

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 20, 2006

Action Item

SUBJECT: Approval of 2006-07 College Reach-Out Program Funding Recommendations

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Ch. 1007.34, F.S., and 2006 General Appropriations Act, Item # 73

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 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 19, 2006, to review the 2006-07 CROP applications and recommended 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 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, 12% are Hispanic, 12% are white, 1% is Asian, less than 1% is American Indian, and approximately 2 percent is other. The 2006-07 appropriation is \$3,399,990 and participating postsecondary institutions are required to match the state appropriation with cash and in-kind services.

CROP has a direct correlation to strategic imperatives 3 and 8 by improving student proficiency and assisting in improving access opportunities for low-income educationally disadvantaged students.

Supporting Documentation Included: 2006-07 CROP Prioritized Funding List

Facilitators/Presenters: Monica Hayes, Director of Equity and Access