

Charter and Collegiate High Schools in The Florida College System

Background

Charter schools in The Florida College System (FCS) are statutorily authorized when an institution, in cooperation with the school board within the colleges' service areas, develops a charter school that offers secondary education and allows students to obtain an associate's degree upon graduation from high school. Since 1996, Florida public charter schools have provided smaller class sizes, alternative curriculums, and increased opportunities for parental involvement. Additionally, Florida has a number of collegiate high schools, which are innovative schools designed to provide academic and technical education for high school students interested in embarking in college-level study. The state of Florida has a series of definitions for the types of collegiate and charter high schools.

Charter School — Per section (s.) 1002.33, Florida Statute (F.S.), charter schools shall be part of the state's program of public education. A charter school may be formed by creating a new school or converting an existing public school to charter status. A public school may not use the term charter in its name unless it has been approved under this section.

Charter-Technical Career Center — Per s. 1002.34, F.S., charter-technical career centers can assist in promoting advances and innovations in workforce preparation and economic development. A charter-technical career center may provide a learning environment that better serves the needs of a specific population group or a group of occupations. Therefore, the creation of such centers is authorized as part of the state's program of public education. A charter-technical career center may be formed by creating a new school or converting an existing school district or college program to charter technical status.

Collegiate High School (not chartered) — Any collegiate high school that does not fall under the charter school category.

Career Tech Prep Academy (not chartered) — Any career tech prep academy that does not fall under the charter-tech career center category.

Dual Enrollment/Early Admission — Per s. 1007.271(7), F.S., early admission is when a high school student is enrolled full-time in college courses that lead to a certificate, associate, or baccalaureate degree. Some early admission programs may be structured so that eligible students are able to complete high school and associate degree requirements at the same time.

Survey Results

In Fall 2010, the Division of Florida Colleges surveyed the 28 colleges to update information about charter and collegiate high schools in the FCS. Of the 28 colleges, 25 responded which represents a response rate of 89%. Thirteen of those colleges reported having a charter/collegiate high school (see Exhibit 1). It should be noted that all colleges, even those without a charter or collegiate high school, offer dual enrollment options to their local service areas.

EXHIBIT 1. CHARTER AND COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE FLORIDA COLLEGE SYSTEM, 2010

College Name	Name of Charter/Collegiate School	Type of School	Location	Dedicated Faculty	Student Enrollment Fall 2010	Associate Degrees Awarded 09-10
Brevard Community College	Brevard Community College/Brevard Public Schools Collegiate High School Program	Collegiate High School	On campus	0	476	144
Broward College	College Academy at Broward College	Collegiate High School	On campus	13	349	173
Daytona State College	Advanced Technology Center	Charter-Technical Career Center	Off campus	0	1,123	0
Edison State College	Edison Collegiate High School - Charlotte	Charter School and Collegiate High School	On campus	13	200	0
	Edison Collegiate High School - Lee Campus	Charter School and Collegiate High School	On campus	5	100	0
Florida State College at Jacksonville	Pathways Academy Charter High School	Charter School	On campus	16	128	0
Indian River State College	Clark Advanced Learning Center	Charter School	On campus	8	220	11
Miami Dade College	School for Advanced Studies - North Campus, Kendall Campus, Wolfson Campus, and Homstead Campus	Collegiate High School	On campus	19	518	71
	New World School of the Arts	Collegiate High School	On campus	27	486	18
Northwest Florida State College	Collegiate High School at Northwest Florida State College	Charter School and Collegiate High School	On campus	0	275	80
Pensacola State College	Pensacola State Collegiate High School	Collegiate High School	On campus	11	440	0
Polk State College	Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School at Polk State College	Charter School and Collegiate High School	On campus	9	250	33
	PSC Collegiate High School	Charter School and Collegiate High School	On campus	8	221	22
South Florida Community College	Career Academy at South Florida Community College	Career Technical Prep Academy	On campus	0	99	0
State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota**	State College of Florida Collegiate School	Charter School	On campus	0	0	0
St. Petersburg College	St. Petersburg Collegiate High School	Charter School	On campus	5	206	58
System Total				134	5,091	610

Source: Survey Results Analyzed by the Division of Florida Colleges

* Associate degrees awarded include collegiate high school, early admission, and regular dual enrollment students.

** The State College of Florida Collegiate School is in its first year of existence and plans to serve grades 6-12.

Additionally, charter/collegiate high schools in the FCS feature many benefits, including:

- Bachelor in Engineering Technology began Fall 2010 (Daytona State College).
- STEM focus (Edison State College– Lee Campus).
- “A” rated classrooms and full Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation (Indian River State College).
- Advanced Placement curriculum (Miami Dade College– School for Advanced Studies).
- Capstone projects for graduating seniors (Northwest Florida State College).
- High tech building with smart classrooms (Pensacola State College).
- Dual-enrolled occupational instruction taught by college funded staff (South Florida Community College).
- Outreach to first generation families (State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota).

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