATE: January 22, 2008

SUBJECT: Updated Implementation Timeline for the New Florida Educational Leadership Examination (FELE)

This memorandum is for the purpose of informing you of the recommended changes to the Florida Educational Leadership Examination (FELE) competencies and skills and subsequent examination. The Florida Department of Education is beginning the rule revision process and plans to present its final recommendations to the State Board of Education (SBE) prior to August 1, 2008. If approved, the effective date of the new FELE will be January 1, 2009.

An earlier memorandum, dated February 22, 2007, was issued to inform you that activities associated with the development and refinement of the FELE competencies and skills were being completed by a committee of university professors and school district and Department of Education administrators. Those draft competencies and skills were made available for your planning purposes at http://www.fldoe.org/asp/fele/felecomp.asp (new URL).

The Bureau of Educator Certification, Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention, and Office of Assessment have made provisions to allow the colleges and universities more time to prepare their candidates for the new version of the examination. This change in the implementation date is intended to allow the colleges of education of public and private universities to 1) apply the changes needed for preparing their students to pass the revised FELE and 2) coordinate the administration of the new examination with the June 1, 2008 deadline for submitting documentation for program approval to verify the program's transition to new rule requirements.

Subsequent to SBE approval of the revised FELE competencies and skills, all examinees seeking educational leadership certification will take the revised examination beginning January 2009. Examinees who took the previous version of the FELE administered prior to this date and passed only one or two subtests, but not all three subtests, should be informed that they will be required to take and pass the revised FELE in its entirety. Subtest content from the current FELE does not correlate with subtests on the revised version. Please ensure that all appropriate individuals, district coordinators, faculty of educational leadership programs, et al., understand the recommended changes and the potential implications of these changes for your institutions and districts. For information regarding the implementation of the requirement for candidates in approved Educational Leadership programs to pass the FELE for program completion, please refer to the memorandum at http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-4630/K12-2007-162.pdf titled *Rule 6A-5.081, Approval of School Leadership Programs* (dated September 27, 2007).

Finally, please be aware that the following rules have already completed the rule development and adoption process as conveyed in previous public notices.

Rule Number	Rule Title	Date of Rule Workshop	Date of Final Adoption
6A-4.0081	Florida School Leaders Certification	April 2, 2007	May 15, 2007
6A-4.0082	Specialization Requirements for Certification in Educational Leadership-Administrative Class	April 2, 2007	May 15, 2007
6A-4.0083	School Principal-Administrative Class	April 2, 2007	May 15, 2007
6A-4.0084 (repealed)	Professional School Principal-Administrative Class	April 2, 2007	May 15, 2007
6A-5.080	Florida Principal Leadership Standards	January 18, 2005	May 24, 2005
6A-5.081	Approval of School Leadership Program	April 2, 2007	May 15, 2007

If you have any questions, please contact Phil Canto at (850) 245-0790 or Phil.Canto@fldoe.org. I hope this information is helpful to you as a partner in maintaining a workforce of certified and effective school administrators in Florida.

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