The Mission of the Florida College System is to provide access to high-quality, affordable academic and career education programs that maximize student learning and success, develop a globally competitive workforce and respond rapidly to diverse state and community needs.
# Table of Contents

- **Message From The Chancellor** ................................................................. 2
- **About Us** ........................................................................................................ 3
- **Facts At-A-Glance** .................................................................................. 4-8
- **Business Partnerships** ........................................................................... 9
- **Florida College System Highlights** .................................................... 10-13
- **Key Legislation** ....................................................................................... 14-16
- **Implementation Update** ......................................................................... 17
- **Equity** ....................................................................................................... 18-19
- **Florida College System Foundation** ................................................... 20-21
- **Chancellor Initiatives** ............................................................................ 22-23
- **Civic Engagement** .................................................................................. 24
At its core, the Florida College System (FCS) is about providing access to high-quality education and job training that responds to community and state needs. The FCS provides an open-door policy that welcomes all students and works diligently to offer Floridians an affordable array of educational opportunities, ranging from certificate programs to bachelor’s degrees.

But access and affordability are just the beginning. Students enrolling in the FCS are the recipients of a world-class, high-quality education. Equipped with FCS credentials, our graduates go on to continue their education or get high-skill, high-wage jobs.

In fact, 88 percent of FCS graduates are employed or continuing their education within one year of graduation; over half of the juniors and seniors in the state university system transferred from a FCS institution, and our bachelor’s-degree graduates boast an average salary of $45,740.

Our colleges serve one out of every 20 Floridians age 16 and over. Each student enrolling in one of our great colleges is provided educational programs that lead to life-changing opportunities. Within this report, you will get a glimpse at the impact of the Florida College System this past year.

Randy Hanna
Chancellor, The Florida College System
The Florida College System is a network of 28 community colleges, colleges and state colleges serving nearly a million Floridians. Our system is the primary point of access to higher education in Florida, enrolling returning adult students and approximately 65 percent of recent high school graduates. As part of the FCS, the Division of Florida Colleges (division) serves as a key component of the K-20 system within the Department of Education governed by the State Board of Education. The division supports the mission of all 28 institutions through coordination, oversight and advocacy.

The history of the FCS can be traced back to the founding of St. Petersburg Junior College as a private, two-year college in 1927. In 1933, Palm Beach Junior College was founded as the first public college in Florida. By 1939, the Florida Legislature passed a law allowing counties to petition for the establishment of public colleges. In 1947-48, the legislature created the FCS and began establishing colleges across the state to meet local workforce needs.

In 1972, the system was complete with the establishment of Pasco-Hernando Community College. Over the next three decades, enrollment in the system steadily increased as FCS institutions strived to meet the needs of local communities. In response to a shortage of bachelor’s degrees in the state, FCS institutions received statutory approval to offer bachelor’s degrees in 2001. In the beginning of the 21st century, the FCS solidified its place as the primary access point to higher education for Floridians.

The Florida College System generates a vast array of benefits for its students, communities and the state of Florida. A March 2013 report from Economic Modeling Specialists, Intl. (EMSI) details the significant role the system plays in the local and regional economy. The report was commissioned by the Florida College System Foundation and the system’s Council of Presidents.

In addition to examining the impact of college and student spending, EMSI also looked at impacts created by the accumulated skills and higher productivity of students in the workforce. Here are a few highlights from the 2013 Economic Contribution of the FCS report:

- The total effect of the FCS on the Florida economy based on student productivity gains, college operations and student spending is $26.6 billion.
- The state government sees a rate of return of 9.4 percent on its investment in the FCS.
- For every dollar of support, taxpayers see a cumulative return of $2.90 over the course of students’ careers.
- Students enjoy an attractive 16.8 percent average rate of return on their educational investment, recovering all costs (including tuition, fees and foregone wages) in 9.1 years. Compare that to the historical average rate of return for the stock market of 9.9 percent and recent 2-year certificates of deposit (CD) of between .25 percent and 1.20 percent.
- Florida also benefits from improved health and reduced welfare, unemployment and crime that accompany a more educated population.

The Florida College System is a network of 28 community colleges, colleges and state colleges serving nearly a million Floridians. Our system is the primary point of access to higher education in Florida, enrolling returning adult students and approximately 65 percent of recent high school graduates. As part of the FCS, the Division of Florida Colleges (division) serves as a key component of the K-20 system within the Department of Education governed by the State Board of Education. The division supports the mission of all 28 institutions through coordination, oversight and advocacy.

The history of the FCS can be traced back to the founding of St. Petersburg Junior College as a private, two-year college in 1927. In 1933, Palm Beach Junior College was founded as the first public college in Florida. By 1939, the Florida Legislature passed a law allowing counties to petition for the establishment of public colleges. In 1947-48, the legislature created the FCS and began establishing colleges across the state to meet local workforce needs.

In 1972, the system was complete with the establishment of Pasco-Hernando Community College. Over the next three decades, enrollment in the system steadily increased as FCS institutions strived to meet the needs of local communities. In response to a shortage of bachelor’s degrees in the state, FCS institutions received statutory approval to offer bachelor’s degrees in 2001. In the beginning of the 21st century, the FCS solidified its place as the primary access point to higher education for Floridians.

About Us

State Board of Education
- Gary Chartrand, Chair
- John R. Padget, Vice Chair
- Ada G. Armas, M.D.
- John A. Colon
- Marva Johnson
- Rebecca Fishman Lipsey
- Andy Tuck
- Pam Stewart, Commissioner

Photo Courtesy of Broward College
**FACTS AT-A-GLANCE**

**FACILITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number/Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida Colleges</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campuses</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Owned Buildings</td>
<td>2,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Owned Gross Square Footage</td>
<td>41.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Land (Owned &amp; Leased)</td>
<td>13,276.2 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Assets</td>
<td>$7.7 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System Average Building Age</td>
<td>24.7 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Funding from State (PECO*)</td>
<td>$15 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Capital Outlay Project Funding from State</td>
<td>$106.7 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fixed Capital Outlay Funding from State</td>
<td>$121.7 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Public Education Capital Outlay*

**FUNDING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Revenue</td>
<td>$895 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Fees*</td>
<td>$841 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lottery Funding</td>
<td>$205 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Student Fees include tuition, out-of-state fees and technology fees*

Photos Courtesy of Pasco-Hernando State College, St. Johns River State College and Florida State College at Jacksonville
**STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS 2013-14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2013-14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcount (Unduplicated)</td>
<td>813,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Age</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>59% female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minority</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students with disabilities</td>
<td>19,928</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STUDENT ENROLLMENTS 2013-14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>2013-14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Arts</td>
<td>339,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Workforce Education</td>
<td>112,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Science &amp; Associate in Applied Science</td>
<td>103,458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureates</td>
<td>34,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult and Secondary Education</td>
<td>28,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Credit Certificate</td>
<td>20,827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Technical Certificate</td>
<td>20,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educator Preparation Institute</td>
<td>2,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apprenticeship</td>
<td>2,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Technical Certificate</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Professional Preparation</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Students may enroll in more than one program*

**Recent High School Graduates 2012-13**

- 64.6% Florida College System
- 32.1% State University System
- 5.3% Private Institutions
- 2.5% Technical Centers

91,033 out of 147,230 Standard High School Diploma Recipients in 2011-12 Enrolled in Florida Higher Education in 2012-13
FACTS AT-A-GLANCE

DEGREES & CERTIFICATES AWARDED 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Arts</td>
<td>55,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Credit Certificate</td>
<td>18,036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Science &amp; Associate in Applied Science</td>
<td>15,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Technical Certificate</td>
<td>9,729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureates</td>
<td>5,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educator Preparation Institute</td>
<td>696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Technical Certificate</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Professional Preparation</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>104,820</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the 11th year in a row, the FCS ranked among the top associate degree producers in the nation according to Community College Week. In 2014 the Community College Week’s Top 100 Associate Degree Producers report identifies Florida as a leader in a range of categories, including total associate degrees awarded; associate in arts degrees; associate degrees awarded to African-American students; associate degrees awarded to Hispanic students; associate degrees awarded in the area of nursing; associate degrees awarded in the area of health professions and related clinical sciences; and one-year certificate production in all disciplines.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Thanks to a national effort to increase associate degree completion, three FCS institutions in 2013 – Broward College, Indian River State College and St. Johns River State College – graduated an additional 1,500 students and re-enrolled nearly 850 former students through Project Win-Win, a project primarily funded by the Lumina Foundation for Education.

Florida is the number one certificate and associate degree producer among southern states affiliated with the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB State Database Exchange, February 2014)

FCS INSTITUTIONS RANKED AS TOP ASSOCIATE DEGREE PRODUCERS BY “COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK”

» Miami Dade College (2)
» Valencia College (4)
» Broward College (5)
» Florida State College at Jacksonville (7)
» Palm Beach State College (8)
» St. Petersburg College (12)
» Hillsborough Community College (15)
» Eastern Florida State College (26)
» Seminole State College of Florida (27)
» Santa Fe College (30)
» Tallahassee Community College (31)
» Indian River State College (32)
» Daytona State College (35)
» Florida SouthWestern State College (45)
» Pensacola State College (91)
In 2013, the Florida State University (FSU) College of Criminology and Criminal Justice and the FCS entered into a statewide agreement that will assist FCS bachelor’s degree students transition smoothly into FSU’s online Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice Studies. Any student enrolled in an FCS bachelor’s program in criminal justice or public safety administration and meets FSU’s admissions requirements will be guaranteed admission into FSU’s online Master in Criminal Justice Studies program, thus providing a groundbreaking opportunity for FCS students to continue their higher education at a top university.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship is awarded to outstanding community college students planning to continue their education. This scholarship is the largest of its kind in the nation and assists students with financial need transfer and bachelor degree completion. Annually, the foundation offers approximately 75 students up to $30,000. In 2014, 85 students were awarded scholarships, including eight from FCS institutions, making it the largest cohort in program history. Scholars were selected based on persistence, leadership, financial need, and high academic ability and achievements, with the average grade point average of the incoming class at 3.98.

2014 Jack Kent Cooke Scholars

» Zachariah Pramschufer
State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota

» Jesus Bohorquez
Miami Dade College

» Karen Burgos
Miami Dade College

» Paul Harvel
Broward College

» Norka Lecca
Miami Dade College

» Daniel Roper
Polk State College

» Angel Sanchez
Valencia College

PTK Hites Transfer Scholarship
State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota alumnus Donald Evans Rimel III is the recipient of the 2014 Phi Theta Kappa Hites Transfer Scholarship, the society’s most prestigious and largest scholarship offering. He is one of only ten students out of 2,200 applicants to receive this scholarship, which is awarded to two-year students enrolled in associate degree programs and eligible to transfer to a regionally accredited baccalaureate degree-granting senior institution in Fall semester.

» Zachariah Pramschufer
State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota

» Gabriella Nicholas
Seminole State College of Florida

» Jesus Bohorquez
Miami Dade College

» Karen Burgos
Miami Dade College

» Paul Harvel
Broward College

» Norka Lecca
Miami Dade College

» Daniel Roper
Polk State College

» Angel Sanchez
Valencia College

Did You Know?

54%

of junior and senior students at state universities transferred from FCS institutions
### Facts at-a-Glance

#### Job Placement and Earnings

**Graduates Found Employed**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Type</th>
<th>Placement Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Technical Certificate</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Professional Preparation</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureates</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apprenticeship</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Science</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educator Preparation Institute</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Applied Science</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career and Technical Certificate</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Credit Certificate</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Technology Diploma</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Arts</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Average Starting Salaries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Type</th>
<th>Average Starting Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureates</td>
<td>$45,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Science</td>
<td>$43,636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Applied Science</td>
<td>$39,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career and Technical Certificate</td>
<td>$35,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Credit Certificate</td>
<td>$34,364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Arts</td>
<td>$33,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Postsecondary Career &amp; Technical</td>
<td>$31,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>$21,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Secondary Career &amp; Technical</td>
<td>$21,824</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Figures represent full-time, full-quarter employed
Source: Annual Outcomes Report, Fall 2012 Data, October 2013

---

The Florida College System (FCS) Smart College Choices web portal allows prospective and current students to view graduation rates, employment statistics and earnings data for graduates of the 28 FCS institutions and Florida public school district career centers.

Visit [http://smart-college-choices.com](http://smart-college-choices.com) for more information.
Since 2007, TECO Energy in Tampa has provided tuition assistance for employees beyond professional development. TECO has brought in professors from Hillsborough Community College, St. Leo University and the University of South Florida to teach credit-bearing classes at the TECO headquarters so employees can pursue degrees without having to leave their workplace. This program has seen 140 individuals earn associate degrees and has had 560 participants. TECO reimburses full tuition and fifty percent of books and required class fees. Employees are also encouraged to apply for grants and scholarships.

Indian River State College (IRSC) has worked with science research companies to develop a biology program that prepares a well trained workforce. Local partners have agreed to help engage students beyond the classroom through internship opportunities. A record 100 biology students interned off campus in the 2013-14 academic year. Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies donated over $70,000 to IRSC for biology scholarships and hired over 50 students part time. The combination of quality classroom instruction, with applied learning experiences in high quality research facilities, is building a strong workforce that will help attract other life science companies and support economic growth in this industry for years to come.

In 2008, Pensacola State College partnered with the Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce to create the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE), housed at the college’s downtown center. The CIE’s clients are early-stage technology companies that are provided office space, support services and business coaching in order to increase their chance for success. The mission of this partnership is to act as a catalyst to support innovative entrepreneurs who create jobs and can sustain long-term economic growth for the Greater Pensacola area.

Two of the CIE companies are finalists for the Innovation Coast 2014 Innovation Awards, which include start-up dollars and over $215,000 in awards and prizes. The companies are Intelligent Retinal Imaging Systems, Inc., which screens for damage to the retina caused by diabetes, and Accountingfly, an accounting recruitment platform.
The Aspen Institute identifies the top 150 community colleges in the nation based on exceptional levels of student success by publically reviewing available data to determine which community colleges demonstrate student success. In each year the prestigious Aspen Prize has been awarded, 14 of the 28 FCS institutions have been eligible for the award – ranking them in the top 15 percent of community colleges nationwide. Valencia College won the inaugural prize in 2011, with Miami Dade College a finalist with distinction. In 2013, Broward College and Santa Fe College were named among the top 10 community colleges in the nation.

This year, Indian River State College and Santa Fe College have been named as finalists for the Aspen Prize, which will be announced in early 2015. Florida was one of only three states with multiple finalists. This award indicates that the FCS is committed to providing affordable, high-quality education and spotlights the vital economic role of the system.
AACC AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) has brought national visibility to several FCS institutions through the AACC Awards of Excellence. This program is designed to distinguish innovation and promising practices among two-year colleges and is tied to key recommendations from the 21st-Century Commission on the Future of Community Colleges. Awards finalists have put those recommendations into action and have made differences on their campuses and their communities.

In 2014, Miami Dade College and Tallahassee Community College were named finalists along with 22 other colleges from around the country. For a second year in a row, Miami Dade College attained an AACC Award by winning the “Student Success Award” for the advancement of student success through the implementation of bold strategic plans, innovative programs and evaluation of data. Tallahassee Community College was distinguished as a finalist this year for the Emerging Leadership Award – an honor recognizing AACC member CEOs who have created a campus culture that supports employee leadership advancement at all levels.

The FCS also had four colleges chosen as finalists for the inaugural AACC Awards in 2013. In addition to Miami Dade College, St. Johns River State College won the Exemplary CEO/Board Award for its recognition of effective collaboration between the board of trustees and the college CEO thereby advancing the college and impacting student success.

Fifteen FCS institutions landed on Victory Media’s 2014 Military Friendly Schools list. Victory Media recognizes the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools doing the most to recruit and retain military students and their families.

Fire Science Online ranked nine FCS institutions in its Top 90 programs in the U.S. for providing the best return on investment to fire science graduates. In addition, twenty colleges were named to the Top 80 out of more than 1,100 colleges for providing the best return on investment to emergency medical technician graduates.

The Manufacturing Institute announced 11 FCS institutions as charter members of the “M-list,” a list recognizing excellence in high schools, community colleges, technical centers and universities that organize coursework around industry standards.

Visit the Florida College System website www.floridacollegesystem.com for more details related to college recognitions.
An All-Florida Academic Team is named annually to recognize the most outstanding students in the FCS based on academic achievement, leadership and service to the community. Students are nominated by their colleges to the All-USA Academic Team competition sponsored by USA Today and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society. This year, 109 students were selected to the team.

Each year, the FCS hosts an annual awards ceremony to recognize the All-Florida Academic Team. The 2014 All-Florida Academic Team Awards Ceremony was held at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort during the PTK national convention on April 24, 2014.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation distinguishes one student from each state who possesses the highest application score in his or her class and awards them with a scholarship as a New Century Scholar. The 2014 Coca-Cola New Century Scholar representing Florida is Kayla Duchaine from Eastern Florida State College.

Visit http://www.fldoe.org/fcs/Students/PTK_team/ for more information about the All-Florida Academic team.
During the Summer of 2014, the Division of Florida Colleges launched a brand new student-friendly website designed to assist current students and attract prospective students to the Florida College System. The website provides instant access to information about all 28 FCS institutions and answers questions about admissions, financial aid, residency and transfer options, among others. Prospective students, current students and alumni can stay up to date with all that is going on in the FCS through the website’s Publications and News & Events sections. A mobile FCS app was also launched in 2014 that provides users quick access to college contact information, college maps and campus locations, data and FCS news.

In 2013, Chancellor Randy Hanna began a “Students of the Month” initiative, designed to recognize FCS students who have achieved success in both the classroom and in the community. Students are nominated by their respective institutions and selected by the Chancellor. Since its inception, the Chancellor has recognized over 50 students.
The 2014 Legislative Session addressed several key issues significant to the Florida College System (FCS) including out-of-state fee waivers for veterans and undocumented students. Other issues included collegiate high schools and dual enrollment as well as baccalaureate degree offerings. Legislation that was considered but not adopted included textbook affordability, technical centers authority to become technical colleges and changes to retirement benefits.

### Fee Waivers for Veterans & Non-Resident Students

Effective July 1, 2014, a new out-of-state fee waiver is available to honorably discharged veterans of the United States (U.S) Armed Forces, U.S. Reserve Forces and the National Guard who physically reside in Florida. Veterans who meet the specified criteria are eligible to receive the same tuition rate as Florida residents. Each FCS institution is encouraged to place information about this waiver in a prominent location on its website.

Also available as of July 1, 2014, is another new out-of-state fee waiver available to all students who attended a Florida secondary school for three consecutive years immediately preceding high school graduation and apply for admission within 24 months of high school graduation. Students who are eligible should submit an official high school transcript to the FCS institution for verification. All FCS institutions are encouraged to place information about this waiver on its website in a prominent location so that the information students need to determine their eligibility is readily available.

### In the News

All 28 FCS institutions have signed on to a national initiative to promote veteran-friendly policies at colleges and universities.

In May 2014, Northwest Florida State College became the first college in Florida to be designated as a Purple Heart College by the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Oliver Clemons, TCC Graduate and recipient of the Purple Heart.
**Collegiate High Schools**

Pursuant to Section (s.) 1007.273, Florida Statutes (F.S.), each FCS institution must work with school districts in its designated service area to establish one or more collegiate high school programs at a mutually agreed upon location or locations. The statute requires the collegiate high school program to be available to 12th graders (grade 11 is optional) with an option for early admission, full-time dual enrollment that allows a student to accumulate up to 30 college credits within one full school year and the opportunity to earn industry certifications. The statute requires the execution of a contract by January 1 each year for program implementation the following academic year and allows the school district to partner with another FCS institution if a contract is not executed between the FCS institution and school district(s) in its service area. Collegiate high school programs are funded in accordance with ss. 1007.271 and 1011.62, F.S.

**Dual Enrollment**

The dual enrollment program is a rigorous acceleration option that allows students to simultaneously earn high school and college credit. The FCS served over 53,000 dual enrollment students in 2013-14. Section 1007.271, F.S., outlines the dual enrollment program. A recent change to the funding for dual enrollment requires school districts to reimburse the FCS institution in its service area for dual enrollment participation that occurs on the college campus as well as on the high school campus when college faculty are delivering instruction. In addition, the legislature included a specific allocation in the 2014 General Appropriations Act for funding summer dual enrollment.
Continuing Developments

Baccalaureates

In 2001, the Florida Legislature authorized FCS institutions to seek approval from the State Board of Education (SBE) to grant baccalaureate degrees in limited, high-demand areas. Since the initial legislation, the SBE has approved over 170 programs at 24 colleges. An amendment to s. 1001.03 F.S., during the 2014 legislative session prohibits the SBE from approving any new FCS baccalaureate degree proposals from March 31, 2014 through May 31, 2015. During this moratorium on new program approval, the FCS is examining the status of existing baccalaureate programs through a program review coordinated by the Division of Florida Colleges.

In the News

The State Board of Education approved 18 new FCS baccalaureate programs in 2013. Pasco-Hernando State College became the 24th college authorized to offer baccalaureate degrees.

Daytona State was ranked #7 among the Top 10 Best Online Bachelor’s Programs in the nation by U.S. News & World Report in 2014, for the second year running.

Last year, 19 FCS institutions landed at the top of a list of public, four-year colleges with the lowest tuition rates according to the U.S. Department of Education’s College Affordability and Transparency Center. The average net price in the FCS for public, four-year institutions is $6,757, below the national average of $10,863.

$10,000 Degree Update

FCS institutions have accepted Governor Scott’s challenge to develop and offer $10,000 degree programs.
IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION

In 2013, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 1720 which resulted in major developmental education reform, including increased student direct access to college-level coursework. Students who entered 9th grade at a Florida public high school during the 2003-04 academic year and graduated with standard high school diplomas after 2003-04 will be exempt from common placement testing and developmental education. For those who are not exempt, developmental education options must be made available, meaning not a one-size-fits-all approach.

Progress

The Florida College System Chancellor has approved each FCS institution’s developmental education implementation plan. Education plans were fully implemented at the beginning of the 2014 Fall semester. In addition to major advisory changes, curricular changes to developmental education courses are among the activities in progress. Institutions are required to offer optional developmental education instructional strategies such as modularized, compressed, contextualized and co-requisite. Offering optional instructional strategies allows students to select teaching methods that best meet their learning style, while reducing the length of time in developmental education courses.

The State Board of Education has approved an amendment to Rule 6A-10.0315, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Common Placement Testing and Instruction, which specifies the criteria by which a student is exempted from common placement testing and developmental education and revised common placement test scores as a result of standard setting. The rule became effective October 22, 2013.

Rule 6A-14.065, F.A.C., Meta-Major Academic Pathways was approved by the State Board of Education and went into effect December 31, 2013. The meta-major academic pathways must be a component of each FCS institution’s approved comprehensive advising plan. Students should be advised of the academic pathway that correlates with their selected meta-major, to include the appropriate gateway courses.

Moving Forward

The Division of Florida Colleges will continue to provide technical assistance and support to all FCS institutions. Each institution must submit an annual accountability report to the chancellor by October 31, 2015. The chancellor will compile the reports and provide an accountability report to the Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives and State Board of Education by December 31, 2015.

Connections

The Connections Conference is held each spring and provides meaningful coverage on current trends in bridging the gap between K-12 and postsecondary educators. Connections is an important forum for Florida policymakers, educators, and administrators to gather and exchange ideas about programs and services that address academic preparedness, learning strategies, diagnostic assessment and placement and overcoming barriers to learning.
In the News

In March 2014, President Barack Obama chose Valencia College to host a discussion on expanding economic opportunities for women and working families. He met with students and college leaders in a small roundtable and later addressed a larger audience. Five college leaders were subsequently invited to participate in the White House Summit on Working Families in June.

Seminole State College of Florida is one of only three Florida colleges or universities honored with a 2014 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. The national honor recognizes colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion. Only 82 colleges and universities were selected in 2014.

Miami Dade College was one of eight national institutions honored in 2013 by the Institute of Higher Education Policy as an “Exemplar Institution” for enhancing student access and success gains for underserved student populations. Miami Dade College was also named among the nation’s Great Colleges to Work For by the Chronicle of High Education in 2014 for the sixth consecutive year.

Equity

The Florida College System’s (FCS) commitment to open access continues to be a strong reason that students of all races, ethnicities and national origins choose FCS institutions to pursue academics and training for successful careers. All students, including minorities, students with disabilities, veterans and students with limited English proficiency can be assured that each college is staffed with dedicated faculty and personnel to provide specialized assistance that each student needs to reach academic goals. Annual equity reports continue to document increased enrollments and completions of traditionally under-represented students and employees. Additionally, colleges continue to develop and implement programs and initiatives to help these students stay in college and complete programs with job-ready skills or advanced degrees.

FCS institutions continue implementing and offering new initiatives with goals to increase enrollments, program and degree completions and employment of minorities. Successful initiatives include, but are not limited to the following.

- Utilizing Academic Centers of Excellence for tutoring and academic counseling
- Early registration activities targeting minorities in high schools
- Brother to Brother Student Advocate Program
- Utilizing minorities as college ambassadors for recruiting other minorities
- Utilizing Student Support Services Programs to target specific student needs
- Ensure adaptive equipment is available for all student with disabilities
- Enhance awareness of the needs of students with disabilities among advisors and instructors
Students with Disabilities Education Pathway Task Force

The 2013-14 academic year ushered in a new awareness and commitment to ensure that the academic needs of students with disabilities are met in the FCS. Colleges responded to new and important initiatives to ensure a seamless pathway for students with disabilities as they pursue postsecondary education. During the 2013 Legislative Session, Senate Bill 1500 included proviso language that created the Students with Disabilities Education Pathway Task Force. The purpose of the task force was to make recommendations on a rigorous K-12 academic pathway that will enable students with disabilities to earn a diploma that will matriculate into postsecondary education college credit programs. The Division of Florida Colleges (division) participated in efforts that led to new legislation that eliminated the high school special diploma. New options were recommended for expanding the access of students with disabilities to a traditional postsecondary academic experience. Students can embark on new educational pathways beginning in K-12 that will result in achieving a standard diploma and admission to any FCS institution. The FCS served over 19,900 students with disabilities and awarded degrees or certificates of completion to 3,681 students in 2013-14. These numbers will increase as more eligible students with disabilities avail themselves of the services, aids and accommodations available to them through the institutions’ disability services providers.

Equity Conference

The FCS continues to excel in providing open access through targeted efforts to attract, retain and graduate minorities. Each November, the division hosts an equity conference to provide technical assistance and a forum for college equity officers, human resource directors, student affairs and disability coordinators to stay abreast on issues related to civil rights and legislation. Eastern Florida State College hosted the 2013 conference where over 60 professionals convened and interacted with presenters from the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, directors of programs offering services for students with disabilities and division staff.
The Florida College System Foundation was established in 1994 and has been providing student scholarships to Florida’s 28 colleges since 1999. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and the official direct support organization for the Florida College System. The Foundation is organized and operated exclusively to receive, hold, invest and administer property and to make expenditures to, or for the benefit of, the Florida College System institutions in the state of Florida. The Foundation controls net assets of $20,423,028 (as of June 30, 2013).

The Florida College System Foundation supports the comprehensive mission of the Florida College System and its students to be the nation’s leading advocate for postsecondary educational opportunity, access and student success while respecting and protecting the autonomy and local support of Florida’s 28 colleges. The Foundation awarded $900,000 in scholarships for the 2013-14 academic year. Students who are enrolled in one of Florida’s 28 colleges can apply for these scholarships at their local college.

Endowed scholarships include:

- **Helios Education Foundation Scholarship:** awarded to first-generation students who are preparing to become teachers in Florida.
- **Florida Blue Scholarship:** supports students in the area of nursing and allied health.
- **Bank of America “Dream Makers” Scholars:** awarded to first-generation students to cover tuition, books, fees and childcare.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship Type</th>
<th>Endowment Awarded</th>
<th>Students/Scholarships Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helios Education Foundation Endowment</td>
<td>$459,497</td>
<td>592 first generation students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Blue Endowment</td>
<td>$320,920</td>
<td>680 nursing and allied health students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dream Makers Bank of America Endowment</td>
<td>$116,473</td>
<td>in first generation student scholarships</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The mission of the Florida College System Foundation is to secure and manage public and private resources to provide optimal benefit to Florida’s 28 colleges, thereby supporting students who are seeking a higher education that will positively impact their lives and the future of their communities.
**Student Testimonials**

“By awarding me the First Generation Scholarship, I am able to concentrate on what is important for me, education. Your financial generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal and has inspired me to help others by giving back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help other students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.”

— Tamara, Helios Education Foundation First Generation Scholarship Recipient

“As an adult who has been out of high school for many years, it was my desire to finally do something for myself after having raised four children on my own. With three of them attending college at the same time I was applying, it was difficult for me financially as well as time-wise due to working a full time job... The scholarship came to me at just the right time to help me pay for my internship this summer as well as two courses I will be taking.”

— Ronna, Dream Makers First Generation Scholarship Recipient

“This scholarship will enable me to advance my career in emergency medicine by allowing me to continue onto the summer semester in the Paramedic program at Pensacola State College. I have been serving the people of Escambia County, Florida as an EMT since 2005, helping as many as I could. Now I will be able to continue to take that next step in furthering my education and continuing to improve my patient care with enhanced knowledge and skills learned throughout this program.”

— Patrick, Florida Blue Scholarship Recipient
The Chancellor’s Best Practice Awards offer an outstanding opportunity to promote exemplary initiatives to statewide and national audiences by sharing pioneering programs found in FCS institutions. The FCS, which is regarded as a model for the nation, recognizes programs that strive to be the most innovative in the system.

The Division of Florida Colleges annually recognizes FCS institutions that have established innovative practices or have enhanced existing programs. The 2013 Chancellor’s Best Practice Awards were announced at the 64th Annual Association of Florida Colleges Convention.

### 2013 Best Practice Award Winners

- **Florida Gateway College**
  - Gaming Unlocks Virtual Technology in the Sciences

- **Indian River State College**
  - Project Win-Win: Return to the River

- **Miami Dade College**
  - Test Prep Boot Camp

- **Pasco-Hernando State College**
  - Student Assistance Program: Maximizing Student Success through a Public-Private Partnership

Visit [http://www.floridacollegesystem.com/about/chancellors_initiatives.aspx](http://www.floridacollegesystem.com/about/chancellors_initiatives.aspx) to learn more about Chancellor Initiatives.

### Criteria Used to Determine a Best Practice

- Sustainability
- Innovation
- Improvement
- Evaluation
- Impact
- Recognition
Chancellor’s Leadership Seminar

The Chancellor’s Leadership Seminar (CLS) is an initiative designed to provide a leadership development opportunity to administrators and faculty within the FCS who may be interested in a leadership role. The impetus is to promote individuals who may be primed to move into a leadership role; have recognized experience and are committed to the system. Since 2001, this “nomination only” event has marked a significant phase in professional development and has recognized each participant as an individual with the potential for professional advancement within the FCS.

In 2014, participants attended an all-encompassing four-day seminar, which was held at the St. Johns River State College St. Augustine Campus June 17-20. Speakers at the seminar included college presidents, state legislators, business leaders, college trustees and CLS alumni.

In addition to the Chancellor’s Leadership Seminar, CLS alumni are invited to additional networking and development opportunities available through the Chancellor’s Leadership Executive Academy and Alumni Group (CLEAAG). CLEAAG works directly with the Chancellor’s Office in the organization of alumni events and activities that coincide with CLS. In 2013, CLS alumni participated in the Florida College System civic engagement initiative.
**The Chancellor’s Student Service Award**

The Division of Florida Colleges hosted a civic engagement video contest for FCS students in order to recognize civic engagement initiatives. Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) chapters across the state submitted short videos highlighting their involvement in the local community. Leon County 7th grade students judged the submissions as part of their studies on civic engagement and the winner received a monetary award, sponsored by the Florida Lottery. The winning PTK chapter video was submitted by the Omicron Tau chapter at Miami Dade College’s Kendall campus and announced at the 2014 All-Florida Academic Team Awards Ceremony in Orlando on April 24, 2014.

**Civic Engagement**

Each Florida College System (FCS) institution maintains a close connection with its community, providing students with many opportunities for engagement. Research shows there is a link between academic performance and civic engagement. As such, leaders including former Florida Governor and Senator Bob Graham, have encouraged the FCS to do more to foster civic participation. Beginning in 2013, key stakeholders began to identify strategies for implementing a Civics Education initiative to emphasize the achievement of social and educational equity to prepare Floridians for full participation in society.

The Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions at St. Petersburg College is one of the key facilitators of this initiative. Partners include the Florida Department of Education, the Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida; the Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida; the Education Commission of the States and the Florida College System Council of Presidents.

**In the News**

**Palm Beach State College Student United Way wins national award for service**

After just a year and a half of operation, the Palm Beach State College Student United Way received a national award for logging more than 3,000 community service hours through local volunteer activities in 2013-2014. United Way Worldwide presented the Student United Way, based at the Lake Worth campus, with the VOLUNTEER Promising Practice Award. It was among only nine Student United Way clubs on college campuses across the United States to receive awards for their “innovative approaches to giving, advocating and volunteering to improve lives and communities.”
28 colleges
69 campuses
Over 800,000 students

One System, One Mission