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## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
Florida College System Presidents

**FROM:** Ashley Meros, Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education  
Kathryn Hebda, Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges

**DATE:** August 21, 2026

**SUBJECT:** **2026-27 Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE) Funds**

Section 1009.897, Florida Statutes, rewards performance and excellence among public postsecondary nursing education programs. The PIPELINE funding incentive program for districts and Florida College System (FCS) institutions is provided in Specific Appropriations 125 and 131 from the 2026 General Appropriations Act (GAA) ([Chapter 2026-232, Laws of Florida](#)), and provides for performance funds, subject to appropriation, based upon the following statutory guidelines:

- The number of nursing education program completers, by program.
- The first-time National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination (NCLEX) passage rate of the institution's nursing education program completers, by program.
- Excellence among nursing education programs with an average first-time NCLEX passage rate above the national average.

The 2026 GAA provides the following allocations to school districts and FCS institutions:

- \$20 million to school districts with licensed practical nursing programs based upon 2024-25 completion data and 2024 licensure data.
- \$40 million to FCS institutions with licensed practical nursing and registered nursing programs based upon 2024-25 completion data and 2024 licensure data.

For licensure data, the [2024 annual first time, U.S. Educated, Pass rate](#) was used. For practical nurses, the national average was 88.40 percent. For registered nursing, the national average was 90.60 percent. Data by institution are posted on the Florida Board of Nursing's website at the following link: <https://mqa-internet.doh.state.fl.us/MQASearchServices/NursingPrograms>.

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The allocations by institution were provided in the specific appropriations in each sector's funding area in the GAA. Attached are two documents that provide background information on the specific calculations.

- Attachment 1 is a school district summary with allocations by district from Specific Appropriation 125. In this attachment, Table 1 shows the amounts calculated by the legislature for each school district career center. Table 2 shows the total allocation by district and category of funds.
- Attachment 2 is an FCS summary with allocations for each institution and data used for the allocation, as calculated by the legislature, from Specific Appropriation 131.

While these funds are provided based upon recent performance in nursing education programs, the expenditure of these funds is not limited in the statute to nursing programs. Expenditures must abide by the state cost guidelines for the allowable use of funds. The following are non-allowable use of state funds: indirect costs, fixed capital outlay, renovation or remodeling. Agencies may be asked to report on the impact of these funds at the end of the fiscal year. Agencies will be provided with a direct transfer of funds in four increments each quarter which will allow for the efficient use of these resources to benefit programs.

Should you have questions about this program, please contact Dana McMillan at [Dana.McMillan1@fldoe.org](mailto:Dana.McMillan1@fldoe.org).

For school district allocation questions, contact Tara Goodman, Vice Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education, at [Tara.Goodman@fldoe.org](mailto:Tara.Goodman@fldoe.org) or 850-245-9001. Questions about Florida College System allocations may be directed to Jose Arevalo, Executive Vice Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges, at [Jose.Arevalo@fldoe.org](mailto:Jose.Arevalo@fldoe.org) or 850-245-9903.

AYM/KH/dm

Attachment

cc: Kevin O'Farrell, Ph.D., Senior Chancellor  
Suzanne Pridgeon, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations  
School District Postsecondary Career and Technical Education Directors  
School District Technical Center Directors  
School District Finance Officers  
Florida College System Workforce Administrators