



THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE

COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION POLICY,
RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT



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November 3, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Invited Members, Workforce Panel

FROM: Tara G. Goodman

SUBJECT: Discussion Questions for November 12 Workforce Funding Panel

Thank you for your participation in the Council's discussion of funding for workforce education programs. As the Council works on its recommendations for a new funding methodology, your insights on the current funding process and potential changes are important to our members. In preparation for the November 12 discussion, the following issues and questions have been developed to frame the conversation.

Current Funding Methodology:

1. Should a single workforce development fund, which includes adult education, vocational certificate, Associate in Science and continuing workforce education, continue to exist in some form? Does it make sense to have Associate in Science funds separated for community colleges from their funding for other college credit coursework?
2. The current system (in an era of declining funding) still penalizes institutions whose performance was improving over time. Should performances be judged based on an institution's relative performance (compared to all other institutions)? Or based on a single institution's performance over time?
3. The current funding methodology does not include a method of funding enrollment growth. What base measure of growth should be used? FTEs? OCPs? What should happen to workforce funding when enrollments are declining?

Special Issues:

4. Funding for apprenticeship programs has been a perceived problem in recent years. Should apprenticeship programs be funded using the same methodology as other career and technical training programs? How should new funding be provided for the start-up of new apprenticeship programs?

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5. The Council is concerned with creating a better connection between high school and career-technical training. What innovative policies has your institution used to create a K-20 connection in which high school students are working towards a career program certificate/degree? What are the barriers right now to improving that connection (funding or otherwise)?

6. In recent years, the issue of the appropriate governance structure for career and technical education has been a recurring theme. Would consolidation of responsibility for adult, career-technical education lead to greater efficiency and performance?

The November 12 meeting is being held at the Advanced Technology Center at Florida Community College at Jacksonville. The technology center is located at the downtown campus whose address is 401 West State Street. An agenda for the meeting is attached for your review.

I look forward to seeing you next week.

/ca

CC: Members, Council for Education Policy, Research and Improvement
CEPRI Staff: William Proctor, Juan Copa, Patrick Dallet
DOE Staff: Ed Cisek, Nancy Cordill