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**MEMORANDUM:**

**TO:** Florida College System Workforce Administrators  
School District Technical College Directors

**FROM:** Kevin O'Farrell, Ph.D.

**DATE:** August 17, 2022

**SUBJECT: Implementation of Changes to the Basic Skills Requirements as a Result of House Bill 3 Law Enforcement**

House Bill (HB) 3, An Act Relating to Law Enforcement, was signed into law by Governor DeSantis this past spring and became effective on July 1, 2022. The Act passed numerous provisions in an effort to attract and retain qualified law enforcement officers.

Among the numerous provisions in HB 3 was one that amended section (s.) 943.17(1)(g), Florida Statutes (F.S.) and provided that a person is not required to take the basic skills examination and assessment instrument before entering a law enforcement officer basic recruit training program if he or she is a veteran as defined in s. 1.01(14), F.S., or holds an associate degree or higher from an accredited college or university.

Kevin O'Farrell, Ph.D.  
Chancellor of Career and Adult Education

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Documented exemption evidence should be maintained in the student's record for auditing purposes. For more information, the Florida Department of Military Affairs maintains a website on military records located at: <https://floridavets.org/resources/records/>

Similarly, interested law enforcement students claiming a degree exemption should be advised to obtain and present a copy of the associate (or higher) degree and transcripts indicating the degree was conferred by an accredited college or university.

Documented exemption evidence should be maintained in the student's record for auditing purposes.

School district technical colleges and Florida College System (FCS) institutions that offer related law enforcement basic recruit training programs should review program catalogs, student advising materials and web sites to ensure consistency with the new provisions for those categories of students exempt from the basic skills exit requirements.

The Florida Department of Education will be updating appropriate required basic skills exemption reporting in the student information databases for school districts and FCS institutions. Additional technical assistance regarding implementation of the other provisions of HB 3 such as the scholarship, reimbursement, and uniform awarding of credit will be disseminated under separate cover.

Should you have additional questions, please contact Kathleen Taylor, Bureau Chief, at 850-245-9062 or via e-mail at [Kathleen.Taylor@fldoe.org](mailto:Kathleen.Taylor@fldoe.org).

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