

**State Board of Education**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Florida College System Presidents  
State University System Presidents  
Independent Colleges and Universities Presidents

**FROM:** Kevin O’Farrell, Ph.D.

**DATE:** August 14, 2023

**SUBJECT:** **2023-24 Grow Your Own Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program:  
A Sub-Initiative of the Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant (PCOG)  
Program; Florida Department of Education Grants – Funding  
Opportunity/Webinar Schedule**

The funds for this grant are appropriated under the 2023 state of Florida General Appropriations Act (Appropriation Number 115 – Aid to Local Governments – Grants and Aids) as a sub initiative to PCOG, \$5 million has been allocated to support the Grow Your Own Teacher Registered Apprenticeship Program, which was established in HB 1035 and creates s. 1012.555, F.S.

The purpose of this sub initiative grant is to support the costs of related technical instruction for upper division coursework toward the award of a baccalaureate degree in education. Eligible applicants are limited to Florida College System (FCS) institutions, State University System (SUS) institutions and Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) institutions with baccalaureate-level state-approved educator preparation programs (EPPs) approved by the Florida Department of Education.

This grant is targeted support for Florida’s teacher pipeline. This funding opportunity will increase the supply of qualified teachers by encouraging innovative partnerships between FCS, SUS and ICUF EPPs and school districts to provide no-cost apprenticeship pathways to the teaching profession.

Kevin O’Farrell, Ph.D.  
Chancellor of Career and Adult Education

Please be mindful of the following dates:

- **August 29, 2023** – Opportunity to participate in an informational webinar.
- **September 22, 2023 (5 PM EDT)** – Deadline to submit project concepts.

Please register for the initial funding opportunities webinar below.

<p>2023-2024 Grow Your Own Teacher Apprenticeship PCOG Funding Opportunity Webinar <a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1901006559562018645">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1901006559562018645</a> Webinar ID: 536-474-987</p>	<p>August 29, 2023 10:00AM– 11:30AM (EDT)</p>	<p>Call-In Number: 415-930-5321  Attendee code: 943-730-450</p>
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After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Governor DeSantis’s continued commitment to the registered apprenticeship model to train and prepare Florida’s future educators is a testament to not only the value of the “earn while you learn” model of postsecondary education but is essential for Florida to become number one in the nation for workforce education by 2030. We look forward to ongoing collaboration to provide the highest quality career preparation opportunities for all Floridians.

For additional information visit Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant Program at [www.fldoe.org/pathwaysgrant](http://www.fldoe.org/pathwaysgrant). If you have any questions, please contact the PCOG Grant Manager, Julie Nichols at [Julie.Nichols@fldoe.org](mailto:Julie.Nichols@fldoe.org).

KO/kt

Cc:

Kimberly Richey, Senior Chancellor  
Raymond Rodrigues, Chancellor, State University System of Florida  
Robert J. Boyd, President and CEO, Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida  
Kathy Hebda, Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges  
Paul Burns, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools  
District Superintendents

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