



Gary Chartrand, *Chair*  
John R. Padget, *Vice Chair*  
*Members*  
Ada G. Armas, M.D.  
John A. Colon  
Marva Johnson  
Rebecca Fishman Lipsey  
Andy Tuck

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Select School District Superintendents (Bay, Okaloosa, Palm Beach, Pinellas, Santa Rosa)

**FROM:** Pam Stewart

**DATE:** January 9, 2015

**SUBJECT: 2014-2015 CAPE Innovation Course Pilot Year Participation**

Senate Bill 850 amended ss. 1003.4203 and 1008.44, F.S., to establish a new type of course which combines academic and career content with performance expectations that will result in college credit and industry certification attainment. These courses are called CAPE Innovation Courses. According to the statutory framework, each approved CAPE Innovation Course must have at least two third-party assessments, one of which must be associated with an industry certification on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List. These courses are eligible for additional full-time equivalency (FTE) membership in the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), as specified in s. 1011.62(1)(o)1.c., for student completion of the required performance outcomes.

For the 2014-15 academic year, the department has identified a single CAPE Innovation Course for pilot implementation with select districts. This course involves the pairing of an industry certification with the Advanced Placement (AP) course in Microeconomics. All CAPE Innovation Courses that are partnered AP course content will use the current [College Board AP course descriptions](#) and require AP teachers to deliver a series of activities that emphasize applied learning of the AP content. The goal of this unique instructional approach is to prepare students for success on AP exams while learning new knowledge and skills associated with CAPE industry certifications. The performance expectations for the new CAPE Innovation Course are summarized in Attachment A.

Attachment B is a Q & A document to provide additional guidance on CAPE Innovation Course implementation in pilot school districts during the 2014-2015 school year. The department will evaluate the pilot to determine the feasibility of statewide implementation of this CAPE Innovation course for future years. Additional CAPE Innovations Courses are under development for implementation during the 2015-16 academic year.

PS/tg

Attachments

cc: Steve Neely  
Mary Jane Tappen  
Rod Duckworth  
Edward Biedermann, College Board