



Florida College Access Network: FAFSA and Workforce Pell: What Florida Students and Institutions Need to Know

Florida Workforce Pell

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Florida's Implementation Framework

Florida built Workforce Pell on its existing education and workforce systems rather than a new structure.

State Authority

Commissioner of Education

Certifies programs under authority delegated by the Governor on August 24, 2026. FDOE administers state approval and validation.

Master Credentials List

Credential quality, employer demand, and portability

Targeted Occupations List

In-demand occupations with competitive wages

Hometown Heroes Occupations

Statewide priority occupations under s. 420.5096, F.S.

Framework of Quality

Employer recognition, wage progression, and career pathways

Stage 1: State approves the program type



Stage 2: Each institution certifies its own offering

Statewide Program Inventory

As of September 2026

107

distinct certificates/applied tech diplomas
on the statewide inventory*

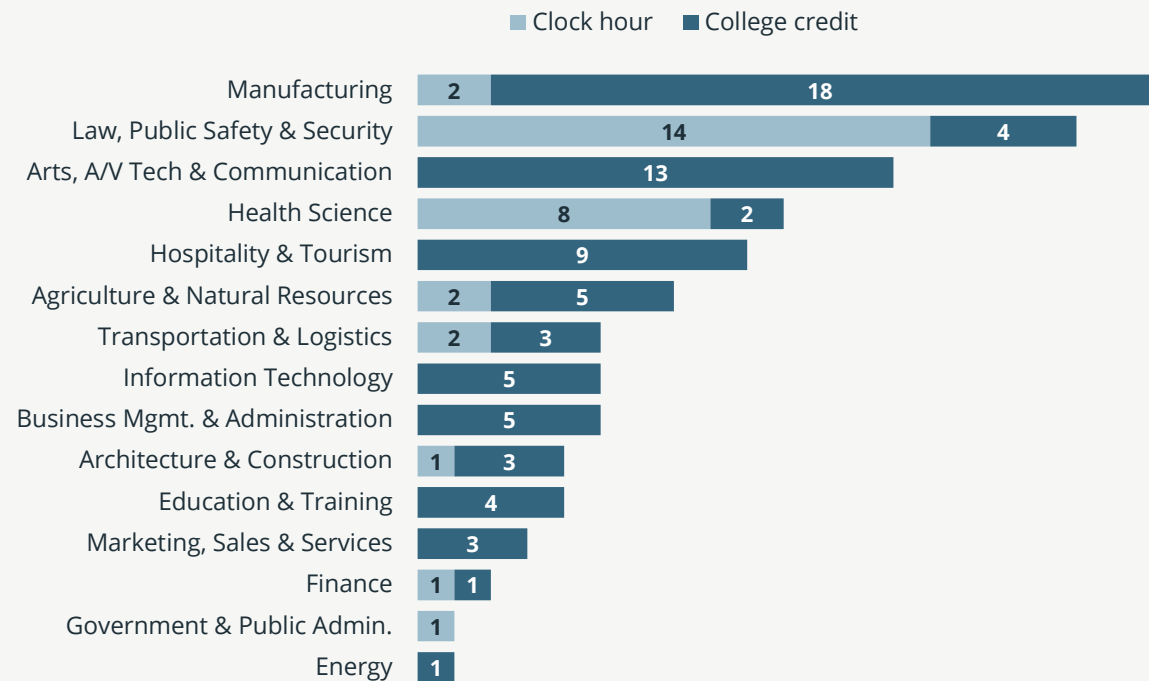
■ 31 clock hour

■ 76 college credit

The inventory applies to FCS
institutions and school district
technical colleges.

*State list shows 109 programs; two
programs appear under both current and
replacement codes.

Programs by Career Cluster



Institutional Certification and State Validation

Being on the state inventory is only the first step. Each college or district must show that its own program qualifies.

- 1 State List**
Program appears on the statewide inventory
- 2 Institutional Review**
Verify the offering against the requirements below
- 3 Submission**
Federal certification form and documentation sent to FDOE
- 4 State Validation**
FDOE reviews for state and federal consistency
- 5 Commissioner Approval**
Certified under authority delegated by the Governor
- 6 Federal Process**
E-App and Title IV program inventory before disbursement

Minimum Requirements to Document

Length

8 to under 15 weeks; 150–599 clock hours or credit equivalent

Completion

At least 70% within 150% of normal time

Placement

At least 70% employed 180 days after completion

History

At least 12 months of operation before certification

Additional Participation Pathways

Application materials forthcoming

Registered Apprenticeship

- Separate application from the Title IV institution and RA sponsor
- No statewide list; approval covers only the specific program and partnership
- Partners may deliver 25% to under 50% under a written arrangement
- Outcome standards still apply

In development

Commission for Independent Education (CIE) Institutions

- Tailored participation pathway being finalized
- Institution-initiated, program-specific review
- Guidance and eligible program lists to be published

In development

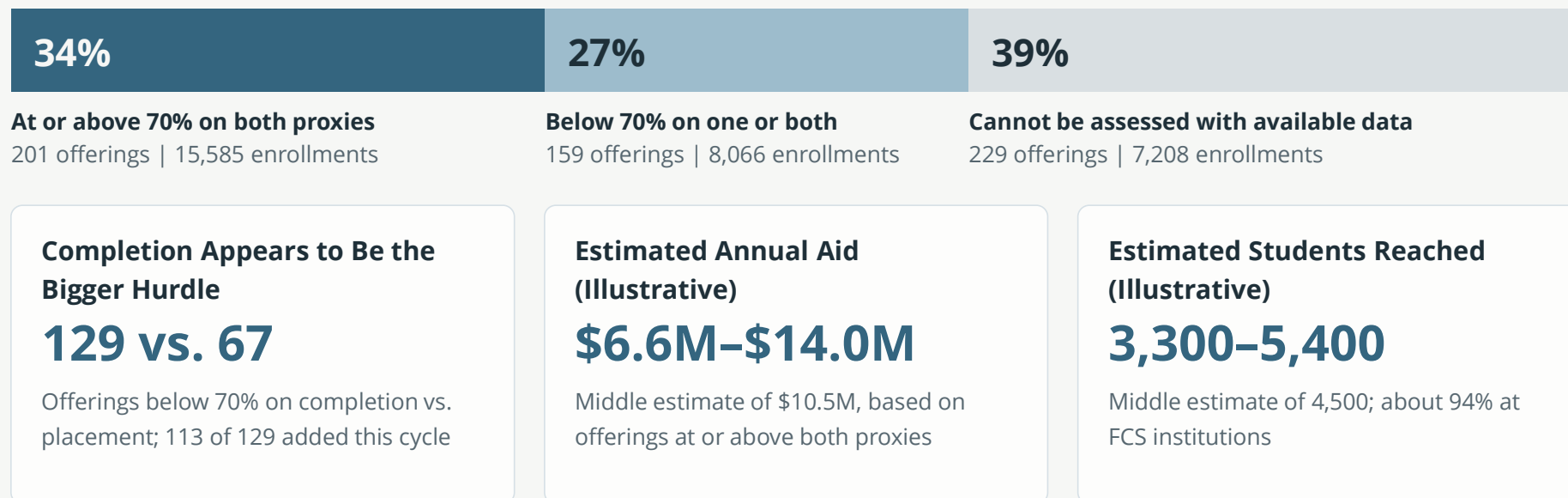
Continuing Workforce Education

- Non-credit training; not categorically excluded
- Requires a program-specific review because state data are not standardized

Estimated Workforce Pell Opportunity in Florida

TSG Advisors estimated the potential impact using the closest available state data. These are not eligibility determinations, and actual results will differ.

589 local offerings of listed programs, about 30,900 enrollments (2023–24)



Source: Henderson, C. E. (2026). *Workforce Pell in Florida: Which programs are positioned to qualify, and how many students could benefit?* TSG Advisors – Education.

Implementation Questions for Institutions

Issues Florida institutions are working through as implementation moves forward.

1 Program of Study

For newly eligible CCCs, is the certificate the student's actual program of study, or is it embedded in an A.S. pathway the student is pursuing?

2 Outcome Documentation

Can the institution document 70% completion within 150% of normal time and 70% placement at 180 days?

3 Title IV Readiness

Does the institution participate in Title IV, and is it ready to complete the E-App and program inventory updates after state validation?

4 Apprenticeship Partnerships

How will written arrangements with RA sponsors be structured, and has the institution's accreditor determined they meet its standards?

Key Takeaways for FCAN Network and Students

What the FCAN Network Needs to Know

- **Listing ≠ approval.** Institutions must complete certification before advertising Workforce Pell.
- **Pathways matter.** Credentials must be portable, stackable, and carry credit toward further education.
- **Lifetime limits apply.** Workforce Pell counts toward the 12-semester Pell limit.
- **Coverage is limited.** The current list includes FCS institutions and school district technical colleges.

What Students Need to Know

- **Complete the FAFSA.** The same application applies.
- **Verify approval.** Ask the college whether the specific program qualifies.
- **Know the conditions.** Academic progress requirements apply; withdrawal may trigger repayment.
- **Plan ahead.** Consider how Workforce Pell affects future aid and how credits apply toward additional credentials.

Additional Information

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TSG Advisors Report | Sept. 2026

Workforce Pell in Florida: Which Programs Are Positioned to Qualify, and How Many Students Could Benefit?

[Read the full report](#)

Program list, forms, and guidance

fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/workforcepell

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