

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

### Action Item

April 9, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Request from St. Johns River State College for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Performance Design and Production

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### **PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

### **AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1007.33, F.S.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

St. Johns River State College (SJRSC) submitted a notice of intent followed by a proposal to the Department of Education to offer a Bachelor of Applied Science in Performance Design and Production. Appropriate notification of intent was provided to the Board of Governors, Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida and the Commission for Independent Education, as required in section 1007.33, Florida Statutes.

The degree program will prepare graduates for careers in the areas of audio design and engineering, projection and lighting technology, video editing, design and construction technology, theme park and cruise ship production, and production management. Graduates will have the skills to enter the workforce in a variety of positions and career paths including lighting and audio technicians, set and exhibit designers, costume and projection designers, technical directors, stage constructionists, and visual content creators. In addition, graduates will be eligible to enter master's degree programs to further their educational and career opportunities.

Labor market projections indicate a projected demand of 30 annual job openings in SJRSC's service district and 111 job openings in its workforce region. In the College's three-county service district of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties, there is currently only one higher education institution supplying an average of 14 graduates per year in the field, reflected in the figure above. Florida Commerce projects that the total job growth in occupations related to the Performance Design and Production degree will increase by up to 10% between 2024 and 2032.

Letters of support were provided by Flagler College, the Clay County and St. Johns County School District superintendents, as well as various industry partners, such as Orlando Family Stage, Limelight Theatre, and Thrasher Horne Center. There were no letters of objection or alternative proposals for the proposed degree program.

An extensive review of criteria was conducted for the proposal submitted, and written comments and recommendations were provided to the college. The final proposal is being submitted to the State Board of Education for consideration.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** SJRSC Proposal for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Performance Design and Production and Appendices (under separate cover)

**Facilitators/Presenters:** President Joe Pickens, St. Johns River State College, and guests