

Presentation to Senate Select
Sub-Committee on Financial Aid
February 15, 2001



State Student Financial Aid Policy Study February 2001

PEPC Recommendations

- The Florida Student Assistance Grant should be funded at the level requested in the Commissioner of Education's budget for 2001-02.
- The Florida Legislature should adopt a five-year plan to restore the balance to the State's merit - and need-based appropriations required by Section 240.437(2)(a).

PEPC Recommendations (cont.)

- The Legislature should conduct a sunset review of any financial aid program that has expended less than half its appropriation for two consecutive years.

Categorical State Financial Aid Programs That Expended Less than 50% of Funds Appropriated for 1999-2000

| Program Title | Statute | 1999-2000 | | | |
|--|----------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | | Dollars Appropriated | Number Participants | Dollars Expended | Percent Expended |
| Rosewood Family Scholarship | 240.4126 | \$ 100,000 | 25 | \$ 48,290 | 48.3% |
| Jose Marti Scholarship Challenge Grant | 240.412 | \$ 296,000 | 70 | \$ 126,000 | 42.6% |
| African & Afro-Caribbean Scholarship | 240.4145 | \$ 93,600 | 4 | \$ 38,027 | 40.6% |
| Latin American/Caribbean Basin Scholarship | 240.414 | \$ 156,000 | 4 | \$ 34,628 | 22.2% |
| Total | | \$ 645,600 | 103 | \$ 295,235 | 45.8% |

PEPC Recommendations (cont.)

- Sections 240.409(2)(a) and 240.4095(2)(a), Florida Statutes, should be revised to extend eligibility for the Florida Student Assistance Grant to eligible part-time degree-seeking students, provided that such program expansion does not have the effect of reducing the number or amount of awards available to eligible full-time degree-seeking students.

PEPC Recommendations (cont.)

- The Bureau of Student Financial Assistance should assign high priority to obtaining accurate projections of the number of part-time students who are otherwise eligible for the Florida Student Assistance Grant.
- The public FSAG fund should be divided into separate funds for public four-year and public two-year institutions.
- Rather than recommending a stand-alone need-based grant for part-time students at this time, the Commission supports “growing” the part-time grant through the traditional Florida Student Assistance Grant.

PEPC Recommendations (cont.)

- The Bureau of Student Financial Assistance should continue to provide the State match of federal Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) allocation on the required one-to-one basis from Florida Student Assistance Grant dollars. The Florida Legislature should make a separate appropriation to provide the required two-to-one State match of federal Supplemental Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (SLEAP) dollars. The state's SLEAP allocation and the State matching dollars should be earmarked for part-time students.

PEPC Recommendations (cont.)

- College admissions and financial aid professionals should ensure that all students who apply for admission to their institutions receive information about available federal housing assistance programs and participating rental units in the local community.

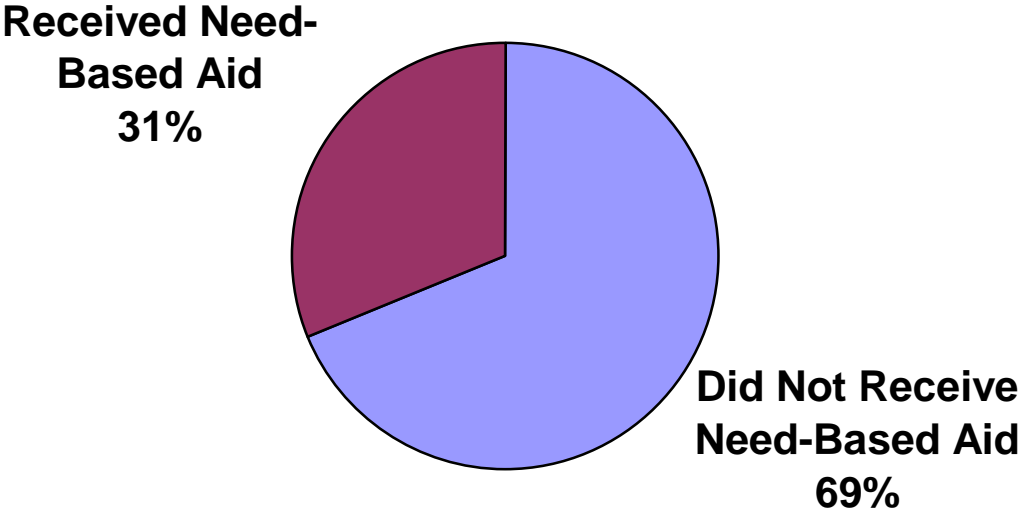
PEPC Recommendations (cont.)

- The Careers for Florida's Future program should be funded and implemented with the following revisions:
 - Identification of specific eligible education and training fields should be removed from statute. Instead, the list of eligible occupations should be agreed upon annually by the principals of the Workforce Estimating Conference;
 - The forgivable loan upon which the Career's for Florida's Future Program is currently predicated should be replaced by the loan forgiveness model currently utilized by the Critical Shortage Loan Forgiveness Program for teachers, occupational therapists, and physical therapists;
 - The program should be managed by the Bureau of Student Financial Assistance;
 - The Florida residency requirement should be amended from the current three years to the standard one year for other programs.

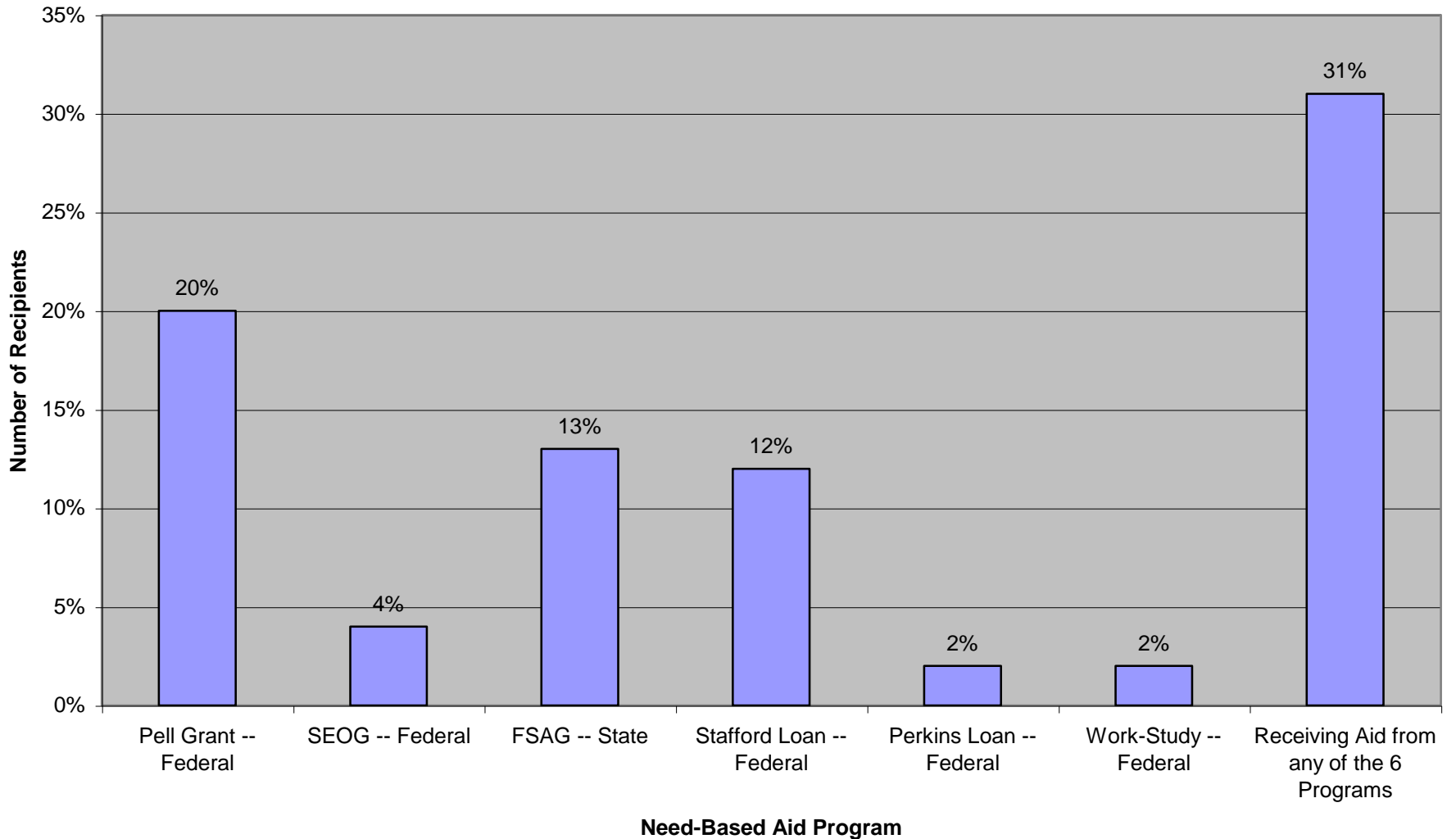
PEPC Recommendations (cont.)

- The Vocational Student Assistance Grant should be reinstated and funded at the Department of Education's requested level of \$12 million.

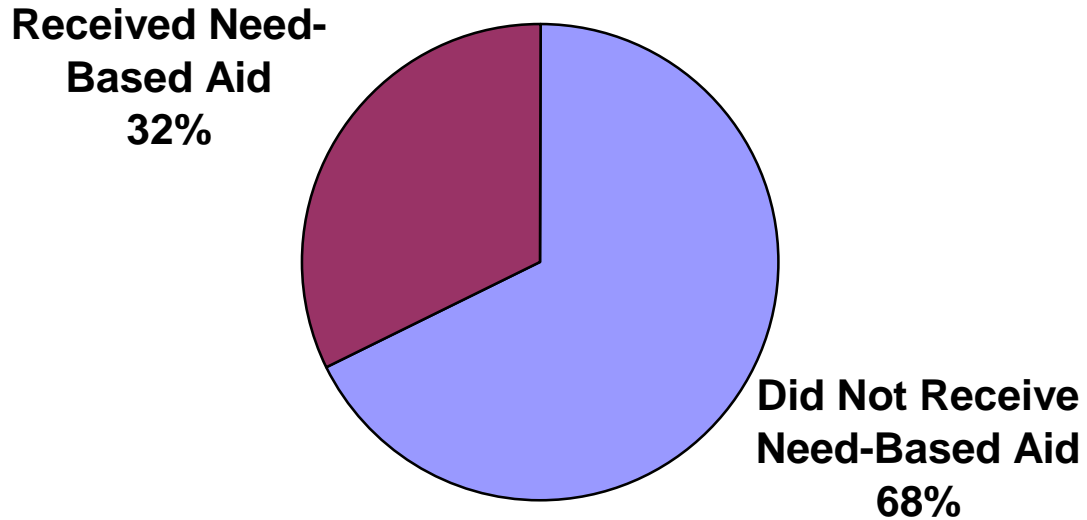
**Bright Futures Initial Recipients in the Community College
and State University Systems Who Also Received a Need-
Based Award in Fall 1998**



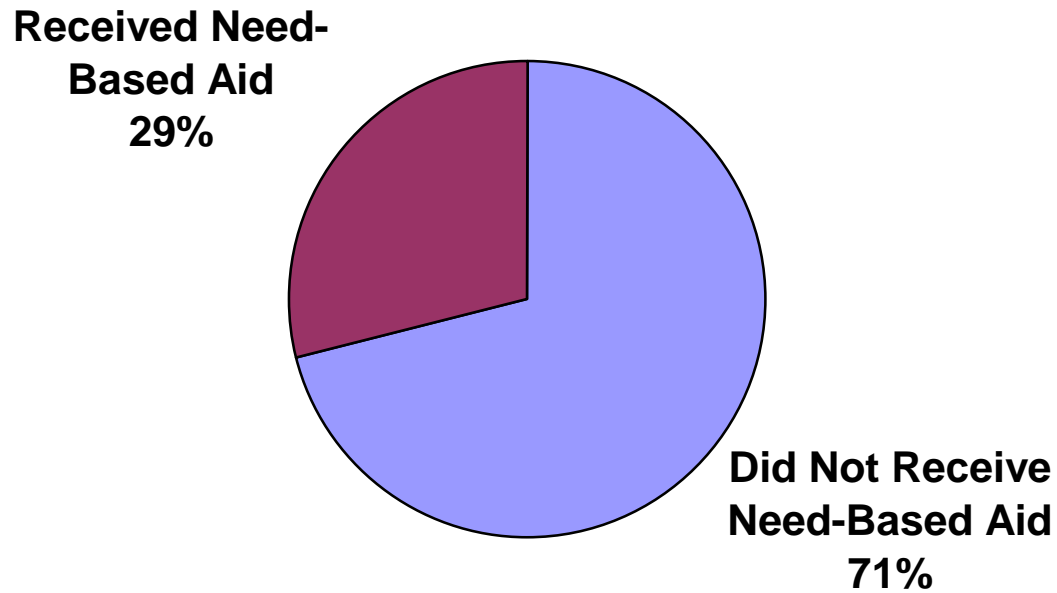
Bright Futures Initial Recipients in the Community College and State University Systems Who Also Received a Need-Based Award in Fall 1998



**Bright Futures Initial Recipients in the State University System
Who Also Received a Need-Based Award in Fall 1998**

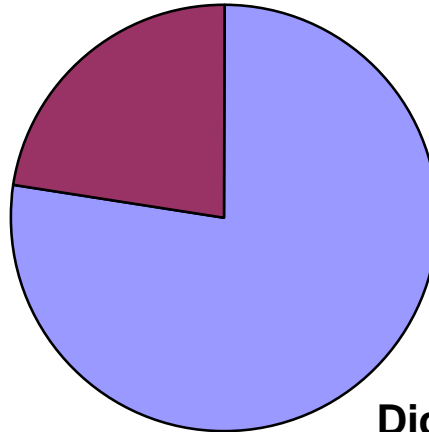


Bright Futures Initial Recipients in the Community College System Who Also Received a Need-Based Award in Fall 1998



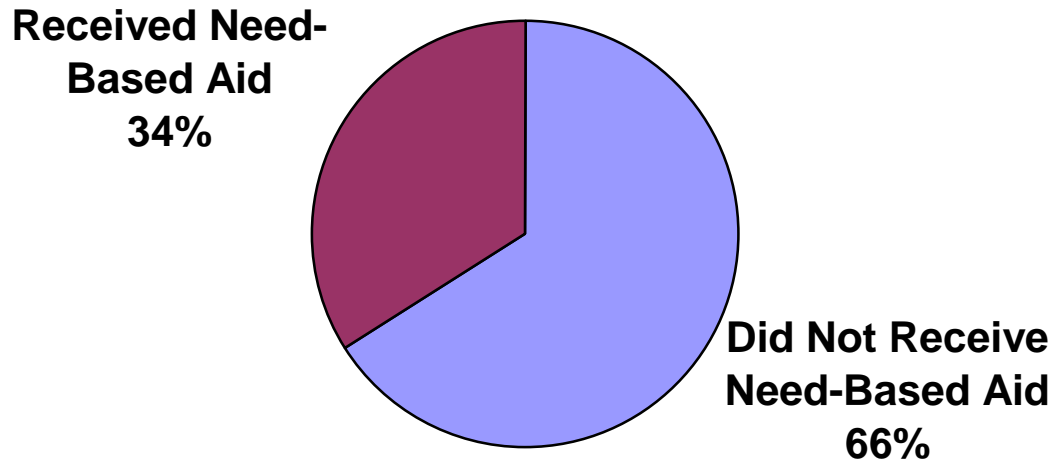
**Florida Academic Scholars Initial Recipients in the
Community College and State University Systems Who Also
Received a Need-Based Award in Fall 1998**

**Received Need-
Based Aid
23%**



**Did Not Receive
Need-Based Aid
77%**

Florida Merit Scholars Initial Recipients in the Community College and State University Systems Who Also Received a Need-Based Award in Fall 1998



Gold Seal Vocational Initial Recipients in the Community College and State University System Who Also Received a Need-Based Award in Fall 1998

