

# Florida College System Update

## **Last Mile**

- In October, Governor DeSantis announced that all 28 of our Florida College System (FCS) institutions had signed on in support the Last Mile College Completion Program, which assist those students who have stopped out with 12 or fewer credit hours remaining towards their first associate or baccalaureate degree.
- By supporting this program, we have agreed to use our existing resources to help these students before receiving funding from the legislature.
- Last Mile not only aligns with our mission as a system, it will help place Florida on the path to becoming number one in the nation for its workforce by 2030.
- We are all working on reaching out to former students to bring them back in and are eager to share our results as we move forward.

## **Funding Model**

- The FCS Council of Presidents (COP) has been working closely with Commissioner Corcoran and Chancellor Hebda on developing a clear funding model for our system that prioritizes an appropriate base student allocation, equity, enrollment growth, and, most recently, workforce programming.
- All 28 presidents are incredibly appreciative of the Commissioner and Chancellor for their transparency and collaboration as we work towards a final version of this model. The workforce component was a suggestion of the presidents when Commissioner Corcoran asked for feedback on the model early on and is an example of the collaboration that we have experienced throughout the model development.

## **Workforce Council**

- The COP recently approved the creation of the Council of Workforce Education (CWE) to support the COP's focus on providing workforce programs and improving student outcomes.
- CWE is comprised of one representative from each FCS institution and will meet regularly throughout the year for professional development and to help advise the COP on issues related to workforce education.

## **Patriot's Path**

- The COP also recently approved a new branding initiative called Patriot's Path to position FCS as the first choice for veterans and active-duty service members in Florida who want to continue their education and earn a college degree.
- The colleges currently serve more than 20,000 active duty military and veterans.

- Patriot's Path will highlight our commitment to these students by packaging all of the colleges' programs and initiatives and communicating them under a single brand to create greater awareness.