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BOARD OF REGENTS OF
THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

August 13, 2026

Presidents
University System of Georgia
Sent via email

Dear Presidents:

The Board of Regents (BOR) of the University System of Georgia (USG) convened for its scheduled meeting on August 13, 2026. During this meeting, the following BOR policies were revised.

Academic Affairs

- **Board Policy 03.08.01 General**
- **Board Policy 03.08.04 Bachelor Degrees**

The attached Exhibit provides background information on the policy revisions, the effective date, and the language added to or removed from the policy sections.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Perdue".

Sonny Perdue
Chancellor

Enclosure

cc: Tracey Cook, Chief Fiscal Officer
Teresa MacCartney, Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Ashwani Monga, Executive Vice Chancellor & Chief Academic Officer
Olivia Langevine, Chief of Staff
Dr. Costas Spirou, Chief Innovation and Entrepreneurial Strategies Officer
Dr. Angela Bell, Vice Chancellor for Research and Policy Analysis
Scott Benham, Interim Chief Information Officer
Jeff Davis, Vice Chancellor for Fiscal Affairs
Karin Elliott, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources
Tracy Ireland, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs
Dr. Dana Nichols, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Success
Chris McGraw, Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and Secretary to the Board
Frank Smith, Vice Chancellor for Real Estate and Facilities
Jenna Wiese, Vice Chancellor for Internal Audit, Chief Audit Officer

Dr. Laura Lynch, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Programs and Policy
Wesley Horne, AVC Compliance, Chief Ethics Officer
Institutional Chief Business Officers
Institutional Provosts
Institutional Deans of Students
Institutional Chief Student Affairs Officers
Institutional Chief Human Resource Officers
Institutional Chief Enrollment Officers
Institutional Legal Officers
Institutional Audit Directors

Exhibit
BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY MANUAL
Revised Policies with Markup
Meeting of August 13, 2026

I. Revisions to Board of Regents Policy Manual, Section 03.08.01 General

Background:

In response to workforce demand and national trends, the Board approved that USG institutions work jointly with USG Academic Affairs to develop reduced-credit Bachelor of Applied Science degrees, consisting of 90–120 credit hours. Guidelines for establishing such programs, including alignment with high-demand career areas and a focus on workforce competencies, will be added to the Academic and Student Affairs Handbook, in addition to the approved Board Policy language below.

Questions regarding these revisions should be directed to Dr. Ashwani Monga, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer. Dr. Monga may be reached at ashwani.monga@usg.edu.

Effective Date:

The effective date of this policy revision is August 13, 2026.

Former Policy Language:

03.08.01 General

The faculty shall recommend to the president of the institution the candidates for degrees that the institution has been authorized by the Board to confer. A record of all degrees awarded shall be filed in the office of the Registrar of the institution conferring the degree.

Absent the approval of the USG chief academic officer, no degree program shall exceed the following credit hours, exclusive of physical education activity/basic health or orientation course hours that the institution may require:

1. Associate degrees shall consist of 60 credit hours;
2. Bachelor's degrees shall consist of 120 credit hours;
3. Nexus degrees shall consist of 60 credit hours; and
4. Master degrees shall consist of 30 credit hours

Revised Policy Language in Change Tracker

03.08.01 General

The faculty shall recommend to the president of the institution the candidates for degrees that the institution has been authorized by the Board to confer. A record of all degrees awarded shall be filed in the office of the Registrar of the institution conferring the degree.

Absent the approval of the USG chief academic officer, no degree program shall exceed the following credit hours, exclusive of physical education activity/basic health or orientation course hours that the institution may require:

1. Associate degrees shall consist of 60 credit hours;
2. Bachelor of Applied Science degrees shall consist of 90-120 credit hours;
3. All other Bachelor's degrees shall consist of 120 credit hours;
4. Nexus degrees shall consist of 60 credit hours; and
5. Master degrees shall consist of 30 credit hours

New Policy Language

03.08.01 General

The faculty shall recommend to the president of the institution the candidates for degrees that the institution has been authorized by the Board to confer. A record of all degrees awarded shall be filed in the office of the Registrar of the institution conferring the degree.

Absent the approval of the USG chief academic officer, no degree program shall exceed the following credit hours, exclusive of physical education activity/basic health or orientation course hours that the institution may require:

1. Associate degrees shall consist of 60 credit hours;
2. Bachelor of Applied Science degrees shall consist of 90-120 credit hours;
3. All other Bachelor's degrees shall consist of 120 credit hours;
4. Nexus degrees shall consist of 60 credit hours; and
5. Master degrees shall consist of 30 credit hours

II. Revisions to Board of Regents Policy Manual, Section 03.08.04 Bachelor Degrees

Background:

In response to workforce demand and national trends, the Board approved that USG institutions work jointly with USG Academic Affairs to develop reduced-credit Bachelor of Applied Science degrees, consisting of 90–120 credit hours. Guidelines for establishing such programs, including alignment with high-demand career areas and a focus on workforce competencies, will be added to the Academic and Student Affairs Handbook, in addition to the approved Board Policy language below.

Questions regarding these revisions should be directed to Dr. Ashwani Monga, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer. Dr. Monga may be reached at ashwani.monga@usg.edu.

Effective Date:

The effective date of this policy revision is August 13, 2026.

Former Policy Language:

03.08.04 Bachelor Degrees

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees are comprised of general education and designated major of study requirements. Bachelor degrees consist of 120 credit hours and have a coherent program of study. Bachelor degrees are subject to Board of Regents and USG policies on comprehensive program review and all applicable accreditation standards for a distinct program of study. Bachelor degrees beyond 120 credit hours require the approval of the USG chief academic officer.

Revised Policy Language in Change Tracker

03.08.04 Bachelor Degrees

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees are comprised of general education and designated major of study requirements. Bachelor degrees consist of 120 credit hours and have a coherent program of study. Bachelor degrees are subject to Board of Regents and USG policies on comprehensive program review and all applicable accreditation standards for a distinct program of study. Bachelor degrees beyond 120 credit hours require the approval of the USG chief academic officer.

Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degrees are comprised of general education and academic courses aligned with specialized disciplines that address workforce needs. The B.A.S. degree shall consist of 90-120 credit hours and is subject to Board of Regents and USG policies on comprehensive program review and all applicable accreditation standards for a distinct program of study.

New Policy Language

03.08.04 Bachelor Degrees

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees are comprised of general education and designated major of study requirements. Bachelor degrees consist of 120 credit hours and have a coherent program of study. Bachelor degrees are subject to Board of Regents and USG policies on comprehensive program review and all applicable accreditation standards for a distinct program of study. Bachelor degrees beyond 120 credit hours require the approval of the USG chief academic officer.

Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degrees are comprised of general education and academic courses aligned with specialized disciplines that address workforce needs. The B.A.S. degree shall consist of 90-120 credit hours and is subject to Board of Regents and USG policies on comprehensive program review and all applicable accreditation standards for a distinct program of study.