

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
August 18, 2021

SUBJECT: Approval of the College Reach-Out Program 2021-2022 Funding Recommendations

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1007.34, F.S.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The College Reach-Out Program (CROP) was established in 1983 by the Florida Legislature to motivate and prepare students (grades 6–12) from low-income, educationally disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue and successfully complete postsecondary education. Participants are students who otherwise would be unlikely to seek admission to a postsecondary institution without special support and recruitment efforts.

In 2020-2021, a total of 17 postsecondary educational institutions implemented program services to approximately 2,000 students in 23 counties throughout the state. Since the program began in 1983, CROP has served approximately 198,000 students. CROP serves a diverse student population that includes African American, Hispanic, White, Asian, American Indian and multiracial groups.

According to Section 1007.34(3), Florida Statutes, to participate in the College Reach-Out Program, a postsecondary educational institution may submit a proposal to the Department of Education. Program funds are appropriated by the Legislature to the Department of Education and allocated through a competitive process. Section 1007.34(9), Florida Statutes, stipulates that members of the CROP Advisory Council review the proposals and recommend to the State Board of Education an order of priority for funding the proposals.

In July 2021, the CROP Advisory Council concluded the process of reviewing and recommending funding levels for submitted proposals. The funding recommendations are included in the Prioritized Funding List, which is being presented for State Board approval.

The 2021-2022 state appropriation for CROP is \$1,000,000 and participating postsecondary institutions are required to match the state appropriation with cash and in-kind services.

Supporting Documentation Included: 2021-2022 CROP Prioritized Funding List

Facilitator/Presenter: Jacob Oliva, Chancellor of Public Schools