



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jun. 17, 2025

Contact: Adriana Pavicic
Florida College Access Network (FCAN)
(727) 251-2472
apavicic@floridacollegeaccess.org

FCAN Opens Applications for Fifth Student Advocacy Fellowship

Statewide fellowship brings student voices to Tallahassee during the 2026 legislative session

TAMPA, FL —The Florida College Access Network (FCAN) is now accepting applications for its fifth annual Advocacy Fellowship, a statewide opportunity that empowers college students to build their communication skills while championing policies that expand access to higher education.

The 2025-26 Advocacy Fellowship cohort will meet virtually from Sept. 16, 2025, through Jan. 30, 2026. Throughout the meetings, students will gain insights into state legislation, storytelling strategies, and civic leadership. Fellows will collaborate with peers, engage with local community leaders, and participate in a two-day in-person advocacy event in Tallahassee during the 2026 legislative session. Students who complete the program will receive a \$1,000 stipend.

“We’re proud to invest in Florida’s students as emerging leaders” said Braulio Colón, executive director of FCAN. “Through this fellowship, we are creating opportunities for students to shape policies that directly impact their lives—and our state’s future.”

Since launching the fellowship in 2021, FCAN has supported student advocates from career and technical colleges, state colleges, and universities throughout Florida. The program aligns with FCAN’s commitment to the [SAIL to 60 Goal](#) and building a [Talent Strong Florida](#)—one where 60% of working-age Floridians hold a high-quality credential beyond high school.

“This fellowship showed me how to use my story to impact change,” said Jasiah Burrows, University of South Florida student and alum of the 2024-25 cohort. “I learned how to speak to lawmakers and gained skills I’ll use for the rest of my career.”

FCAN encourages students currently enrolled at a Florida career/technical college, state college, or university to apply. Interested students can learn more at:
<https://tinyurl.com/FCANStudentFellow25-26>

FCAN is available for interviews upon request.

###

About Florida College Access Network



Florida College Access Network (FCAN) is Florida's collaborative network committed to ensuring all Floridians have the opportunity to achieve an education beyond high school and a rewarding career. We envision a Florida working together where education is the pathway to economic mobility for all.

FCAN strives to expand knowledge of research, data, policies, and practices that impact postsecondary access and attainment in Florida. For more information, visit www.floridacollegeaccess.org.

FCAN is a statewide independent organization hosted by the University of South Florida (USF). The statements and positions presented are those of FCAN and are not made on behalf of the USF Board of Trustees or intended in any way to be representative of USF.