

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
November 20, 2024

SUBJECT: Approval of College Reach-Out Program 2024-2025 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) is a program in place since 1983 that supports services and activities to increase the number of students in grades 6-12, identified as needing academic improvement, to pursue and succeed in their postsecondary education. CROP participants are students who may otherwise be unlikely to seek admission to a postsecondary institution without support and recruitment efforts from programs implemented by postsecondary educational institutions.

Since its inception, CROP has served approximately 202,600 students by implementing strategies to increase student achievement and create a pathway to college. In 2023-2024, nine projects consisting of fourteen postsecondary educational institutions implemented program services to 1,358 students in fifteen counties throughout the state.

Section 1007.34(3), Florida Statutes, provides that eligible postsecondary educational institutions may apply for funding by submitting a proposal to the Department of Education. Program funds are appropriated by the Legislature to the department and allocated through a competitive process. Section 1007.34(9), F.S., further stipulates the Commissioner of Education shall appoint an advisory council to review the proposals and recommend to the State Board of Education an order of priority for funding the proposals every three years.

The recommended funding for the 2024-2025 project year is \$955,000, with administrative costs of \$45,000 bringing the total to \$1,000,000. The CROP Advisory Council presents a prioritized funding list that includes ten proposed projects across fourteen postsecondary educational institutions.

Supporting Documentation Included: CROP Prioritized Funding List

Facilitators/Presenters: Dr. Peggy Aune, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Improvement