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Contact: Sandra C. Roa
Florida College Access Network (FCAN)
sroa@floridacollegeaccess.org

Linking State Investment To Student Outcomes, FCAN Calls For Enhanced Reporting To Strengthen Dual Enrollment

Review of Legislature-directed study points to ways to refine strategies and expand student opportunity

TAMPA, FL—The Florida College Access Network (FCAN) has [released a review](#) of the Florida Legislature’s directed study on dual enrollment expenditures, highlighting new opportunities to ensure these programs remain fiscally responsible while continuing to expand access for Florida students.

As directed in the Fiscal Year 2024–25 General Appropriations Act, the Florida Department of Education, in collaboration with school districts, examined additional weighted FTE funding for acceleration programs between 2021–22 and 2023–24. Nearly half of all district costs were reported under as “Other”—with some districts categorizing 100% of expenses this way. This lack of clarity raises concerns about accountability and the effective use of taxpayer dollars. FCAN’s review of these findings shows that while dual enrollment remains one of Florida’s strongest strategies for expanding college access and postsecondary opportunities, greater clarity of program expenditures could strengthen and ultimately expand access to the program.

“Dual enrollment provides students with an early, affordable pathway to college and careers,” said Braulio Colón, executive director of the Florida College Access Network. “To ensure these programs continue to improve and expand, we must refine how spending and outcomes are tracked. With greater clarity, we can ensure dual enrollment remains a viable, rigorous academic pathway for students for years to come.”

FCAN outlines several policy opportunities, including:

- Expanding expenditure categories to give a clearer picture of program costs.
- Exploring cost-sharing models between school districts and postsecondary institutions.
- Collecting key student outcome data, such as credits attempted and earned.
- Publishing annual reports that link expenditures to measurable results.

By refining strategies, strengthening oversight, and linking dollars to student outcomes, Florida can continue to expand educational opportunities while protecting taxpayer investment and advancing the state’s workforce and economic goals.

The FCAN policy brief is available now [here](#).



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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.