

The Florida Senate  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
Senator Harrell, Chair  
Senator Bradley, Vice Chair

**MEETING DATE:** Wednesday, October 8, 2025  
**TIME:** 11:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** James E. "Jim" King, Jr Committee Room, 401 Senate Building

**MEMBERS:** Senator Harrell, Chair; Senator Bradley, Vice Chair; Senators Bracy Davis, Burgess, Calatayud, Davis, and Leek

TAB		BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	Workforce and Florida College System Budget Request Discussion			Presented
Other Related Meeting Documents				



# Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education

October 8, 2025

Kevin O'Farrell, Ph.D.

Senior Chancellor



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
fldoe.org

[www.FLDOE.org](http://www.FLDOE.org)

## Legislative Budget Requests

	2025-26 Appropriation	2026-27 Legislative Budget Request	Percentage Increase in Request
Career & Adult Education	\$726,924,100	\$802,366,249	Increased by \$75,442,149 Percentage Increase: 10.38%
Florida Colleges	\$1,805,579,003	\$1,857,197,026	Increased by \$51,618,023 Percentage Increase: 2.86%

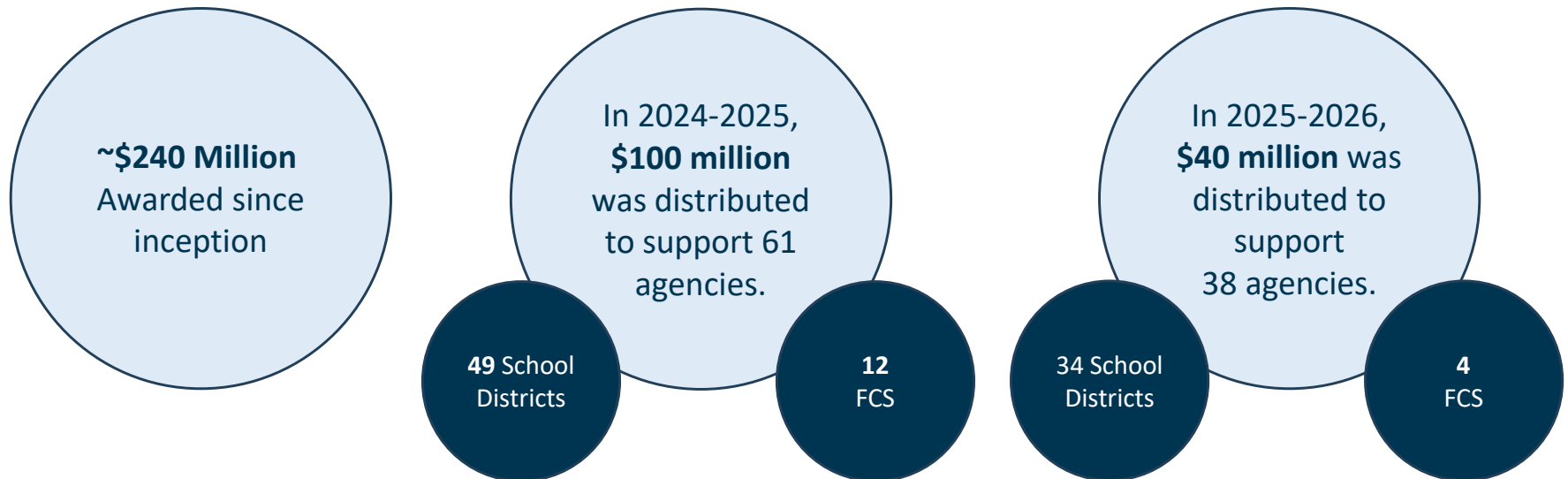


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# Grant Programs

## Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant

Established to provide grants to school districts and Florida College System institutions to fund some or all of the costs associated with the creation or expansion of career and technical education workforce development programs that lead to industry certifications included on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List. The program allows for multi-year grants to address more extensive capital needs.



## Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Year 2024-2025

***TOTAL IMPACT:***  
***EXPANDED WORKFORCE CAPACITY BY*** **96%**  
for awarded programs.

Capacity Expansion for  
Grades 9-12

**18,717 NEW SEATS**  
**40,849 TOTAL SEATS**

**84.6% ↑**  
for awarded programs

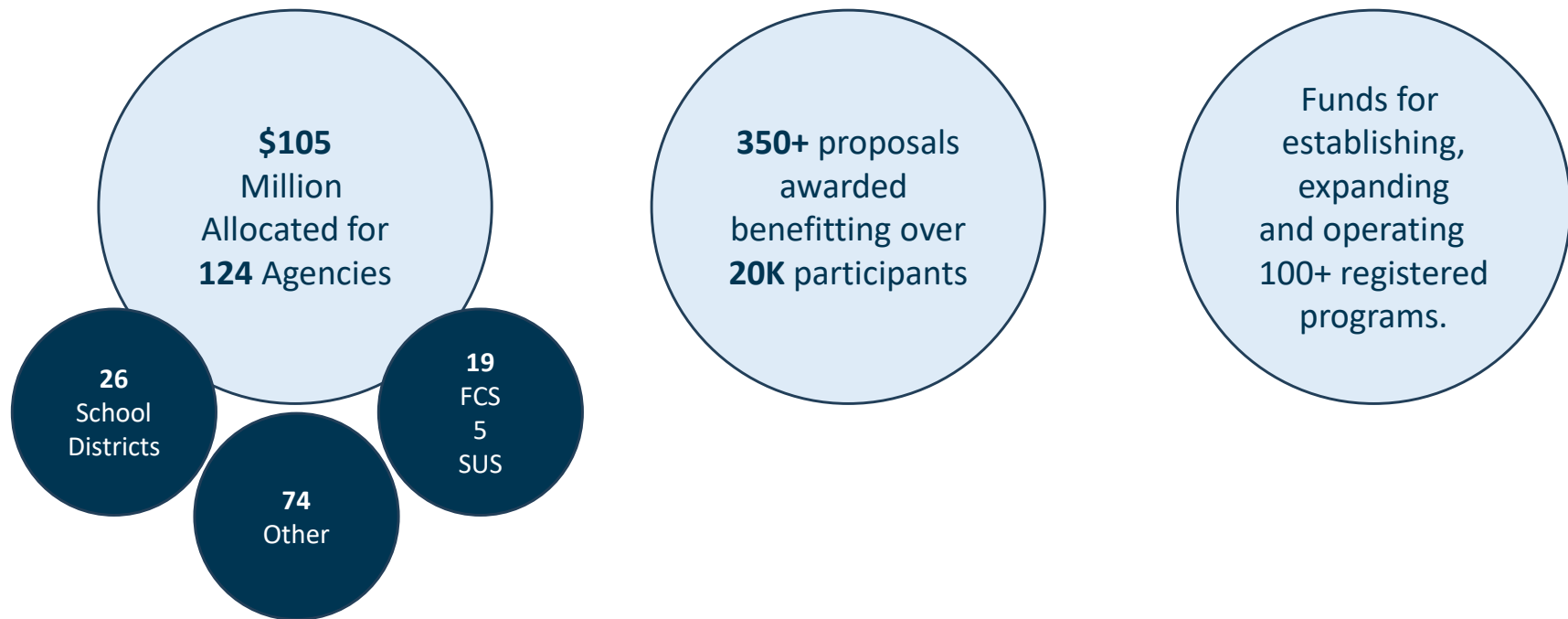
Capacity Expansion for Postsecondary  
Career Dual Enrollment

**3,703 NEW SEATS**  
**4,939 TOTAL SEATS**

**299.5% ↑**  
for awarded programs

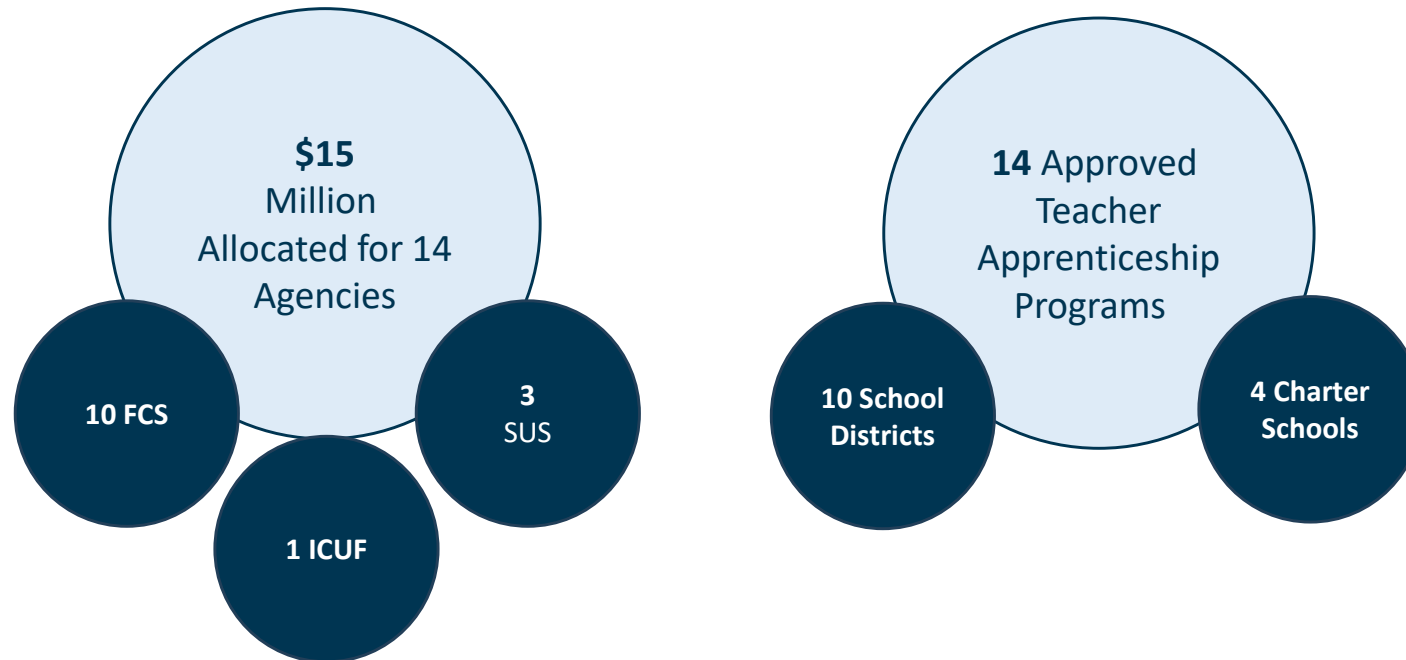
## Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant Program

The PCOG funds are utilized to establish new and operate or expand existing registered apprenticeship or preapprenticeship programs in the State of Florida. This includes both general release and Grow Your Own.



## PCOG Grow Your Own Teacher Apprenticeship Program

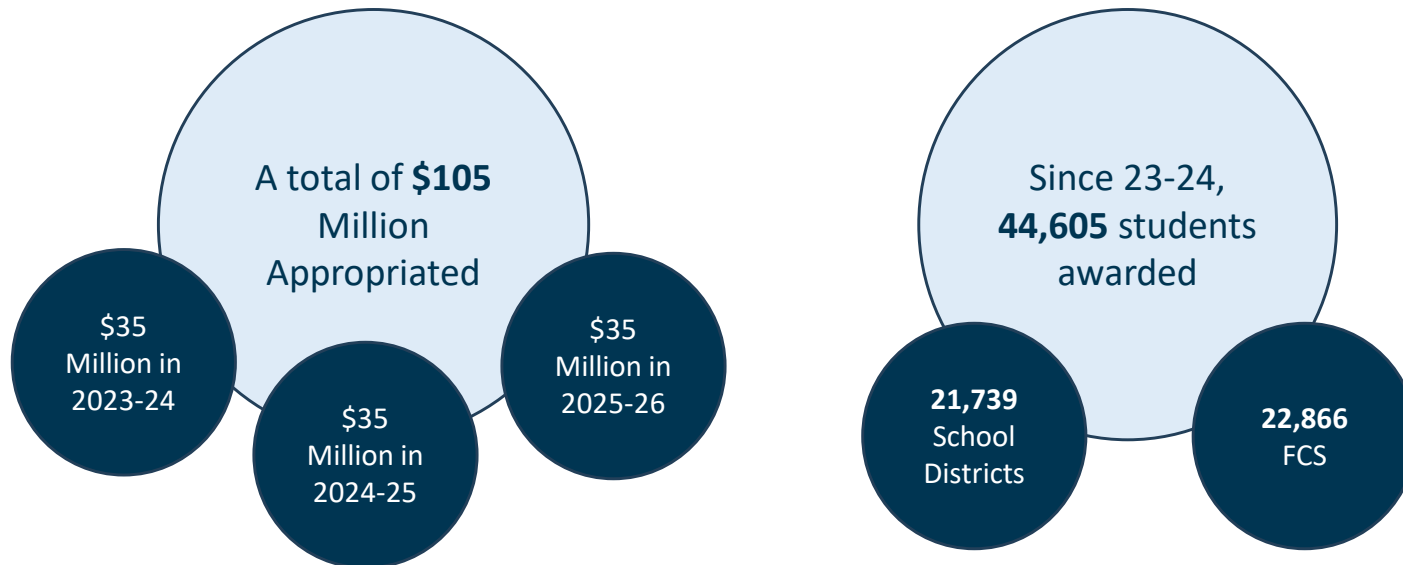
This funding expands the no-cost teacher apprenticeship program across the state, helping strengthen the teacher pipeline by creating opportunities for aspiring educators.





## Open Door Grant Program

This is a financial aid program operated by the Office of Student Financial Assistance that provides funds to FCS and district postsecondary institutions for grants to eligible students. It incentivizes enrollment in career and technical education leading to credentials, certificates, or degrees.



<sup>1</sup>Student counts may be duplicated due to students transferring and enrolling at more than one institution.

## Open Door Grant Program – Top Programs of Enrollment

2023-24		
Rank	Program	Students Enrolled
1	Practical Nursing	1,333
2	Nursing R.N.	1,154
3	Welding Technology	1,042
4	Firefighter	992
5	Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning/ Refrigeration (HVAC/R)	840
6	Automotive Service Technology	793
7	Commercial Vehicle Driving	729

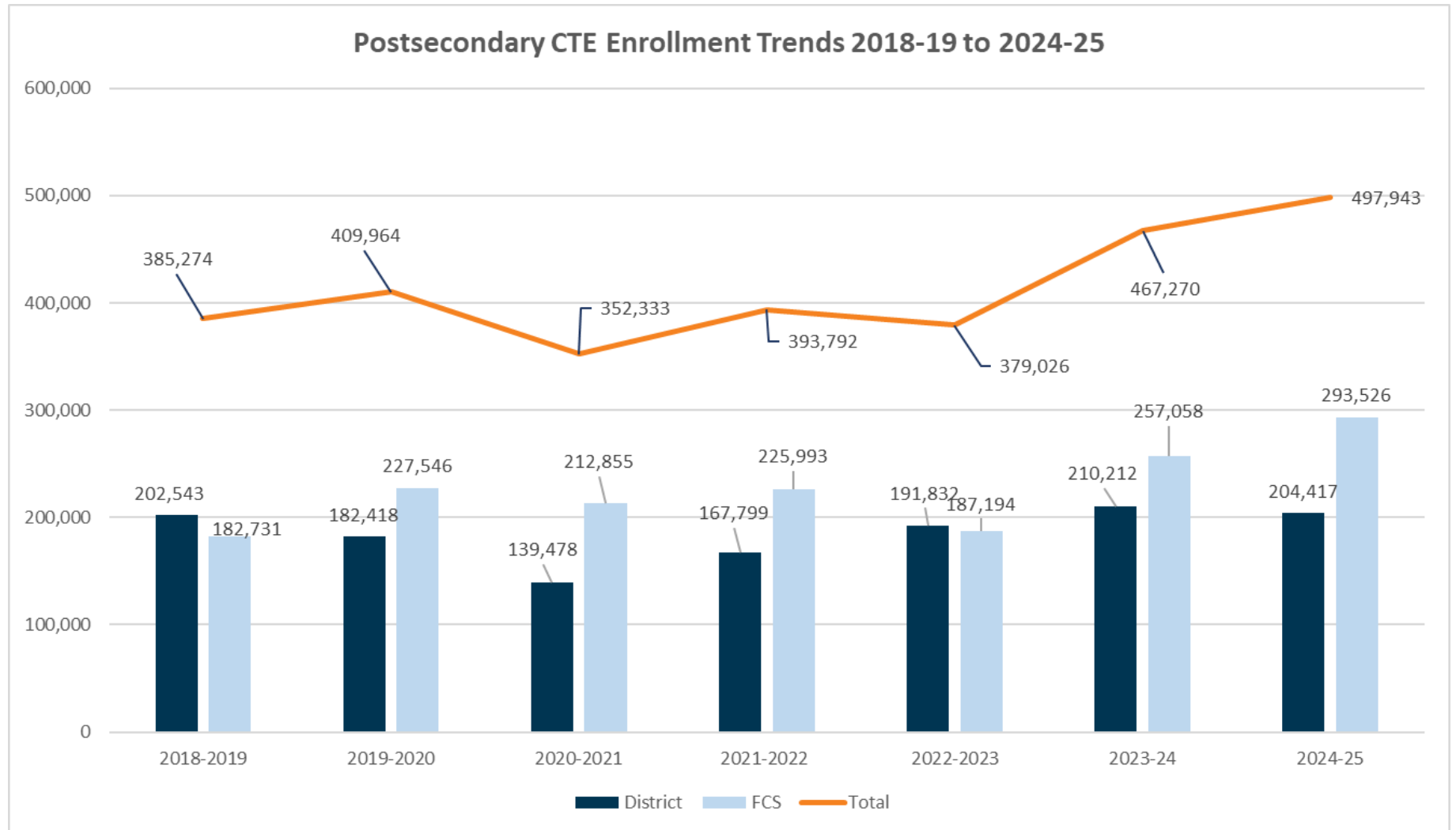
2024-25		
Rank	Program	Students Enrolled
1	Practical Nursing	2,173
2	Nursing R.N.	2,093
3	Welding Technology	1,544
4	Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning/ Refrigeration (HVAC/R)	1,527
5	Automotive Service Technology	1,524
6	Firefighter	1,198
7	Paramedic	1,099



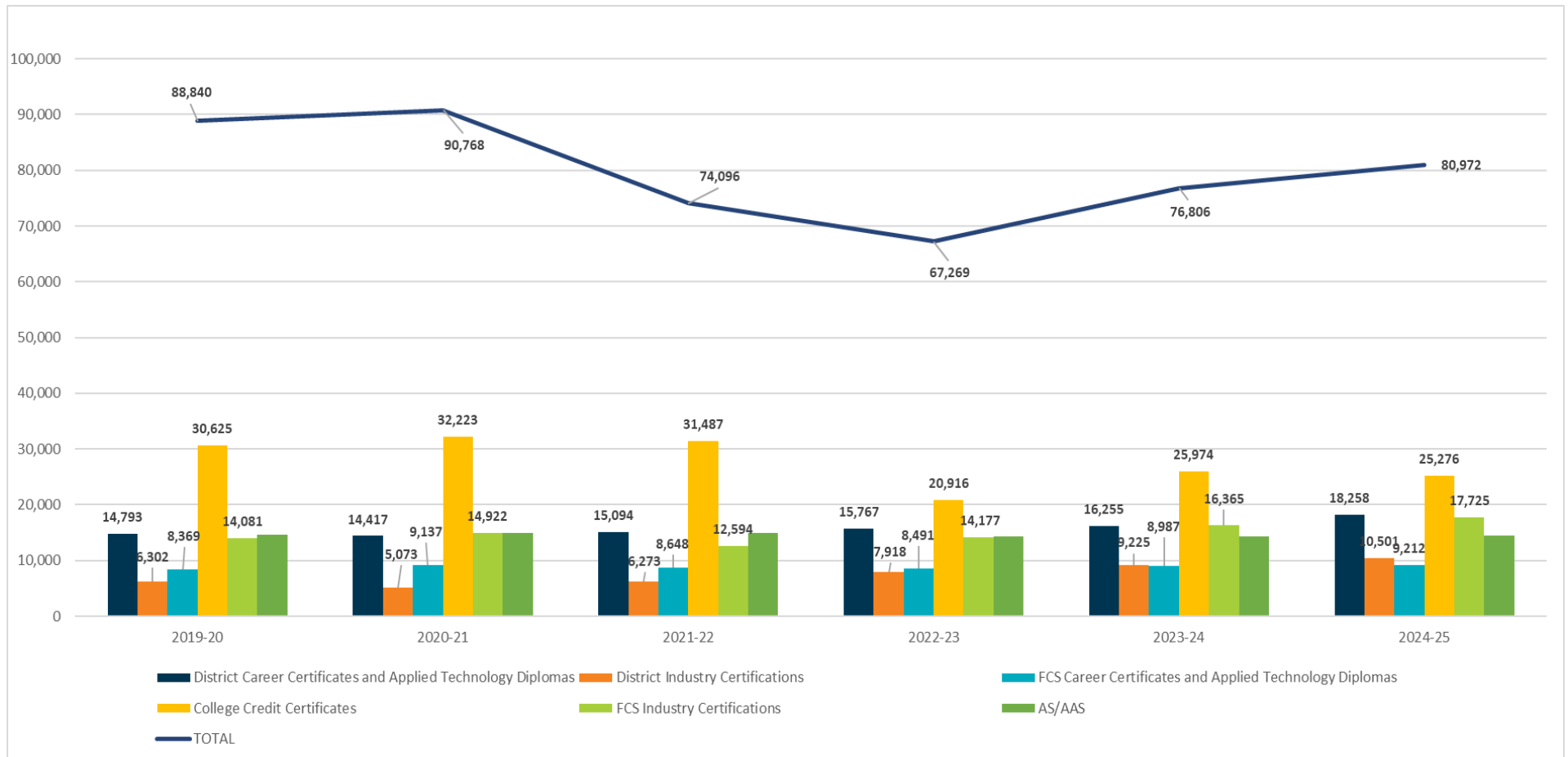
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# Workforce Education Growth

## Workforce Enrollment Trends



## Postsecondary CTE Completion Trends



## CTE Program Growth

In 2017-18, there were a total of **5,825** CTE programs.

Today there are **9,276** programs – a **60% increase**.

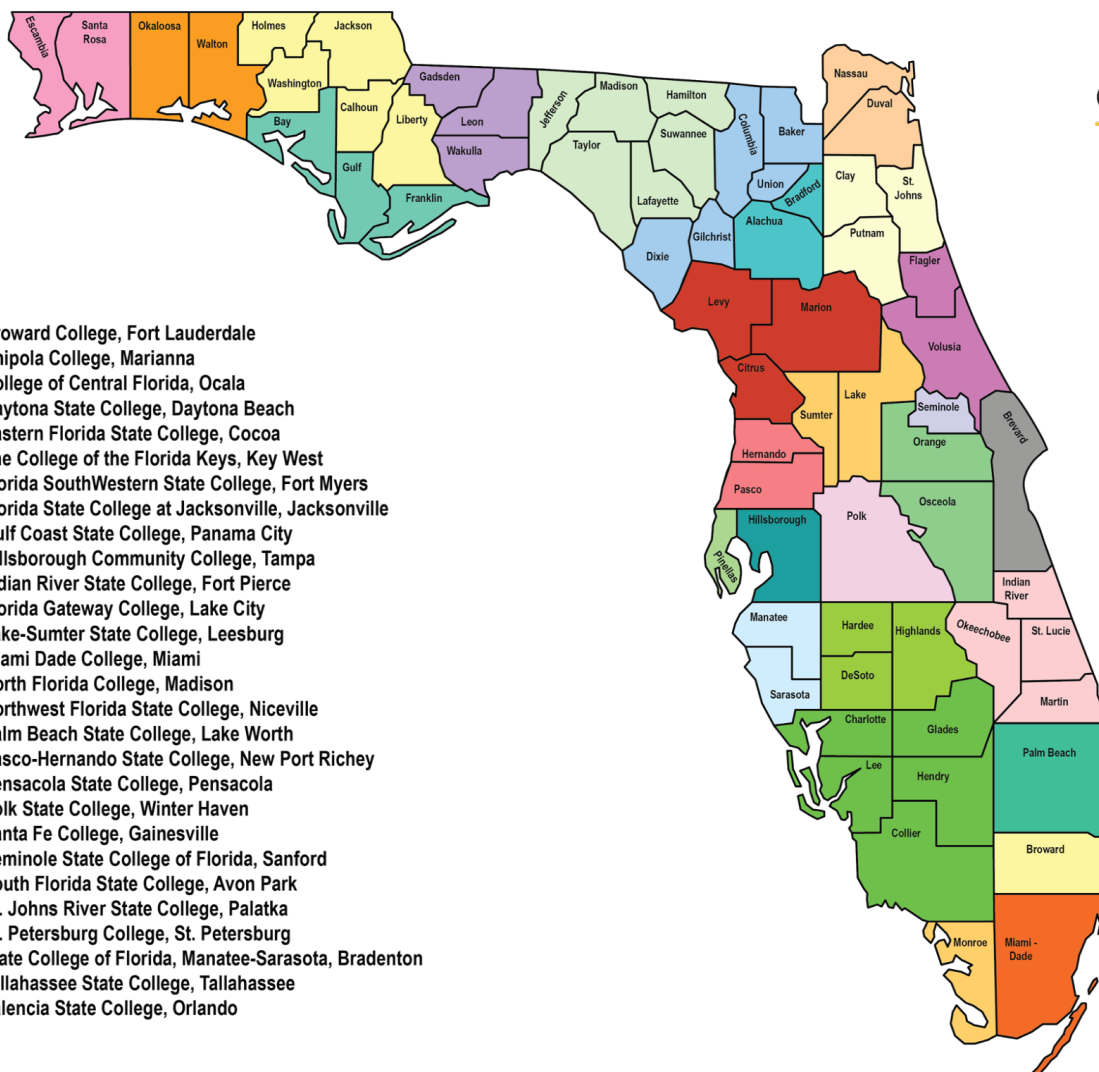


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# Florida College System Growth



## The Florida College System



1. Broward College, Fort Lauderdale
2. Chipola College, Marianna
3. College of Central Florida, Ocala
4. Daytona State College, Daytona Beach
5. Eastern Florida State College, Cocoa
6. The College of the Florida Keys, Key West
7. Florida SouthWestern State College, Fort Myers
8. Florida State College at Jacksonville, Jacksonville
9. Gulf Coast State College, Panama City
10. Hillsborough Community College, Tampa
11. Indian River State College, Fort Pierce
12. Florida Gateway College, Lake City
13. Lake-Sumter State College, Leesburg
14. Miami Dade College, Miami
15. North Florida College, Madison
16. Northwest Florida State College, Niceville
17. Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth
18. Pasco-Hernando State College, New Port Richey
19. Pensacola State College, Pensacola
20. Polk State College, Winter Haven
21. Santa Fe College, Gainesville
22. Seminole State College of Florida, Sanford
23. South Florida State College, Avon Park
24. St. Johns River State College, Palatka
25. St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg
26. State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota, Bradenton
27. Tallahassee State College, Tallahassee
28. Valencia State College, Orlando



## The Florida College System at a Glance

**686,345**  
**students** served  
in 2024-25

**+6.7%**  
**increase** in  
enrollment  
over 2023-24

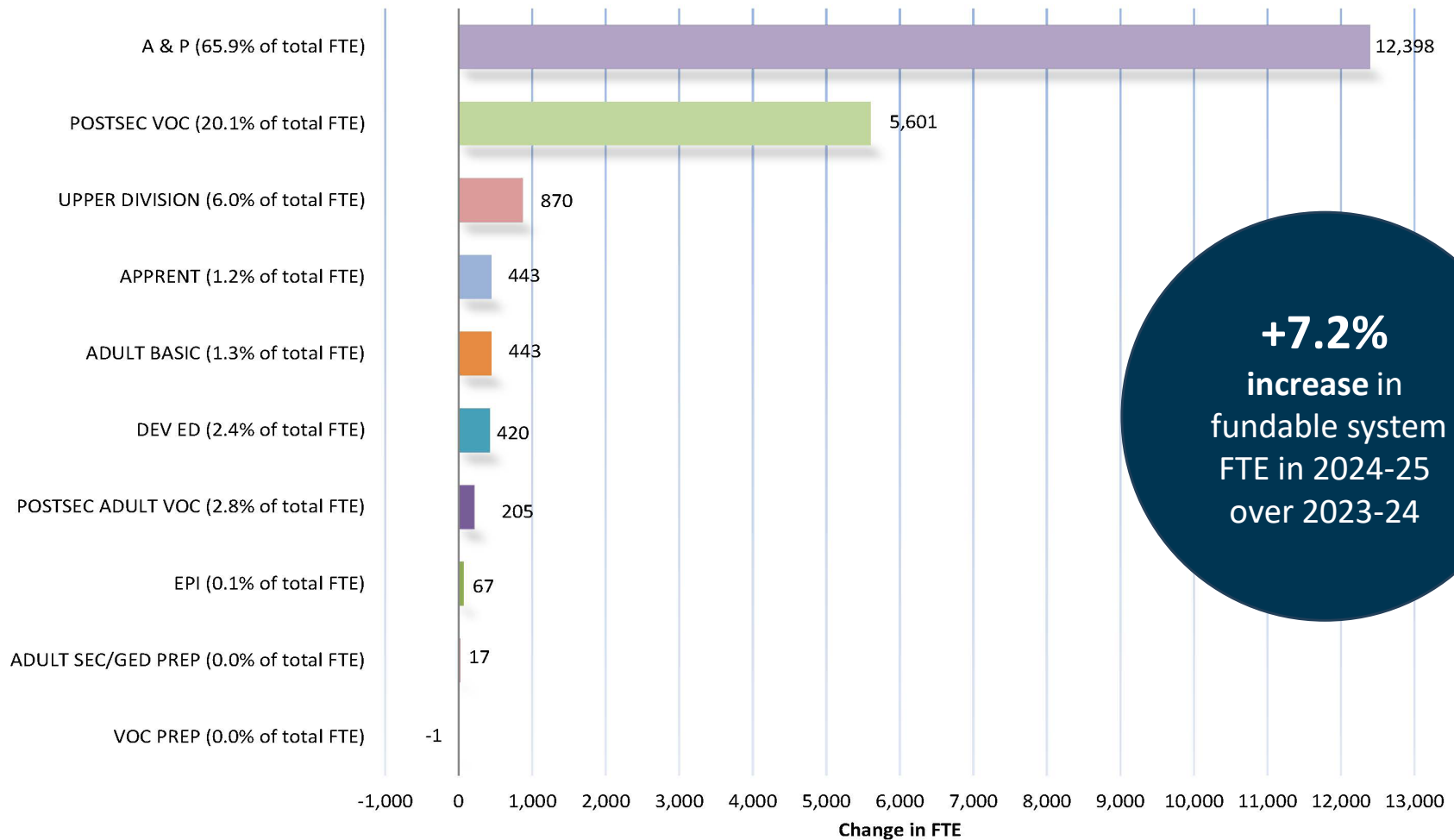
**103,668** dual  
enrollment  
students in  
2024-25

**15% increase**  
over 2023-24

Credential  
completions up  
**4.4%** in 2024-25

On top of an  
increase of 6%  
the prior year

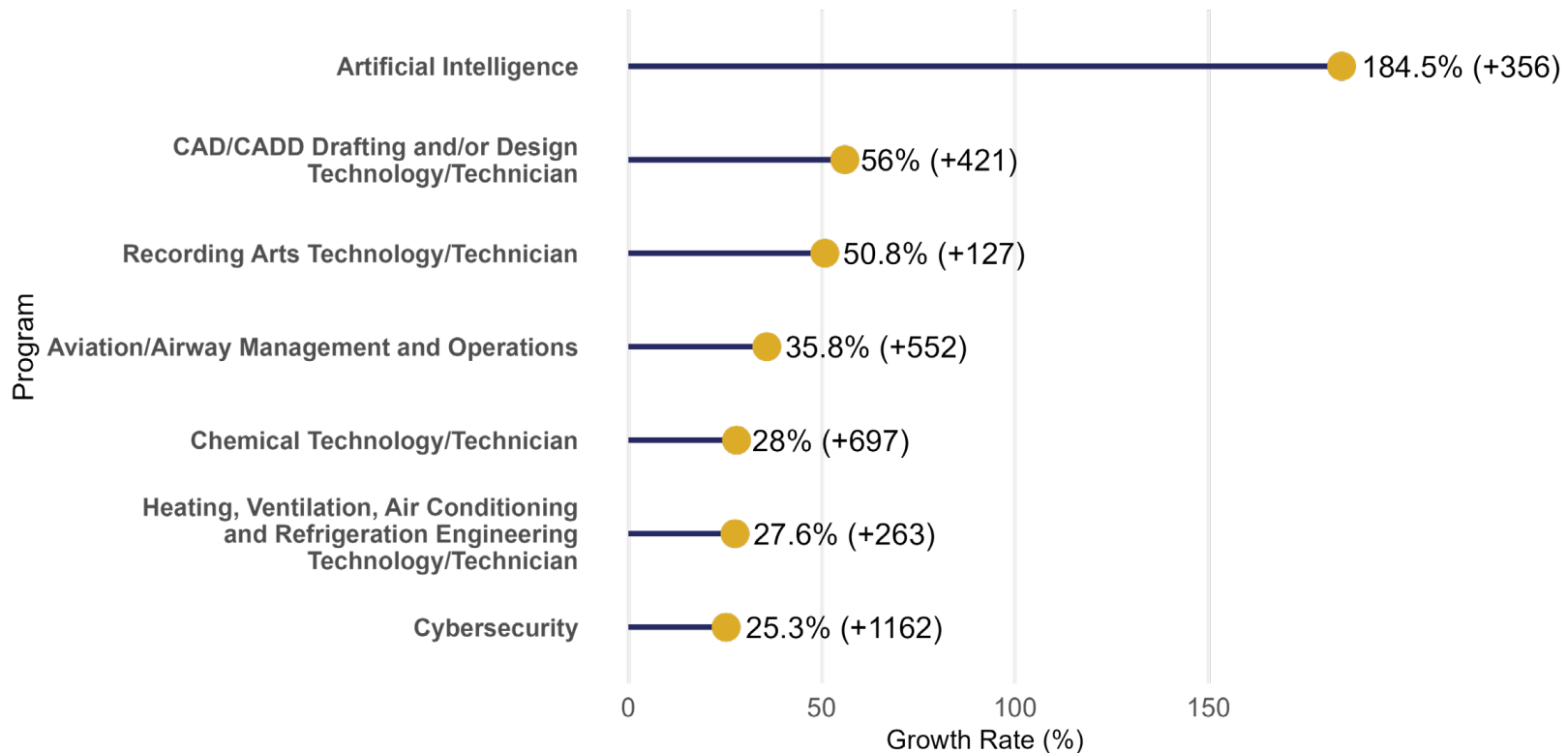
## Florida College System 2024-25 Change in FTE by Course Type



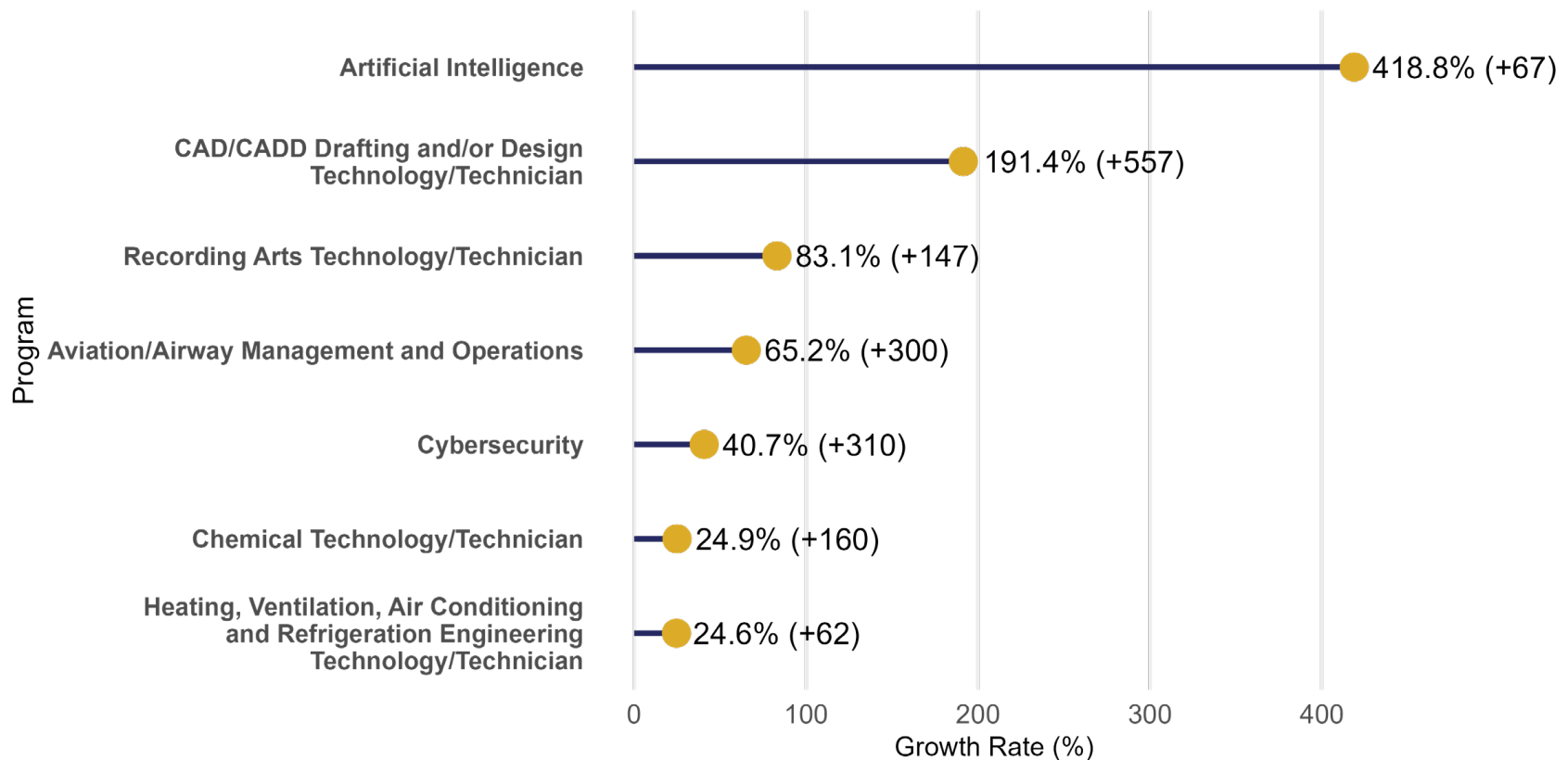
## **FCS High Enrollment Program Examples (Sub-baccalaureate)**

<b>Associate in Arts</b>	<b>299,930</b>
<b>Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse</b>	<b>25,145</b>
<b>Business Administration and Management</b>	<b>21,344</b>
<b>Emergency Medical Technology/Technician (EMT Paramedic)</b>	<b>8,769</b>
<b>Information Technology</b>	<b>7,322</b>
<b>Accounting Technology/Technician and Bookkeeping</b>	<b>6,125</b>
<b>Computer and Information Systems Security</b>	<b>5,759</b>
<b>Computer Programming/Programmer</b>	<b>5,635</b>
<b>Operations Management and Supervision</b>	<b>5,626</b>
<b>Network and System Administration/Administrator</b>	<b>5,463</b>
<b>Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Administration</b>	<b>4,889</b>
<b>Criminal Justice/Police Science</b>	<b>3,679</b>
<b>Radiologic Technology/Science/Radiography</b>	<b>3,381</b>

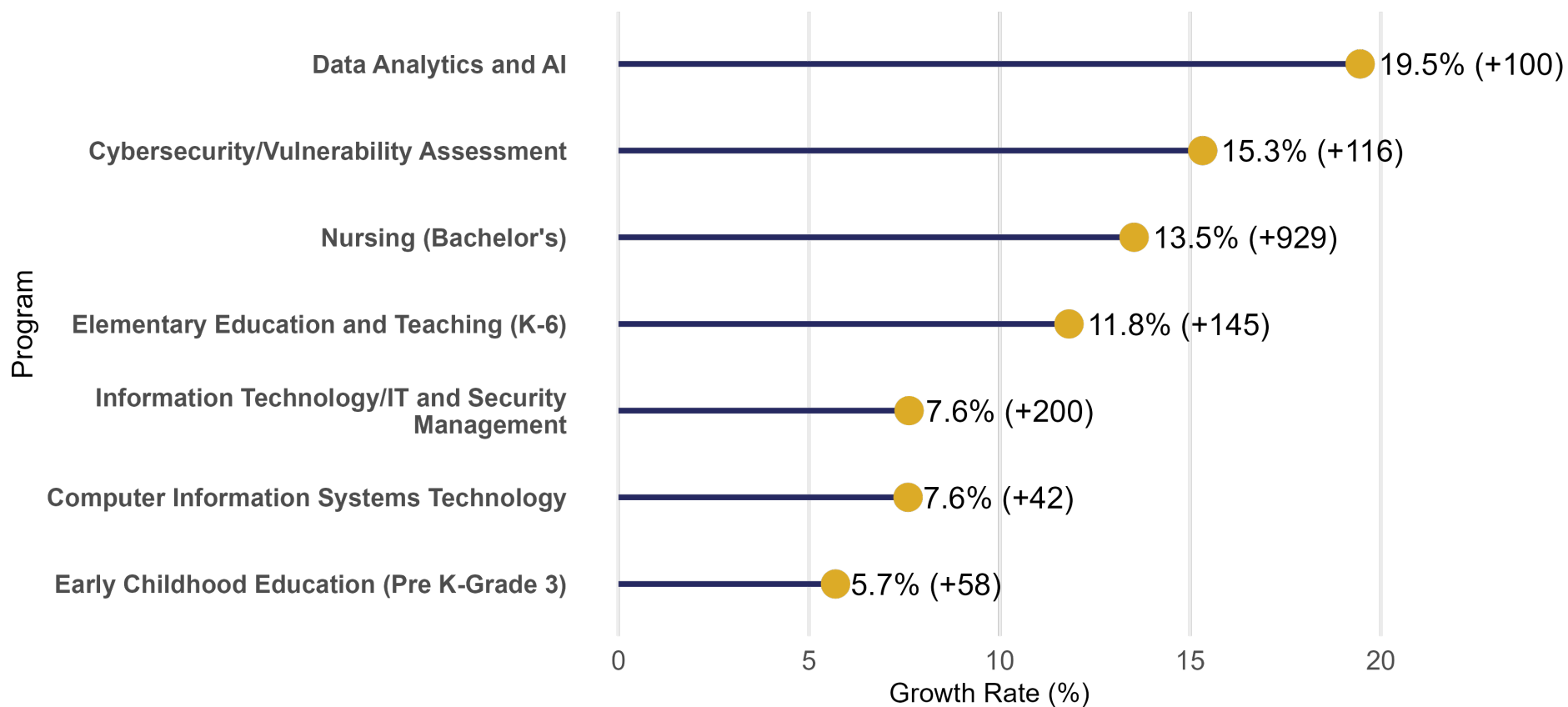
## 2023-24 to 2024-25 Program Growth Rate – Lower Division Enrollments



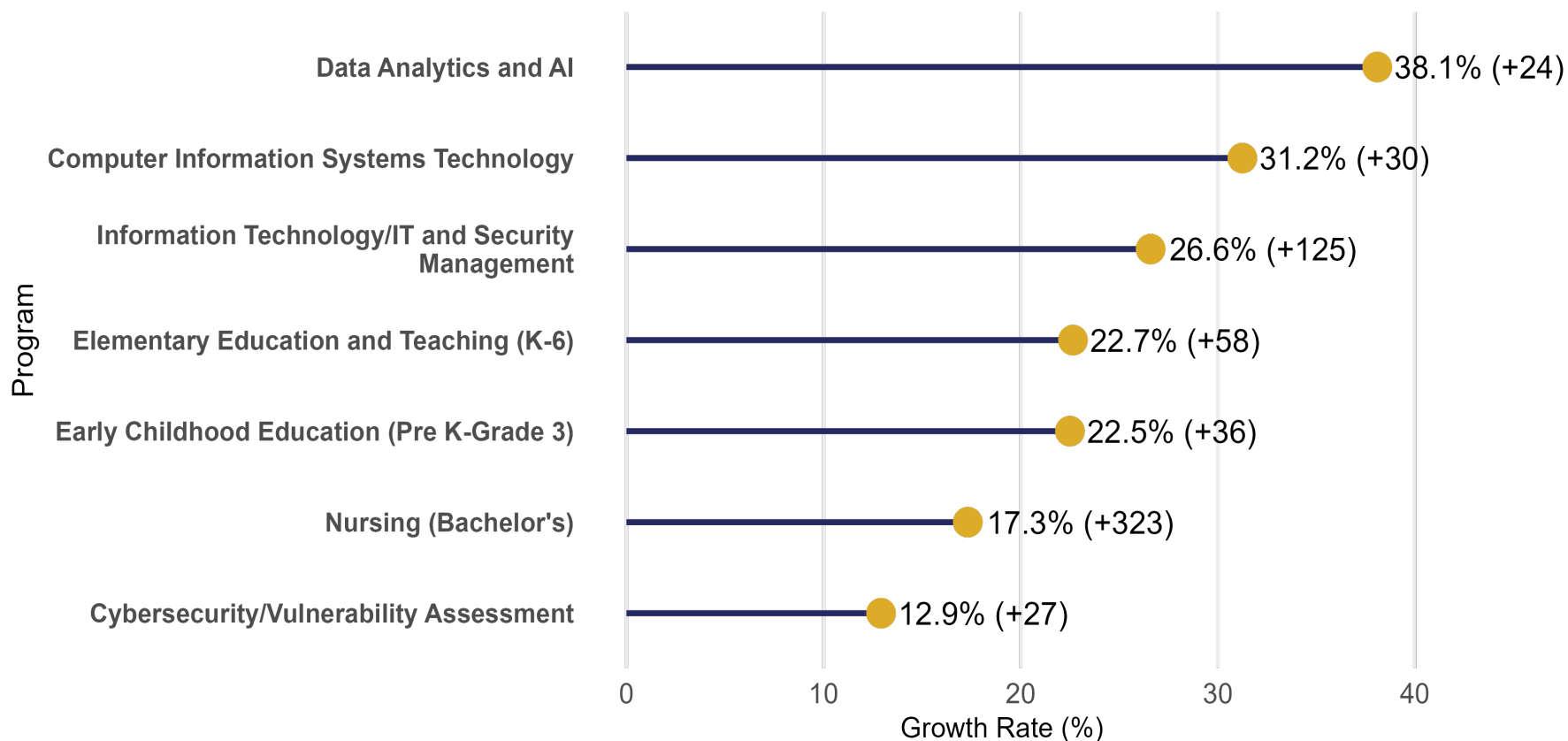
## 2023-24 to 2024-25 Program Growth Rate – Lower Division Completions



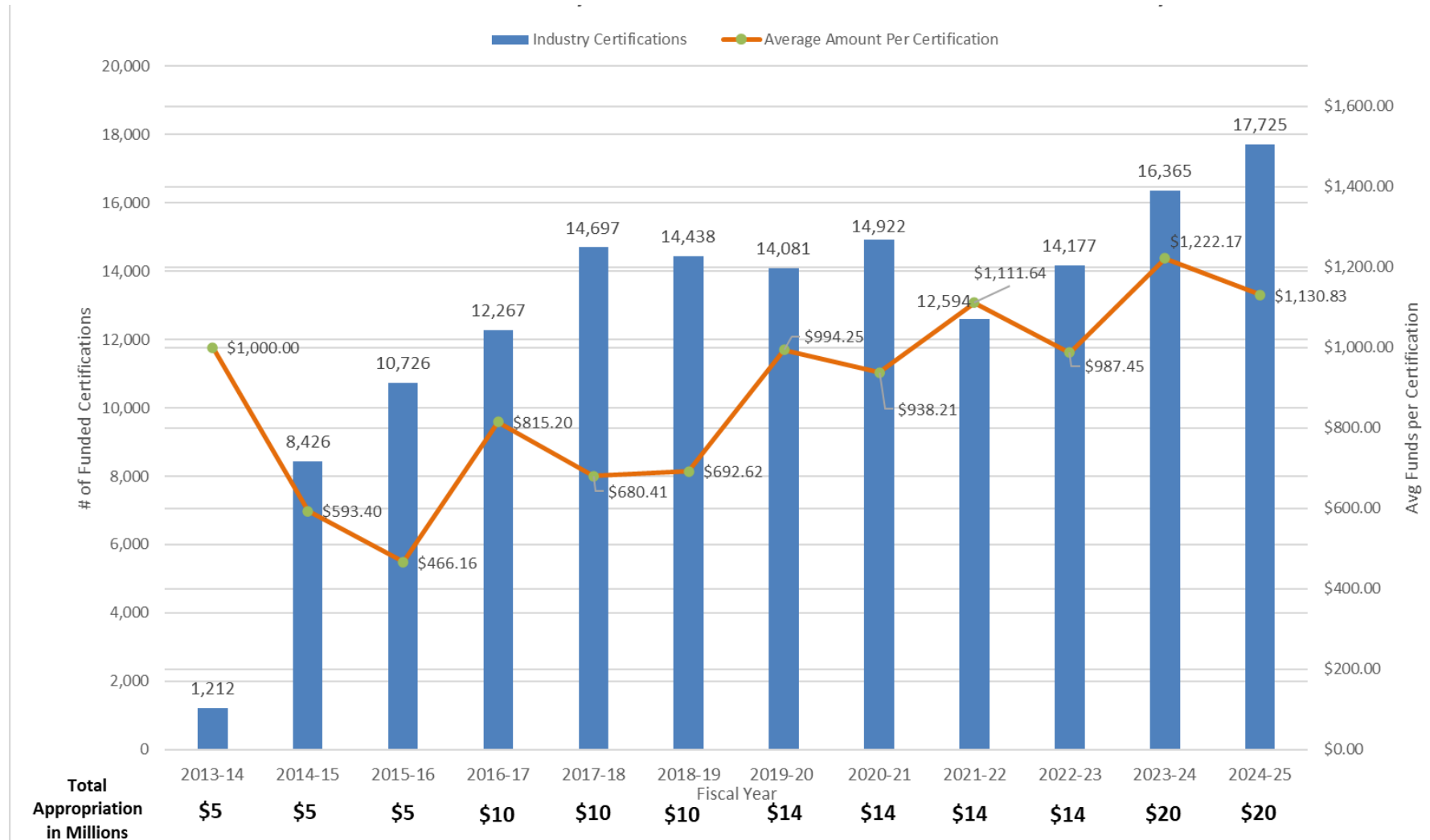
## 2023-24 to 2024-25 Program Growth Rate – Upper Division Enrollments



## 2023-24 to 2024-25 Program Growth Rate – Upper Division Completions



# FCS Postsecondary Performance-Incentive Funds History





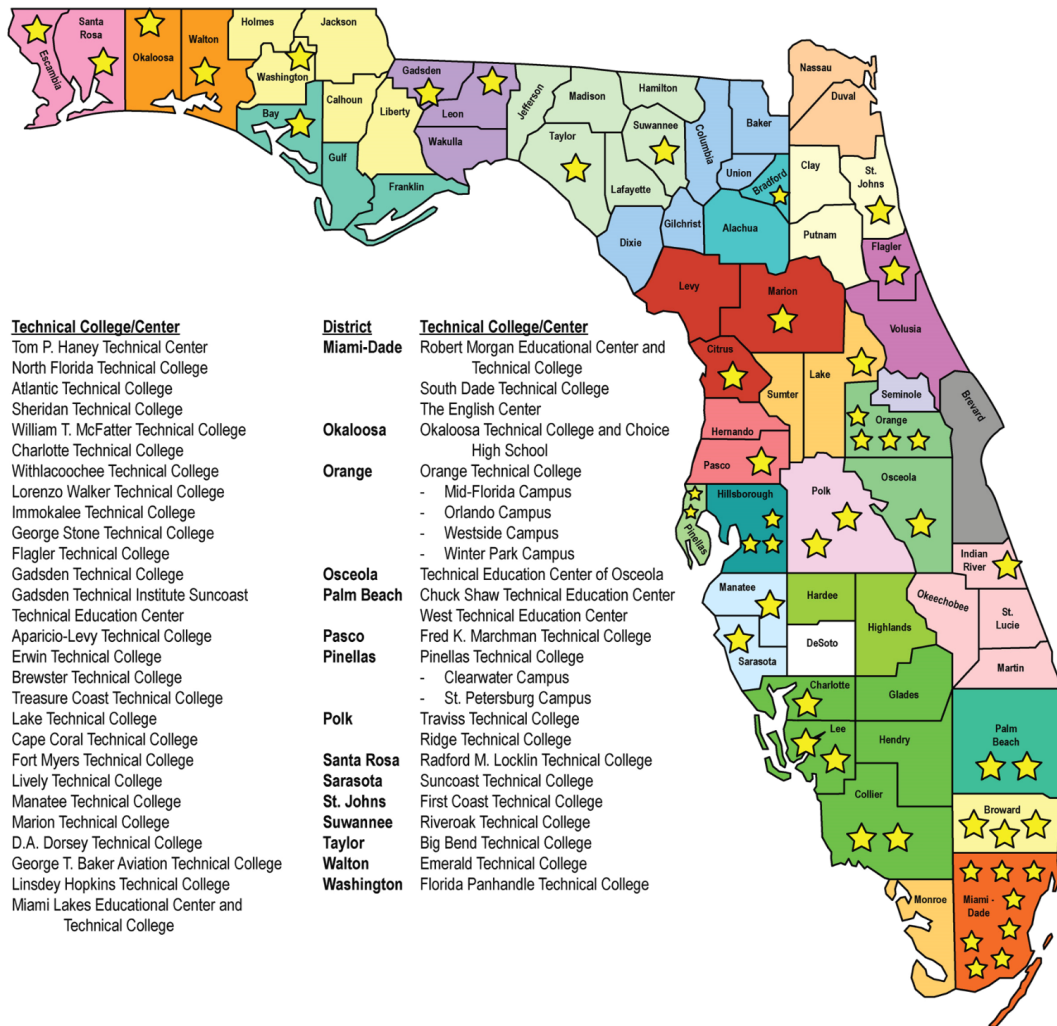


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# District Workforce Education Growth

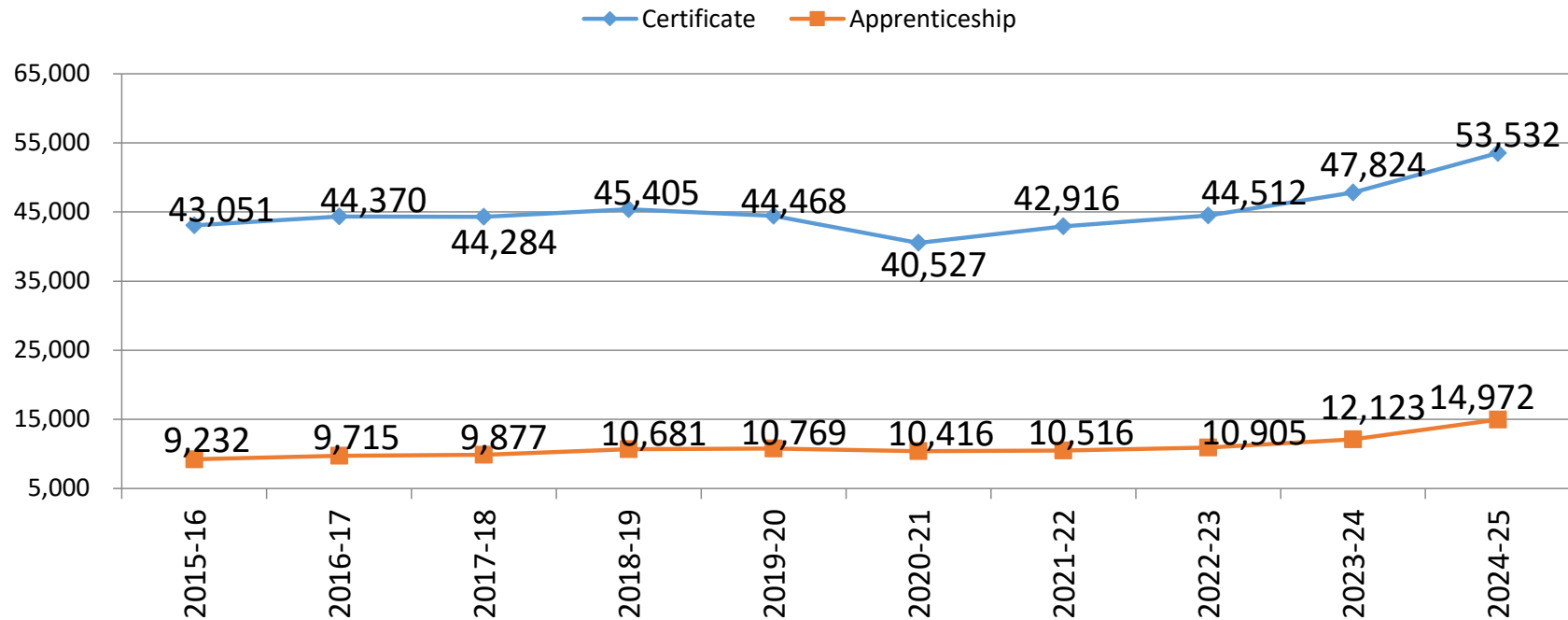


## 47 Technical Colleges/Centers with COE Accreditation

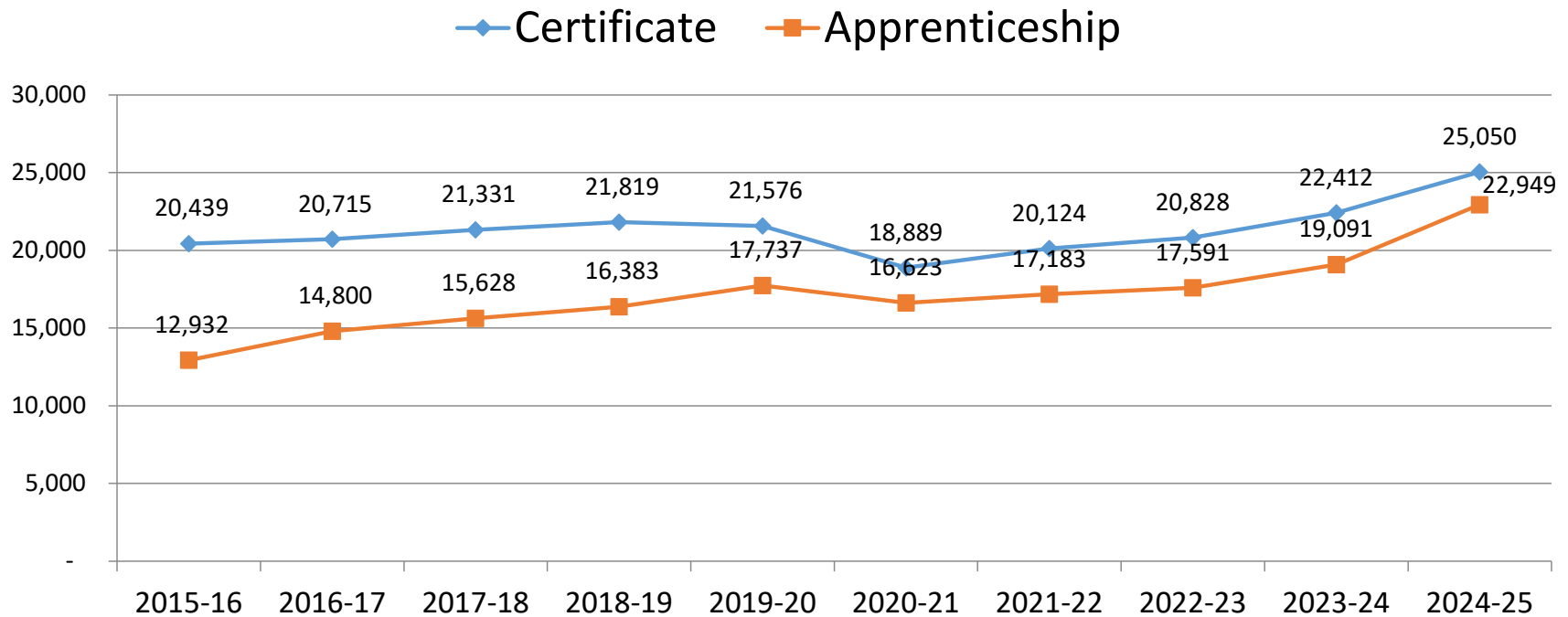


Updated 6/2023

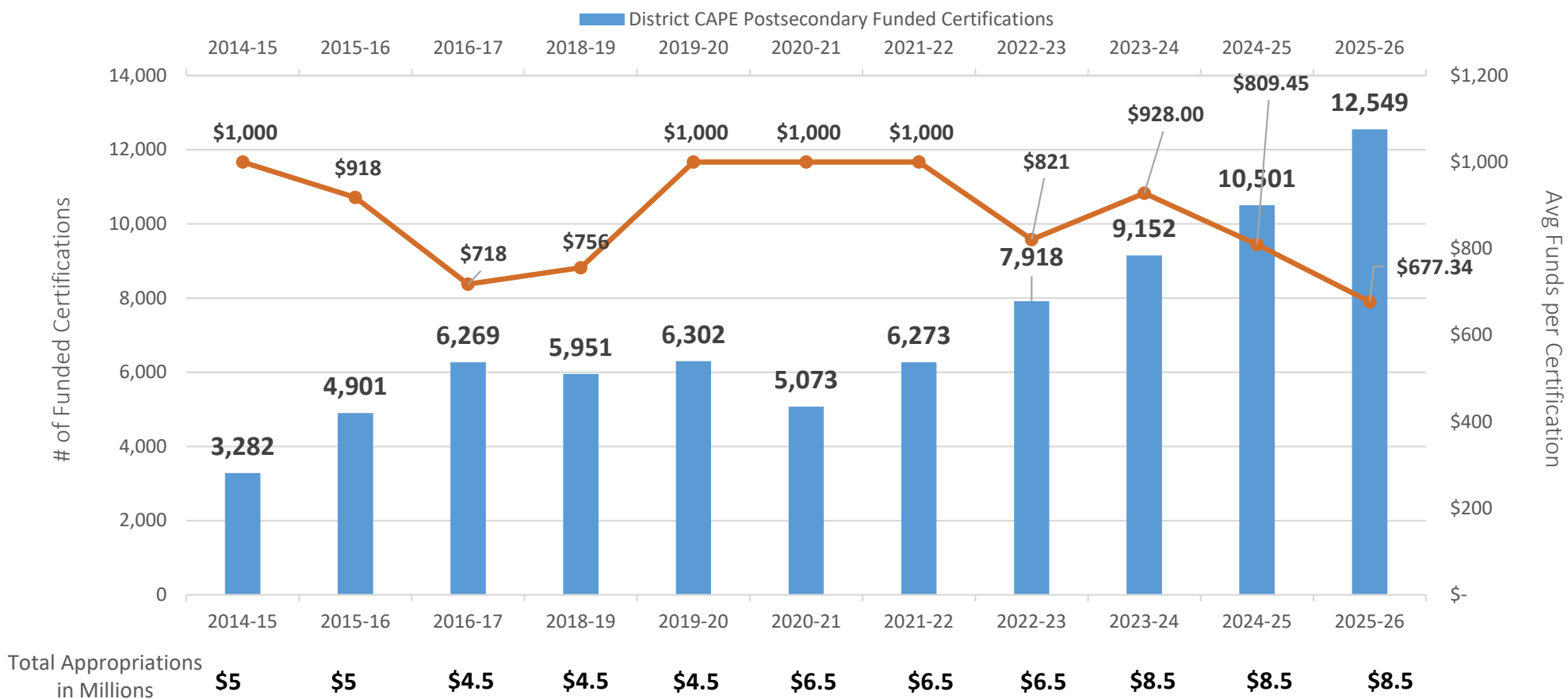
## District CTE Enrollment Growth (Headcount)



## District CTE Enrollment Growth (FTE)



## District Postsecondary Performance-Incentive Funds History





**[www.FLDOE.org](http://www.FLDOE.org)**

For Additional Questions:

Amelia Johnson Vaughn

Deputy Chief of Staff

[Amelia.Johnson@fldoe.org](mailto:Amelia.Johnson@fldoe.org)



[www.FLDOE.org](http://www.FLDOE.org)



**SOUTH  
FLORIDA**  
State College

# GRADUATES FROM REGION HIGH SCHOOLS



**TOTAL  
for 2025 = 1,514**

Highlands County

**228**  
Avon Park



**202**  
Lake Placid



**467**  
Sebring



**247**  
DeSoto



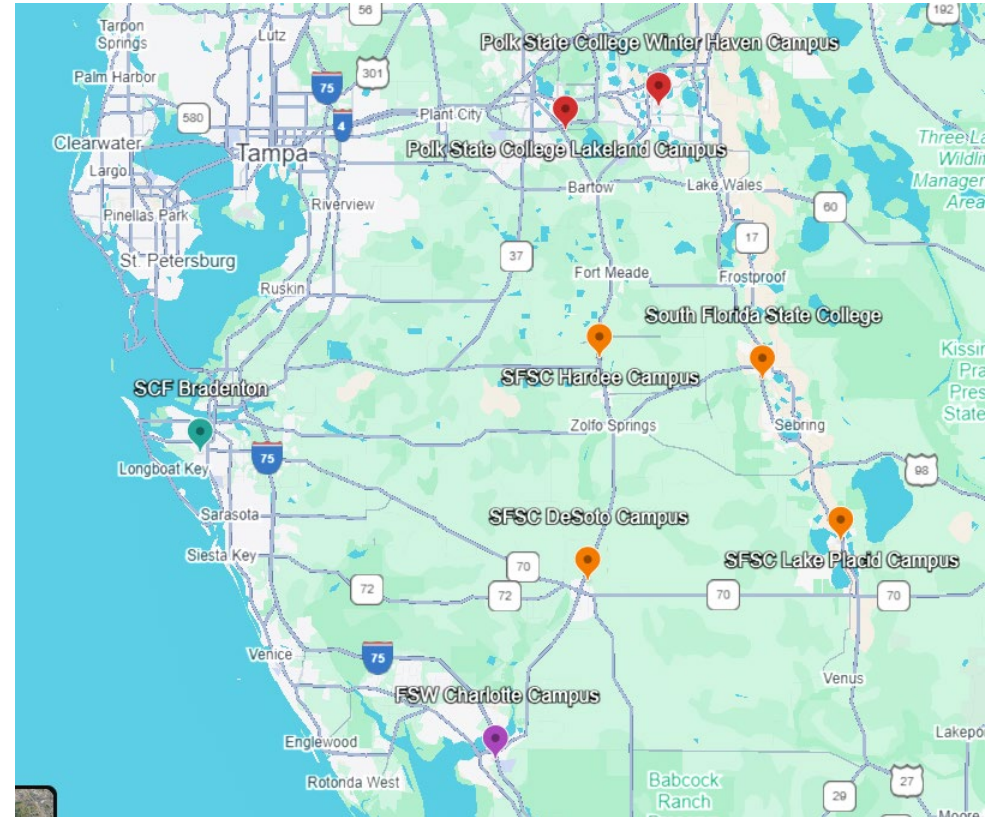
**370**  
Hardee Senior





# POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS

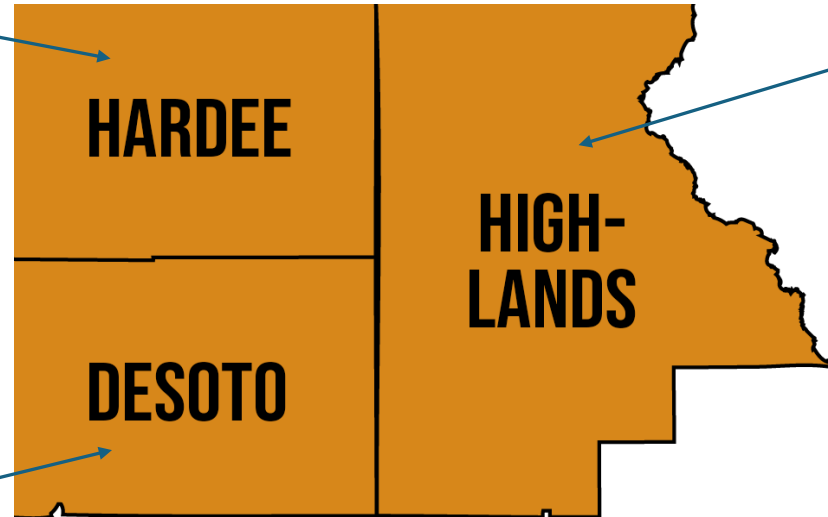
SFSC Campus	Other FCS College	Distance
Highlands	Polk State - Winter Haven	40 miles
Hardee	Polk State - Lakeland	30 miles
DeSoto	State College of Florida - Bradenton	52 miles
DeSoto	Florida SouthWestern - Punta Gorda	28 miles



# TRI-COUNTY RANKINGS

Hardee County	
Population	24,883
Rank	52
Attainment	12.3%
Rank	64

DeSoto County	
Population	35,487
Rank	49
Attainment	11%
Rank	65



Highlands County	
Population	106,109
Rank	36
Attainment	19.7%
Rank	38

# QUALIFIED STUDENTS NOT ACCEPTED



**RADIOGRAPHY**

**56**



**NURSING**

**200**



**DENTAL**

**17**



**EMS**

**37**

# QUALIFIED STUDENTS NOT ACCEPTED



FIRE

20



COSMETOLOGY

36



AUTOMOTIVE

20



LINEWORKER

97



# Pinellas Technical College

## By Pinellas County Schools

PRESENTER • EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAM “MARK” HUNT





# PINELLAS TECHNICAL COLLEGE

## CAMPUS LOCATIONS

- Clearwater Campus
- St. Petersburg Campus

- Career Programs – 53
- Apprenticeships - 17
- Annual Career Program Enrollment – 4,952
- High School Career Dual Enrollment – 1,205
- Employer Partners – 1,236
- PTC Graduate Annual Economic Impact -  
**\$82,000,000** (first year after graduation)



The Florida Senate

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

10/8/2025

Meeting Date

Senate Higher Ed Approps

Committee

LBR

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Kevin O'Farrell

Phone 850-566-2623

Address 325 W Gaines Street

Street

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32309

Zip

Email kevin.ofarrell@fldoe.org

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

**OR**

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**



I am appearing without  
compensation or sponsorship.



I am a registered lobbyist,  
representing:



I am not a lobbyist, but received  
something of value for my appearance  
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),  
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf flsenate.gov](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

10/8/2025

Meeting Date

Senate Higher Ed Approps

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to  
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Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Fred Hawkins

Phone 850-566-2623

Address 600 W College Drive

Street

Email fred.hawkins@southflorida.edu

Avon Park

City

FL

State

33825

Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

**OR**

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

☐

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compensation or sponsorship.

☐

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☐

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Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Mark Hunt

Phone 850-566-2623

Address 325 W Gaines Street

Email huntwi@pcsb.org

Tallahassee

FL

32399

City

State

Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

# CourtSmart Tag Report

**Room:** SB 401  
**Caption:** Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education

**Type:**  
**Judge:**

**Started:** 10/8/2025 11:00:20 AM  
**Ends:** 10/8/2025 12:22:53 PM      **Length:** 01:22:34

11:00:49 AM	Sen. Harrell (Chair)
11:01:41 AM	Sen. Bracy Davis
11:03:02 AM	Sen. Calatayud
11:03:56 AM	Sen. Bradley
11:05:01 AM	Sen. Leek
11:05:55 AM	Sen. Davis
11:06:22 AM	Sen. Burgess
11:06:47 AM	Sen. Harrell
11:09:46 AM	TAB 1 - Workforce and Florida College System Budget Request Discussion
11:11:18 AM	Kevin O'Farrell, Senior Chancellor, Dept. of Education
11:42:39 AM	Sen. Leek
11:44:03 AM	K. O'Farrell
11:45:47 AM	Sen. Leek
11:46:48 AM	K. O'Farrell
11:47:03 AM	Sen. Bracy Davis
11:47:33 AM	K. O'Farrell
11:49:10 AM	Sen. Harrell
11:49:23 AM	Sen. Calatayud
11:50:21 AM	K. O'Farrell
11:53:00 AM	Sen. Calatayud
11:54:16 AM	K. O'Farrell
11:56:08 AM	Sen. Davis
11:56:25 AM	K. O'Farrell
11:56:41 AM	Sen. Bradley
11:57:26 AM	K. O'Farrell
11:57:40 AM	Sen. Harrell
11:58:31 AM	Fred Hawkins, President, South Florida State College
12:07:25 PM	Sen. Harrell
12:07:29 PM	F. Hawkins
12:07:41 PM	Sen. Harrell
12:07:51 PM	Sen. Leek
12:08:29 PM	F. Hawkins
12:10:53 PM	Mark Hunt, Executive Director of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Pinellas County Schools
12:19:35 PM	Sen. Harrell
12:19:55 PM	M. Hunt
12:20:52 PM	Sen. Harrell
12:20:57 PM	M. Hunt
12:21:21 PM	Sen. Harrell
12:21:26 PM	M. Hunt
12:21:56 PM	Sen. Harrell
12:21:59 PM	M. Hunt
12:22:03 PM	Sen. Harrell