

**Florida's Public Technical College/Center System
Legislative Platform/Request 2018-2019**

Performance Based Incentive Funding (Postsecondary CAPE Industry Credentials)

Request:

Provide \$7 million in funding to the Department of Education to school district workforce education programs for students who earned specific industry certifications in the 2017-2018 school year.

Funding should be based on student certifications earned in the following occupational programs to include: Surgical Technology, Orthopedic Technology, Dental Assisting Technology, Practical Nursing, Medical Coder/Biller, Medical Assisting, Certified Nursing Assistant, Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic, Clinical Lab Technician, EKG Technician, Pharmacy Technician, Clinical Hemodialysis Technician, Automotive Service Technology, Auto Collision Repair and Refinishing, Medium/Heavy Duty Truck Technician, Cyber Security, Cloud Virtualization, Network Support Services, Programming, Computer Aided Drafting, Advanced Manufacturing, Electrician, Plumbing, Public Safety, Welding, Federal Aviation Administration Airframe Mechanic and Power Plant Mechanics, and Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning Technician.

Industry certifications reported in 2017-18 reporting year and not previously funded for a student are eligible for funding for the 2018-19 fiscal year. Funds shall be disbursed by the Department of Education no later than October 1, 2018. If any funds remain, the balance shall be allocated for the performance in adult General Education programs based on student performance as measured by learning gains, placement and populations served indexed to the proportional share of the funds available. These performance funds should not be awarded for the certifications earned through continuing workforce education programs.

School districts shall maintain documentation for student attainment of industry certifications that are eligible for performance funding. The Auditor General shall verify compliance with this requirement during scheduled operational audits of the school districts. If a district is unable to comply, the district shall refund the performance funding to the state.

Rationale:

Since the inception of funding for student certifications in 2013-2014, School District Workforce Education programs were provided a state allocation for this purpose. In fact, School Districts were the originators of these student recognitions, as they complemented the secondary certifications identified in the CAPE Act. The state college system was also granted an allocation to recognize their student performances in the same Career and Technical Education programs.

Last year, the Legislature eliminated the school district's allocation of \$4.5 million but retained the state college allocation of \$10 million. This action immediately created an inequitable position between the school district workforce programs and the state colleges. These industry credentials are vital to our student's success and provide Florida with the highest skilled workforce possible. The funds generated by this allocation were used by school districts to pay the cost of their third party industry exams for our students.

For the past two years when the allocation was provided, the original reimbursement rate of \$1,000 per credential had to be prorated due to the increased number of credentials awarded. 4,901 credentials were awarded in 2015-2016 with a value of \$918 per credential. In 2016-2017, 6,269 credentials were awarded with a value of \$718 per credential.

State Funding Model for Postsecondary Workforce Education Programs

Request:

Florida's Public Technical College/Center System has had as its first legislative goal the attainment of a minimum equitable funding level of 100% of the state model as developed and approved by the state DOE Workforce Education Funding Committee.

Rationale:

Although progress was made in last year's legislative allocation in reaching that goal, new dollars based on student enrollment growth and increased instructional hours reported in our CTE and Adult General Education programs needs to be provided in the 2018-2019 state budget. We estimate that the amount needed to fund all school districts to the 100% level is approximately \$15 million additional dollars over the 2017 allocation. This year's increased funding of \$3.7 million dollars over the 2016 allocation raised all districts that were funded below 100% to 93%. Districts that were funded in excess of 100% had their allocation reduced to a maximum of 109% of state funding need.

Our postsecondary workforce education programs use a three year enrollment average (FTE) along with program cost factors and the state BSA to determine each district's allocation. By setting the goal of a minimum of 100% equity, Technical College/Centers can meet increased operational/personnel costs that occur each year without eliminating instructional programs to generate the required funds to have a balanced budget.

Florida Apprenticeship Grant (FLAG) Program

Request:

The Florida Apprenticeship Grant (FLAG) Program is created for \$3 million to provide grants to career centers, charter technical career centers, and the Florida College System institutions on a competitive basis to establish new apprenticeship programs and expand existing apprenticeship programs. The Division of Career and Adult Education shall administer the grant program.

Applications from career centers, charter technical career centers, and the Florida College System institution must contain projected enrollment and projected costs for the new expanded apprenticeship program(s). The Department shall give priority to apprenticeship programs in the areas of information technology, health and machining and manufacturing. Grant funds may be used for instructional equipment, supplies, personnel, student services, and other expenses associated with the creation or expansion of apprenticeship program(s). Grant funds may not be used for reoccurring instructional costs or for a center's or an institution's indirect costs. Grant recipients must submit quarterly reports in a format prescribed by the Department.