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OSFA-STATE: # 25-26:11

MEMORANDUM

TO: Financial Aid Directors and Foundation Directors at Institutions Participating

in the First Generation Matching Grant Program for Florida Colleges

FROM: Shawn Haskin, Director

State Scholarship and Grant Programs

DATE: August 19, 2025

SUBJECT: 2025-26 First Generation Matching Grant (FGMG) Allocation Notice – Florida

Colleges

Please see the attached document detailing the 2025-26 FGMG allocations. The 2025-26 allocation formula was developed by the Division of Florida Colleges (DFC) and is administered by the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA).

FGMG program institutional responsibilities include establishing a process for a program application, completing initial and renewal eligibility determinations, calculating award amounts, and providing notification to students. In accordance with section (s.) 1009.701(5)(e), Florida Statutes (F.S.), FGMG students are required to have met the eligibility requirements in s. 1009.50, F.S., for demonstrated financial need for the Florida Public Student Assistance Grant, which requires students to file the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) and meet the **Student Aid Index (SAI) cutoff of 9984 for 2025-26**. Institutions may establish criteria in addition to the eligibility requirements provided in s. 1009.701, F.S.

Matching Funds

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) will allocate appropriated funds to match two dollars for one dollar of eligible private contributions. Please see the attached memorandum dated August 6, 2025, from Kathy Hebda, Chancellor of the Division of Florida Colleges, which addresses the 2025-26 FGMG program certification.

Suzanne Pridgeon
Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations

- Eligible private matching funds are those that have been made to a Florida college and pledged for the purposes of this program.
- Unrestricted donations, not yet endowed or matched for other program purposes, may be designated for this program. "Interest earned" on an endowment may be used for the program if the endowment is unmatched by the state and is not designated for any other purposes or specifically designated by the donor for FGMG.

Fund Certification

- Each Florida college:
 - o May certify matching funds to the DFC until December 1, 2025.
 - O Must adhere to the DFC requirements that are described in the attached *Guidelines for FGMG Program for Florida Colleges*.
 - O Must submit the attached DFC certification form *Certification of Private Contributions for FGMG Program* to collegereporting@fldoe.org.
- Beginning in mid-August, once any portion or all of a college's funds are certified by the DFC to OSFA, the prorated term state match (half in term 1 and the other half in term 2) will be sent to the institution within two weeks.
- Any remaining unmatched funds that are available after the deadline of December 1, 2025, will be reallocated to state universities and Florida colleges that have collected and certified private donations in excess of their allocation for this program.

Visit https://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org and select FGMG for a detailed program fact sheet.

Please contact Nanette Smith at <u>Nanette.Smith@fldoe.org</u> or call 888-827-2004 if you have questions or need assistance.

SH/nl

Attachments: 2025-26 FGMG Allocation Notice – Florida Colleges

Florida College System, Memorandum

Certification of Private Contributions for FGMG Guidelines for FGMG Program for Florida Colleges

cc: Kathy Hebda, Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges
Suzanne Pridgeon, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Finance and Operations
Lou Anne Standley, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Division of Finance and Operations
Nanette Lyons, Program Specialist, Office of Student Financial Assistance