

# Council of Presidents | 2018 Legislative Priorities

## Workforce Preparation

---

The Council of Presidents requests a state allocation to increase certificate and degree programs to address regional business and industry needs with an emphasis on identified employment gaps high skill/high-wage occupations. The Florida College System will address Florida's workforce needs through:

- Supporting programs that provide training for occupations in high demand such as Aerospace and Aviation, Finance and Professional Services, Health Care and Life Sciences, and Logistics and Distribution (Jobs 2030). The Florida Chamber's Florida Jobs 2030 report and the gap analysis commissioned by the COP both indicate that the areas of health technologies and technicians are high need/high demand occupations.

## Student Success and Completion

---

The Florida College System holds a pivotal role and strategic position in ensuring that our state meets the ambitious completion and attainment goal set forth by the HECC. The Council of Presidents is fully committed to helping reach HECC's postsecondary attainment goal of 55% of Floridians between the ages of 25 and 64 holding a degree or postsecondary certificate by the year 2025. Therefore, the COP respectfully requests an additional state investment through the FCS Funding Formula for the following student success related initiatives targeting the attainment goal:

### *Increase Advising and Enhance Student Support Services*

- Intensive or Intrusive Advising is a vital best practice for improving retention and completion rates; however, for advisors to be most effective, student to advisor ratios must be manageable. In an October of 2016 aggregate report of FCS institutions, the average advisor load was 730:1 – well above the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) recommended 400:1 students to advisor ratio.

### *Strengthen Guided Pathways and Program Maps – Maintain Timeliness to Degree & Focus on Job/Transfer*

- Monitoring students on a strict program path will help students avoid unnecessary courses, remain on time to degree, and most importantly, progress toward their intended workforce or transfer destination. Pathway development can improve outcomes for 2+2 statewide articulation and prepare students in advance for specific program entry or targeted pathways into selective SUS programs.

### *Improve 'Gateway' Course Success and Further Eliminate Non-College Credit English/Math Barriers*

- Prior to the passage and implementation of Senate Bill 1720 in 2013, Developmental Education accounted for 10.2 percent of all Florida College System FTE. That number has dropped drastically to 4.3 percent of all FTE in 2016-17, with students transitioning their enrollment to college-level courses. Colleges have productively altered the approach to students underprepared for college-level Math and English, achieving stronger results through contextual learning, co-curricular courses, increased online and on-campus tutoring, and other services and technologies to promote student success and completion.

## Performance Funding

---

The Florida College System (FCS) performance-based incentive program awards funding to FCS institutions based on four measures adopted by the State Board of Education: student retention and completion rates, earnings outcomes, and continuing education/job placement.

For the 2018-19 Fiscal year, the FCS Council of Presidents requests from the Florida Legislature a total of \$80 million for performance-based funding. This request includes \$40 million in institutional investments and a one-time recurring state investment of \$40 million distributed amongst colleges who qualify through the metrics. These new state funds are necessary in order for the colleges to continue to support students through high impact program enhancements that promote retention and on-time completion as well as attract and retain the best talent amongst faculty and staff for the system.

The Council of Presidents also supports the four measures of the performance funding model that were codified into law in 2016 and requests that these metrics be left intact through the 2018-19 Fiscal Year.

## Public Education Capital Outlay

---

The DOE's prioritization process ranks PECO projects with a focus on STEM projects and high wage programs in the FCS.

- **System-wide deferred maintenance of facilities** is critical for campuses impacted by aging facilities used by more than 800,000 FCS students annually.
- **Degradation of facilities** creates life-to-safety hazards and failing infrastructure impacting the health of students, faculty and staff.
- **Complete existing projects** and recently approved projects.

## Deferred Maintenance and Operating Cost of New Facilities

---

### *Deferred Maintenance*

- According to the Fall 2016 Facilities Inventory Report, the state colleges own 2,171 buildings, totaling 42,306,500 gross square feet, with an average age of 26.8 years. The cost to replace this amount of square footage (at current construction costs of approximately \$300/sf) would be approximately \$12.7 billion.
- Annually, the colleges request funding for maintenance, repairs, and general renovation and remodeling (this does not include the funds requested for specific remodeling projects or new construction projects).