

FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 20-21, 2001

SUBJECT: Academic Improvement Trust Fund Use Approval

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approval item: Request for Use Approval for Academic Improvement Trust Fund.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The proposals for use of funds from the Academic Improvement Trust Fund were formerly approved by the State Board of Community Colleges as required by Chapter 240.36(6)(c), F.S. Several years ago, the members of the SBCC delegated this approval to the Executive Director.

Chapter 2001-89, Laws of Florida, abolished the State Board of Community Colleges. The duties and responsibilities of the Board were transferred to the Florida Board of Education by a Type Two Transfer.

Therefore, the board of trustees of each community college and the Florida Board of Education are responsible for determining the uses for the proceeds of their respective trust funds. Such uses of the proceeds shall be limited to expenditure of the funds for:

- (1) Scientific and Technical Equipment;
- (2) Other activities that will benefit future students as well as students currently enrolled at the community college and that will improve the quality of education at the community or in the community college system.
- (3) Scholarships, loans, or need-based grants.

The following colleges have submitted requests for use of these funds:

- Lake-Sumter Community College (\$20,000) for Theatre Equipment,
- Pensacola Junior College (\$12,400) for Professional Development, Student Scholarships and Animal Record Keeping System (ARKS) Software for Freshmen Zoology students who need to become adept in the use of this animal tracking system used by zoos nationwide,
- St. Johns River Community College (\$4,613.44) for Endowed Scholarships
- St. Petersburg College (\$127,000) for Equipment and Software for Health Care Programs

Each community college board of trustees has approved the use of these funds and has certified that the use meets the criteria stated in law. It is the opinion of the staff of the Division of Community Colleges that the colleges have complied with the requirements stated in statute and recommend Board approval of these uses from the Academic Improvement Trust Fund.

Supporting Documentation Included: Requests for Use Approval Forms submitted by the above colleges.

Facilitators/Presenters: Ed Cisek