Serving the Underserved

The FCS continues to serve as an access point for special student populations.

In 2014-15, the Florida College System (FCS) had large proportions of students from special populations enroll in the year following 2013-14 high school graduation. For example, of the nearly 6,000 high school graduates who reported having a disability and enrolled in the postsecondary sector after graduation, 79.1 percent enrolled in the FCS. Of the over 36,635 high school graduates who were identified as being economically disadvantaged (i.e., qualified for Free or Reduced Lunch) and entered college, 74.0 percent enrolled in the FCS. Florida colleges also provided access to 85.8 percent (4,053) of graduates who were English Language Learners and to 77.5 percent (214) of those identified as migrant students (children of migrant agricultural workers who move frequently to follow work). When compared to other sectors, the Florida College System serves as a major entry point to college for many students, including those with unique circumstances or abilities.

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