



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Nov. 3, 2025

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

### **New Report Highlights Opportunities to Strengthen Florida’s Education and Workforce Data Systems**

*FCAN encourages targeted improvements to Florida’s Statewide Longitudinal Data System for enhanced data-sharing, training, and governance.*

TAMPA, FL. –Florida College Access Network (FCAN) today released a new report, [\*Insights Into Action: The Next Phase of Florida’s Statewide Longitudinal Data System\*](#), examining the current state of Florida’s Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) and identifying strategic opportunities to ensure Florida secures its leadership in offering the public a best-in-class tool for evidence-based decision-making in education, workforce, and economic development.

Florida has established itself among national leaders in educational data innovation, harnessing SLDS to generate critical reports such as the Florida Know Your Schools dashboard, Florida Education & Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP), and Education Meets Opportunity (EMOP) platform, which provide decentralized overviews of student outcomes, workforce metrics, and educational programs. These tools empower Floridians with the information needed to make informed decisions about educational and career pathways.

Yet, as the new report highlights, there remain opportunities to strengthen funding, governance, and data accessibility, which can push Florida from “among the leaders” to “first in class.” While the SLDS received foundational investments over the years, long-term planning is challenged by fragmented funding and evolving governance structures.

“In today’s knowledge economy, data is not just a resource—it’s a vital engine for innovation,” said Braulio Colón, FCAN’s executive director. “If we want to build a Talent Strong Florida, we need to ensure our data systems are aligned, accessible, and sustainably funded to support students and communities across the state.”

To support Florida’s SAIL to 60 goal of ensuring 60% of working-age residents hold a high-value credential by 2030, the report offers several strategic recommendations, including dedicated funding, standardized dashboards, stronger career pathway reporting, and improved data sharing among state agencies.

#### **Key strategic recommendations:**

- Secure dedicated and sustainable funding for system maintenance and upgrades to ensure long-term stability.
- Modernize SLDS governance by engaging all stakeholders in alignment with Florida’s workforce and education goals.
- Improve data accessibility and interactivity, making reports more user-friendly and actionable.



- Integrate data across agencies so policymakers, educators, and families see the full educational journey.

Initially released to webinar attendees on Oct. 30, the report serves as a resource to FCAN's statewide and regional partners who seek to champion policies aimed at strengthening Florida's data infrastructure for maximizing taxpayer ROI and driving better outcomes.

Read the full report [here](#).

###

### **About Florida College Access Network**

Florida College Access Network (FCAN) leads the statewide collaborative movement to strengthen Florida by ensuring every Floridian attains education beyond high school towards a rewarding career. We envision a thriving Florida working together where education is the pathway to economic mobility and a prosperous economy 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](http://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.