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DFC Memorandum Number: 2022-07

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida College System Presidents

FROM: Kathy Hebda 

DATE: June 22, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on the 2022 Florida Legislative Session

The 2022 Florida Legislature passed legislation that will have implications for Florida College System (FCS) institutions. A summary of action required of FCS institutions is provided below and in Appendix A. To assist institutions in understanding and implementing the provisions, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) grouped this memo into the topics of articulation, academic affairs, workforce education, and student and finance/business affairs. Because many of the bills cross multiple divisions and functions, we encourage everyone at our institutions to read the bills themselves and every section of this memo closely.

ARTICULATION

Dual Enrollment (SB 2524)

Senate Bill (SB) 2524 modified section (s.) 1007.271(17), Florida Statutes (F.S.), to remove the requirement that only public school students be provided instructional materials for use in dual enrollment courses free of charge. In effect, all students – public school, private school, and home education – will be provided instructional materials free of charge. Additionally, SB 2524 provided that postsecondary institutions may not require payment for instructional materials costs that are eligible for reimbursement under the Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program in s. 1009.30, F.S.

Related to the Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program, SB 2524 modified the timeline for reporting and reimbursements. To receive a reimbursement, postsecondary institutions must report students within 30 days after the end of the regular registration period; FDOE must distribute reimbursements no later than 30 days upon receipt of the institutions' submissions. The Florida Legislature appropriated \$18,050,000 to support this program in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 and \$2,000,000 for FY 2021-22 to cover an anticipated deficit.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022. In summer/fall 2022, FDOE will engage in rule development to align Rule 6A-20.0282, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), *Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program*, with the new provisions. Once the rule is effective, FDOE will provide additional technical assistance and guidance.

Uniform Award of Credit for Law Enforcement Training (HB 3)

House Bill (HB) 3 created s. 1004.098, F.S., requiring the Board of Governors (BOG) and the State Board of Education (SBOE) to adopt regulations and rules to create a process to allow eligible law enforcement officers or former law enforcement officers to earn postsecondary credit, which would be uniform across all Florida public postsecondary educational institutions, for college-level training and education acquired while serving as a law enforcement officer. The bill specified the regulations and rules must include procedures for credential evaluation and the uniform award of postsecondary credit or career education clock hours.

HB 3 established September 1, 2022, as the date by which the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) must convene a 14-member workgroup to develop a process for determining equivalencies. It established March 1, 2023, as the date by which the workgroup must provide recommendations to the BOG and the SBOE. Annually, the ACC must approve and update a prioritized list of postsecondary course equivalencies and the minimum postsecondary credit or career education clock hours that must be awarded for law enforcement training and experience.

FDOE will begin working with the ACC, BOG, and Florida Department of Law Enforcement to convene a workgroup by September 1, 2022, to adopt a process. Like the process developed for the uniform awarding of military credit, FDOE may request additional data from FCS institutions and school districts with postsecondary programs to identify the most common courses and trainings for which students receive postsecondary credit or clock hours, and the specific course number and credit or clock hours awarded for these trainings.

As institutions will be required to award credit or clock hours (if applicable) to the students' degrees or certificates, institutions should expect follow-up guidance after equivalencies are developed and adopted. The Office of Articulation, which administratively supports the ACC, will be providing additional implementation procedures in the future regarding this portion of the legislation.

Statewide Course Numbering System (SB 7044)

SB 7044 modified s. 1007.24, F.S., to require the maintenance of the electronic Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS). It specified the SCNS include, for postsecondary courses, course levels, numbers, titles, credits awarded, and other identifiable information by institution and academic year, as required by Rule 6A-10.024, F.A.C., *Articulation Between and Among Universities, Florida Colleges, and School Districts*. In addition to the SCNS, postsecondary institutions are responsible for including this information in their registration processes.

Additionally, SB 7044 reiterated that institutions accept and apply course credit in transfer first toward general education core requirements or other general education requirements before applying courses as elective credit. This requirement applies to course credit earned through dual enrollment, course equivalences, and other acceleration mechanisms. SB 7044 also required the SBOE to adopt rules related to the collection of course information, identifiable information required for each course, and the conduct of regularly scheduled faculty committee reviews and recommendations. The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

FDOE will review Rule 6A-10.024, F.A.C., to determine if these requirements can be accomplished through amendment or if these requirements would be better suited to a new rule. FDOE will be providing additional information and training on Florida's SCNS in the coming months.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Institutional Accreditation (SB 7044)

SB 7044 created s. 1008.47, F.S., to prohibit FCS institutions and state universities from being accredited by the same accrediting agency or association for consecutive accreditation cycles. It specified that FCS institutions must seek accreditation from an SBOE-identified accreditor or association in the year following reaffirmation or fifth-year review by their current accrediting agencies. SB 7044 also specified that specialized program accreditation is excluded from the prohibition on being accredited by the same accreditor for consecutive accreditation cycles.

Once the reaffirmation or fifth-year review by the current accreditor is complete, FCS institutions will be required to provide quarterly reports on their progress of seeking accreditation from an accreditor identified by SBOE. If each SBOE-identified accreditor refuses to grant candidacy to an FCS institution, that institution must seek accreditation from an agency or association that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USED). In the case candidacy status is not granted, the FCS institution may remain with its current accreditor. The prohibition on being accredited by the same accreditor for consecutive accreditation cycles will expire on December 31, 2032.

The bill also provided FCS institutions with a cause of action against an accreditor if the institution has been negatively impacted by retaliatory action.

This entire section of the bill took effect upon becoming law, which was April 19, 2022.

The bill established September 1, 2022, as the date by which the SBOE must identify accrediting agencies or associations that are recognized by the USED and are best suited to serve as an accreditor for FCS institutions. To that end, the FDOE is working in partnership with BOG to identify accreditors or agencies that are recognized by USED and open to accepting Florida institutions into their membership.

Once the SBOE identifies the list of eligible accreditors and agencies from which FCS institutions may choose, FDOE will notify all FCS institutions. FDOE will also provide a template for quarterly reporting for institutions to use in the year following reaffirmation or fifth-year review as they seek accreditation from an approved accreditor or agency. Additional information will be transmitted to institutions as soon as practicable.

Textbook Affordability (SB 7044)

SB 7044 modified s. 1004.085, F.S., to provide requirements for lists of required and recommended textbooks and instructional materials for FCS institution and state university courses. Specifically, the bill required the lists of textbooks and instructional materials to:

- Remain posted for at least five academic years.
- Be searchable by the course subject, course number, course title, the name of the instructor of the course, the title of each assigned textbook or instructional material, and each author of an assigned textbook or instructional material.
- Be easily downloadable by current and prospective students.

Additionally, SB 7044 modified syllabi requirements for the list of required and recommended textbooks when the course is a general education core course option identified pursuant to s. 1007.25, F.S. For these courses, and each course section, the full syllabus must be posted with the following information: course curriculum; goals, objectives, and student expectations; and assessment of student performance. This bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

FDOE will amend Rule 6A-14.092, F.A.C., *Textbook Affordability*, to comply with the new provisions regarding requirements for textbook and instructional materials posting. The annual textbook affordability reporting template may be updated as well. A rule workshop is scheduled for June 29, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. EST. Those who would like to participate can do so by registering at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/9129402698861143054>. FCS institutions will have to build the new requirements into their online system where the required list of courses is posted to comply with the new provisions as well as communicate the new syllabi requirements to faculty and academic program chairs.

Open Educational Resources (SB 2524)

SB 2524 amended s. 1006.73, F.S., to require all FCS institutions to ensure course registration systems prominently identify courses that utilize open educational resources (OER) and have zero textbook costs to maximize awareness and cost savings to students at least 45 days prior to the start of the term. The Zero Textbook Cost Indicator developed by the Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network may be used for this purpose. This bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Additionally, FDOE will amend Rule 6A-14.092, F.A.C., *Textbook Affordability*, to comply with the new requirement regarding using course registration systems to prominently identify courses that use OER or have zero costs. The annual textbook affordability reporting template may be updated as well. FDOE will communicate with institutions as soon as practicable about these requirements.

Educator Certification Pathways for Veterans (SB 896) – Informational

SB 896 modified s. 1012.56, F.S., to create an additional pathway for veterans to qualify for educator certification. The bill removed the requirement that an applicant for a temporary educator certificate hold a baccalaureate degree if the applicant has completed certain military service and education requirements. The effective date is July 1, 2022. Teacher preparation programs and veterans' liaisons should be aware of these changes.

WORKFORCE EDUCATION

Open Door Grant Program (SB 2524)

SB 2524 amended s. 1009.895, F.S., to modify the Open Door Grant Program, which provides funds to support student completion of short-term, high-demand credit and non-credit CTE programs at FCS institutions and school district career centers. Specifically, SB 2524:

- Extended eligibility for Open Door funds to school districts without a career center that offer eligible integrated education and training programs;
- Removed completion of a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as a requirement for student eligibility; and
- Allowed institutions to use Open Door funds to cover the student portion of the Student Investment approach.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022. FDOE has begun rule development to align Rule 6A-20.045, F.A.C., *Open Door Grant Program*, with the new provisions in SB 2524. A rule workshop is scheduled for June 22, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. EST. Those who would like to participate can do so by registering at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1537495910153401103>. Once in effect, institutions who currently receive Open Door funds may need to update their recruitment materials, as well as internal policies and processes, to reflect these changes. Also, institutions should expect a Request for Applications (RFA) to apply for funding. FDOE will notify institutions as soon as the RFA is available. The Florida Legislature appropriated \$15 million for school districts and \$20 million for FCS institutions to support this program in FY 2022-23.

Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) (SB 2524)

SB 2524 created s. 1009.896, F.S., to create the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund. The purpose of the LINE Fund is to incentivize collaboration between nursing education programs and health care partners to combat the growing nursing shortage in the state. The goals of the LINE Fund are to recruit faculty and clinical preceptors, increase the capacity for high-quality nursing education programs, and increase the number of nursing program graduates who are prepared to enter the workforce.

This competitive grant program will provide matching funds, on a dollar-to-dollar basis, to participating institutions that partner with a healthcare provider. The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022. The Florida Legislature appropriated \$19 million for FCS institutions, school district career centers, charter technical career centers, and certain independent nonprofit colleges and universities.

FDOE has begun rule development to outline the implementation of this grant program. A rule workshop is scheduled for June 29, 2022, at 12:45 p.m. EST. Those who would like to participate can do so by registering at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4419109178875206413>. Institutions should expect an RFA to apply for funding. FDOE will notify institutions as soon as the RFA is available.

Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE) (SB 2524)

SB 2524 created s. 1009.897, F.S., to create the Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE) Fund. District career centers, charter technical career centers, FCS, and SUS institutions will be allocated funds based on the performance of nursing education programs.

Performance metrics for programs include the number of nursing education program completers and the first-time National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination (NCLEX) passage rate of the institution's nursing education program completers. Additionally, allocations shall reward programs with first-time average NCLEX passage rates above the national average.

The Florida Legislature appropriated \$20 million for school district career centers that offer licensed practical nursing (LPN) programs and \$40 million for FCS institutions. FDOE has begun in rule development to administer the PIPELINE fund to institutions. A rule workshop is scheduled for June 29, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. EST. Those who would like to participate can do so by registering at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2556350664066848272>. Institutions should expect an RFA to apply for funding. FDOE will notify institutions as soon as the RFA is available.

Nursing Program Data Collection (SB 2524)

SB 2524 amended s. 464.0195, F.S., to require the biennial gap analysis of the supply and demand of the healthcare workforce to be conducted by the Florida Center for Nursing. Additionally, SB 2524 amended s. 1004.015, F.S., to require the Florida Talent Development Council (TDC), with the support of BOG and SBOE, to develop a survey to annually report 10-year trend information on nursing education programs.

FDOE is working with BOG and the TDC to modify the 10-year trend survey data collection instrument that was used in 2021. The FDOE may request additional data from FCS institutions and school districts with postsecondary programs required for this study. Data collection is expected to occur early fall 2022. The TDC will report the results of this survey by December 1, 2022.

Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship (HB 3) – Informational

HB 3 created s. 1009.896, F.S., the Florida Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program, to assist in the recruitment of law enforcement officers by providing financial assistance to trainees who enroll in a law enforcement officer basic recruit training program. The Florida Legislature appropriated \$5 million to students at school district career centers and FCS institutions in approved training programs. The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022. FDOE's Office of Student Financial Assistance will administer the scholarship program in consultation with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Law Enforcement Reimbursement (HB 3) – Informational

HB 3 created s. 1009.8961, F.S., to create a reimbursement program for eligible applicants who relocate from outside the state or who transition from service in the special operations forces to become full-time law enforcement officers in Florida. Beginning in 2022-23, FDOE, in consultation with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, shall reimburse eligible applicants for eligible expenses incurred while obtaining a Florida law enforcement officer certification. The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022. The Florida Legislature appropriated \$1 million for the reimbursement program, which will be administered by FDOE's Office of Student Financial Assistance.

STUDENT/BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Education for Student Inmates (SB 722)

SB 722 amended s. 944.801, F.S., to authorize a county or municipal detention facility or the Department of Corrections (DOC) to contract with an FCS institution to provide education services to its inmates. The bill affirmatively provides that state funds provided for the operation of postsecondary workforce programs may be expended on a state inmate with 24 months or less remaining on his or her sentence, notwithstanding s. 1011.81(4), F.S., which prohibits state funds for the Florida College System Program Fund from being expended on the education of state or Federal inmates. The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Fee Waivers/Exemptions

Disabled Veterans Fee Waiver

HB 45 created s. 295.011, F.S., to establish a fee waiver for disabled veterans who are enrolled in a postsecondary program and receive education assistance under the GI Bill, but who do not qualify for the 100 percent eligibility tier federally. Beginning in 2022-23, these students are eligible to receive a waiver in the amount that is the difference between the portion of tuition and fees authorized under federal law and the full amount of tuition and fees charged by the institution attended. The bill established a requirement that institutions report the number and value of all fee waivers granted under the program. HB 45 required the SBOE to adopt rules to implement the new tuition and fee waiver. In the coming months, FDOE will initiate rule development to outline the tuition and fee waiver implementation.

Homeless Youth Fee Exemption

HB 1577 modified s. 1009.25, F.S., to specify that students who meet the definition of homeless children and youths in section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. s. 11434a(2), are exempt from the payment of tuition and fees, including lab fees, at school district career centers and FCS institutions. The bill specified the SBOE shall consider, in rule, that the standards under 20 U.S.C. s. 1087uu-2(a) shall be adequate to determine fee exemption eligibility. Additionally, the bill presumed that any student determined to be an unaccompanied homeless youth for the tuition and fee exemption for a preceding year to be homeless for each subsequent year unless the institution has specific conflicting information.

HB 1577 also amended s. 409.1452, F.S., to require postsecondary institutions that grant fee exemptions under s. 1009.25, F.S., to have an on-campus liaison who is, at a minimum, a knowledgeable, accessible, and responsive staff member to help with any problems related to the use of the exemption. Institutions are required to provide the liaison's contact information to each student using a tuition and fee exemption and to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and community-based care lead agencies. In the coming months, FDOE will collaborate with DCF to outline campus liaison implementation and initiate rule development to outline the exemption.

Former Foster Youth Fee Exemption

SB 7034 amended s. 1009.25, F.S., to expand the tuition and fee exemption for foster care students to include a student who was the subject of a shelter proceeding, a dependency proceeding, or a termination of parental rights proceeding, and who:

- Is, or was at the time of reaching 18 years of age, in out-of-home care, rather than in the custody of the DCF as is provided for in current law;
- Was adopted from DCF after May 5, 1997;

- Is, or was at the time he or she reached 18 years of age, in the custody of a relative or nonrelative pursuant to s. 39.5085, F.S., or s. 39.6225, F.S.;
- After reaching 14 years of age, spent at least 18 months in out-of-home care and was then reunited with his or her parents who were the subject of the dependency proceeding before reaching 18 years of age, including a student who was reunited under s. 39.8155, F.S. (reinstatement of parental rights). A student is only eligible for this tuition waiver if, in addition to the above-described factors, the student is also Pell Grant-eligible; or
- Was placed in a permanent guardianship, regardless of whether the caregiver participates or participated in the Relative Caregiver Program under s. 39.5085, F.S., and remains in such guardianship until either the student reaches 18 years of age or, if before reaching 18 years of age, enrolls in an eligible institution.

Additionally, HB 7065 amended s. 409.1452, F.S., which requires DCF to work in collaboration with the BOG, FCS, and FDOE to address the need for a comprehensive support structure in the academic arena to assist current or former foster youth in making the transition from a structured care system into an independent living setting. In concert with HB 1577, FCS institutions and school districts with workforce education programs will provide campus liaison positions for current and former foster youth and students experiencing homelessness so dedicated, on-campus support is readily available. This information is required to be made available on institutional webpages, to exemption recipients, DCF, and other care lead agencies.

Lastly, the bill required each institution where a student is exempt from the payment of tuition and fees under s. 1009.25, F.S., to maintain the original documentation submitted regarding a child or young adult's involvement in the child welfare system that confers eligibility for the tuition and fee exemption. Postsecondary institutions are prohibited from making additional requests for such documentation.

The bills authorizing the three preceding fee waivers/exemptions take effect July 1, 2022. FCS institutions and school districts with workforce education programs may need to review processes and identify required documentation for individuals who claim the waiver and/or exemption. As a reminder, ss. 1009.22(9), F.S., and 1009.23 (12)(a), F.S., specify that districts and FCS institutions may not charge or waive any fee except as authorized by law.

Technical requirements for reporting the waiver or exemption will be transmitted to college reports coordinators as soon as practical. FCS institutions are required to report the number and value of fee waivers and exemptions annually.

Individual Freedom (HB 7)

HB 7 amended multiple Florida Statutes related to non-discrimination in the Florida Civil Rights Act (FCRA) and Florida Education Code. It provided that it is discrimination under the FCRA for an employer to subject individuals as a condition of employment, membership, certification, licensing, credentialing, or passing an examination, to training, instruction, or any other required activity that espouses, promotes, advances, inculcates, or compels such individual to believe any of the following concepts:

- Members of a race, color, sex, or national origin are morally superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
- An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.
- Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, sex, or national origin.
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the individual played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
- Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.

HB 7 also provided that subjecting a student or employee in the Florida K-20 public education system to training or instruction that espouses, promotes, advances, inculcates, or compels such student or employee to believe the above-listed concepts constitutes discrimination. It also replaced "gender" with "sex" and replaced "ethnicity" with "color."

Institutions are encouraged to take the necessary action to ensure compliance. This may require institutions to revisit required faculty and staff professional development onboarding or training requirements, tenure promotional or retention policies, and/or the course content for students enrolled in required coursework or any instruction that actively espouses, promotes, advances, inculcates, or compels faculty, staff, and/or students to believe any of the aforementioned concepts without providing such training or instruction in an objective manner. The bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Support for Children and Youth Special Populations – Informational

In addition to amending 1009.25, F.S., related to fee exemptions, several bills that passed during the 2022 legislative session addressed services for homeless youth and former foster youth throughout K-12 and postsecondary education.

HB 1577 amended multiple Florida Statutes to expand services available to children and youth experiencing homelessness. Specifically, the bill:

- Requires district school boards to issue a certified unaccompanied homeless youth a card that includes information on the youth's rights and available benefits, and allows health care providers to accept the issued card as proof of the status as a certified unaccompanied homeless youth.
- Expands the Keys-to-Independence program to unaccompanied homeless youth who meet certain requirements.
- Waives fees for copies of a birth certificate for certified unaccompanied homeless youth and young adults who aged out of foster care.
- Requires the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) to study the current use of college liaisons, the number of students experiencing homelessness, students' requested services, and student experiences.

SB 7034 amended multiple Florida Statutes regarding the duties and responsibilities of the DCF in the Relative Caregiver Program, the care of children, and the Road-to-Independence Program that are targeted at benefiting the lives of foster youth in Florida.

Additionally, HB 7065 amended multiple Florida Statutes strengthening child welfare programs. Specific areas of focus included fathers, at-risk children, including dually involved children, at-risk male students, and former foster youth.

Student Fee Changes (SB 7044) – Informational

SB 7044 amended s. 1009.23, F.S., to require all tuition and fees, and any proposed changes to them, be prominently posted on the institution's website in a transparent and easily accessible area. It also requires public notice and e-mail notification of all enrolled students of any proposal to increase tuition or fees at least 28 days before it is voted on at a board of trustees meeting. The notice must detail how such tuition and fees are expended and the rationale and necessity for the proposed increase, and how the funds from the proposed increase will be used. Finally, any proposal or action of an FCS institution to raise, impose, or authorize any fee as authorized by law, except for tuition, must be approved by a supermajority vote of the members of the board of trustees, if approval by the board of trustees is required by general law, and at least by a supermajority vote of the members of SBOE, if their approval is required by general law. The bill goes into effect July 1, 2022.

Exemption from Public Records and Meeting Requirements (SB 7006) – Informational

SB 7006 amended s. 1004.096, F.S., to revise the definition of the term "campus emergency response" to specify the types of staff involved in emergency planning and the students, faculty, and staff who are exempted from public records. The bill also extended the scheduled repeal of the exemption to October 2, 2024, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Florida Legislature. The bill takes effect on October 1, 2022.

Presidential Search Process (SB 520)

SB 520 addresses a portion of the process for selecting a new president for both state universities and Florida College System institutions. Specifically, the bill requires personal identifying information for applicants and related meeting records to be confidential with respect to public records for applicants seeking to become the president of a state university or Florida College System institution. The exception to this is the information for the final group of applicants, when that group is established or 21 days before the meeting where the final vote for president is taken, whichever is earlier. The legislation went into effect on March 15, 2022.

Florida College System Funding in the General Appropriations Act (HB 5001)

Based on 2022-23 legislative appropriations, the FCS will receive a total of \$1.53 billion, an overall increase of \$165.3 million or 12.1 percent over the current year operating budget, which includes:

- Program funds of \$1.395 billion, an increase of \$101.3 million (+7.8 percent) over the current year.
- Industry certification funding of \$14 million.
- Student Success Incentives (performance funds) increased from \$25 million to \$30 million (\$20 million for 2+2 and \$10 million for workforce)
- Open Door Grant Program funds of \$20 million.
- New nursing education funds of \$59 million:
 - Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE) in the amount of \$40 million.
 - Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) in the amount of \$19 million.
- Postsecondary Academic Library Network funding for FCS in the amount of \$9.1 million. (An additional \$11.8 million is provided in the SUS budget for a total of \$20.9 million in library funds.)

Other noteworthy funding items from the conference report include:

- First Generation Matching Grant in the amount of \$10.6 million. The FCS portion is \$2,654,332 (same as last year).
- Law Enforcement Training Incentives in the amount of \$6 million: \$5 million for Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program and \$1 million for Out-of-state Law Enforcement Equivalency Reimbursement.
- Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program funding of \$18.05 million. This includes an additional \$2 million for 2021-22 for the deficit in the Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program.

The GAA also included language related to the FCS Program Fund, requiring the Florida College System presidents, in consultation with FDOE, to develop an equity-based per student funding model. The model must account for differences in institutional fixed operating costs, and variable operating costs based on educational program offerings. The FCS presidents must provide the proposed new funding model to the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the chair of the House Appropriations Committee, and the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget by September 30, 2022.

Related to facilities funding, the GAA allocated 21 fixed capital outlay college projects totaling \$184.3 million. Additionally, Deferred Building Maintenance Program funds for colleges totaled \$400 million. Each college will submit a list of maintenance, repair, and renovation projects totaling its allocation to the Division. Eligible projects include those which improve air quality to reduce the risk of viral and environmental health hazards; correct critical life safety issues; improve water, sewer, utility, parking, or roadway infrastructure; improve energy efficiency; mitigate environmental deficiencies; ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act; or ensure compliance with building codes. FDOE will provide a consolidated list of projects to the Legislative Budget Commission by August 15, 2022, for approval.

KH/ch

cc: Henry Mack, Ed.D., senior chancellor
Kevin O'Farrell, Ph.D., chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education
FCS Council of Business Affairs
FCS Council of Academic Affairs
FCS Council of Student Affairs
FCS Council on Workforce Education
FCS Reports Coordinators
FCS Financial Aid Officers

Appendix A – FCS Institution Actions Following 2022 Legislative Session

	May require review of local policy and/or procedure	May require data or information to be submitted to the state
Dual Enrollment (SB 2524)	Yes	Yes; information currently collected
Uniform Award of Credit for Law Enforcement Training (HB 3)	Yes	Not anticipated
Statewide Course Numbering System (SB 7044)	Yes	Possibly; information on faculty committees
Institutional Accreditation (SB 7044)	Yes	Yes; quarterly reports on progress
Textbook Affordability (SB 7044)	Yes	Yes; beyond current information collected
Open Door Grant Program (SB 2524)	Yes	Yes; information currently collected
Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) (SB 2524)	If applicable	If applicable
Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE) (SB 2524)	Not anticipated	Not anticipated
Nursing Data Collection (SB 2524)	Not anticipated	Yes; information currently collected
Education for Student Inmates (SB 722)	Possibly	Yes; through current reporting mechanism
Fee Waivers/Exemptions (HB 45, HB 1577, SB 7034)	Yes	Yes; through current reporting mechanism
Individual Freedom (HB 7)	Yes	Unknown at this point