

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action Items
June 21, 2005

SUBJECT: 2005-06 College Reach-Out Program Funding Recommendations

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approval of Advisory Council Recommendations for Funding 2005-06 CROP Projects

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Ch. 1007.34, F.S., and 2005 General Appropriations Act, Item # 89

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The College Reach-Out Program (CROP) was established in 1983 by the Florida Legislature to motivate and prepare educationally disadvantaged, low-income students in grades 6 through 12 to pursue and successfully complete a postsecondary education. Participants are students who otherwise would be unlikely to seek admission to a postsecondary institution without special support and recruitment efforts. Funds are appropriated by the Legislature to the Department of Education and allocated competitively to postsecondary institutions submitting proposals to implement effective intervention strategies.

Chapter 1007.34 (9), F.S., stipulates that the CROP Advisory Council review the proposals and recommend to the State Board of Education an order of priority for funding the proposals. The CROP Advisory Council met on May 25 to review the 2005-06 CROP applications and recommend funding levels for each project. The funding recommendations are included in the Prioritized Funding List, which is being presented for State Board approval.

CROP is presently serving approximately 9,000 students through nine state universities, twenty-five community colleges, and four independent postsecondary institutions. Approximately 72% of these students are African-American, 11% are Hispanic, 13% are White, 1% is Asian, less than 1% is American Indian, and approximately 2% are other. The 2005-06 state appropriation is \$3,199,990, and participating postsecondary institutions are required to match the state appropriation with cash and in-kind services.

This item is presented for State Board approval.

Supporting Documentation Included: 2005-06 CROP Prioritized Funding List

Facilitators/Presenters: Commissioner John L. Winn