

**FLORIDA REACH HIGHER INIATIVE
STRATEGIC PLAN
2014-2019**

Our Vision

The Florida College and Career Readiness Initiative (FL CCRI) vision is to achieve the President’s Goal of America reclaiming the position of having the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by 2020 and the Florida goal of 60% higher education attainment in Florida by 2025. We want to build the capacity of all Florida school counselors to provide powerful, competent college and career advising. Initial focused efforts will be on Northeast Florida, i.e., Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns counties, and all students with focused attention on their underrepresented populations in higher education attainment. We will broaden, design, create, and scale up CCR efforts. Our team focus is to maximize resources (mental as well as financial), to provide a template of recommended programs and practices for pre-service and in-service training for school counselors, to learn of partnerships, professional development, and recommended policies.

The Florida College and Career Readiness Team

The Florida College and Career Readiness Team (FL CCRT) team is a cross-sector of community members from the school district, the colleges and universities, the professional association leaders, government agencies, foundations, and nonprofits who are passionate and committed change agents capable of galvanizing a community wide effort to lead college access and success for Jacksonville’s students, and widening the net to all students across the state. The driving force will be intentional action to advantage underserved and underrepresented students in higher level academics and higher education attainment. Higher education means any postsecondary education that is Pell-eligible such as college associate and bachelor degrees, apprenticeship programs, or certificate programs.

Goals and Commitments

The Florida College and Career Readiness Initiative (FL CCRI) is poised to spearhead a collaborative partnership from across the state to ensure increasing the proportion of college graduates in Florida by 2020 and the goal of 60% higher education attainment in Florida by 2020. Toward this end, the Florida College and Career Readiness Team (FL CCRT) will build capacity for all Florida school counselors to provide powerful, competent college and career advising for every student in the state. The FL CCRT represents a cross-sector of educators from school districts, college and universities, school counselor professional association leaders, government agencies, foundations, and nonprofits to lead college access and success for students, particularly underserved and underrepresented students in higher level academics and higher education attainment.

Primary Goal I: Student

College Ready and Success	Baseline (2012-13 SY)	Goal (2019-2020 SY)
Percent of students graduating from high school in a four year period	75.6 %	100%
Percent of postsecondary student enrollment completing a credential, associates, or bachelor degree	NA	60% of high school graduates will complete degrees

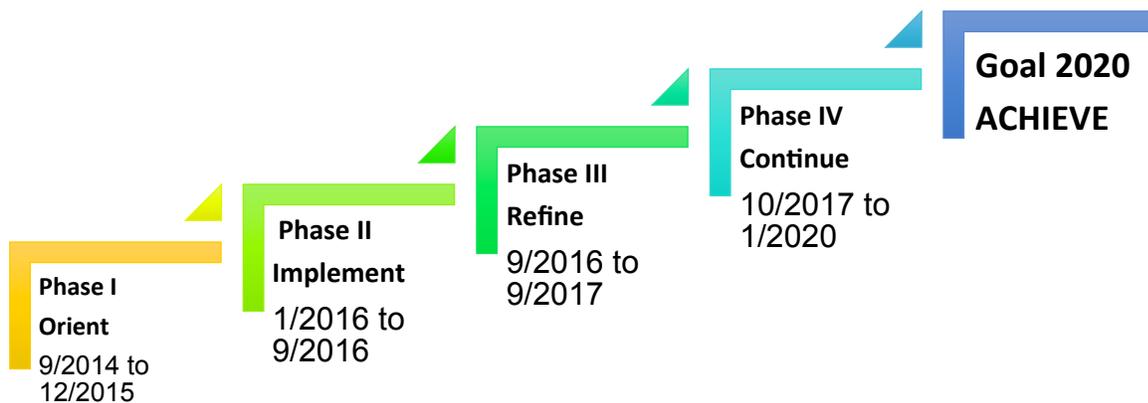
Primary Goal II: Professional Development and Training

School Counselors	Baseline (2012-13 SY)	Goal (2019-2020 SY)
Percent of pre-service school counselors completing at least one course in college and career readiness	TBD – a survey to determine the base line is currently in development	100%
Percent of certified practicing school counselors completing a certificate in college and career readiness	TBD - a survey to determine the base line is currently in development	100%

Primary Goal III: School Counselor College Career Readiness in Preparation and Professional Development

School Counselors	Baseline (2012-13 SY)	Goal (2018-19 SY)
Percent of pre-service school counselors completing at least one course in college and career readiness	TBD – a survey to determine the base line is currently in development	100%
Percent of certified practicing school counselors completing a certificate in college and career readiness	TBD - a survey to determine the base line is currently in development	100%

Time Line



PLAN

PHASE I

Broaden the Stakeholders and Provide a Summit: Core team members (San Diego Convening Participants) will reach out to additional community and state representatives from research organizations, supervisors of school counseling, professional association leaders, the local school districts, the colleges and universities, local and state agencies, foundations, and nonprofits to attend a summit for the purpose of networking, learning, teaming up, strategizing and implementing CCR strategies.

Strong Collaboratives: The team will continue to grow strong networks and collaboratives statewide around CCR. Several Florida communities have already begun creating cross-sector strategic alliances (called local college access networks or “LCAN’s”) with a common agenda to increase college and career readiness, and, access and success for students in their regions. These coalitions, including the Northeast Florida College Access Network, are recent recipients of the Lumina Foundation’s Community Partnerships for Attainment grant while other communities have expressed a keen interest in supporting similar efforts. With these alliances working together on opportunities to make progress at the local level, the opportunity exists to scale up effective college access strategies statewide.

FAFSA Completion: Attendees of the convening will work together to devise a local and statewide strategy for increasing FAFSA completion for 12th graders attending Florida schools. Using data from the Florida College Access Network, information about FAFSA completion can be sent to school counselors and administrators throughout the state. The convening can also be used to form a partnership to work with the Florida Department of Education’s Office of Student Financial Assistance to take the necessary steps to formally implement President Obama’s FAFSA Completion Initiative, which provides school counselors with names of students who have not completed the FAFSA.

Webinars for School Counselors: Five free webinars for school counselors will be developed and implemented in collaboration with the Florida School Counselor Association. Topics will include but will not be limited to: Connecting Adolescent Development and CCR; Raising Student Aspirations; School Counselors Working with Community Partners to Increase CCR; School Counselor as Leaders and Advocates in CCR; and Scholarships, Financial Aid, and College Planning.

Conference Day and Conference Strand: A free pre conference day and a strand of break-out sessions on CCR will be planned for the annual Florida School Counselor Association (FSCA) convention.

School Counselors CCR Certificate: The preliminary process will begin with the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) for approval of a hybrid course that practicing school counselors can take around CCR for all or part of their certificate renewal. Primarily modeled from the Michigan CAN project, the development of the FLDOE course will use three face to face gatherings (late Sept, early Dec, and early May). The curriculum will center on readings, videos, and virtual discussions. Topics will include equity and cultural competence, adolescent development, online CCR tools, technology to enhance student outcomes, data-driven school counseling for CCR success, financial literacy and college affordability, 21st Century workforce, summer melt, SAT/ACT prep resources, equity audits, and common indicators to access higher education.

Pre-service Course: Attendees of the convening will connect with school counselor educators around the state and develop a core team to share course syllabi, ideas, practices for implementing a CCR course, and disseminate best practices for school counseling preparation programs statewide. Quality preparation around CCR exists and a vehicle will be developed with virtual and face-to-face opportunities to connect and network with one another.

Lobbying for a CCR Course: The convening team will begin the conversation with the Florida School Counselor Association (FSCA) and the FSCA lobbyist about the need for a CCR course requirement in pre-service.

Baseline Data and Interim Goals: From an established baseline data, set target interim goals will be developed as we track the postsecondary enrollment and graduation rates of students and move toward 60% attainment in 2025 using technical assistance from the Florida College Access Network.

PHASE II

School Counselors CCR Course: Continue what we started in the first 15 months and start to implement the first CCR course to practicing school counselors for certificate renewal.

Pre-service CCR Course: Begin the process with the Florida legislators to develop a Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) requirement that a CCR course must be taken in pre-service in order to meet certification requirements.

PHASE III

Continue earlier efforts and build on them by adding the following.

Five Workshops: Begin annual intensive learning workshops geographically located to serve all Florida school counselors on CCR. Northeast, Central, Gulf Coast, South, and the Panhandle will be the target locations and target themes will be equity and cultural competence, adolescent development, online CCR tools, technology to enhance student outcomes, data-driven school counseling for CCR success, financial literacy and college affordability, 21st Century workforce, summer melt, SAT/ACT prep resources, equity audits, and common indicators to access higher education. Virtual networking opportunities will be offered to maintain

High School Graduation and Postsecondary Tracking: Explore ways in which a school counselor can obtain StudentTrackerSM or other services to track postsecondary enrollment and completion.

Strong Collaboratives: Continue to grow strong networks and collaboratives statewide around CCR.

PHASE IV

Continue delivery of tracking of graduation and postsecondary tracking, and professional development programming