

**State University System of Florida
Information Technology Program Performance Funding Pilot
Project Summary and Score Sheet
2012 - 2013**

The Application Process

The 2012 Legislature passed and the Governor signed House Bill 7135 creating a pilot project to implement performance funding for a select category of degree programs associated with computer science and information technology. In accordance with s. 1011.905, Florida Statutes, funding is to be awarded by the Board of Governors based upon an applicant university's rank score on two factors established in statute and two factors approved by the Board of Governors in June 2012, with each factor representing 25 percent of the total ranking score for an applicant university. The Board also approved the application form in June 2012.

Board staff has reviewed the initial university applications received in September 2012. Although a lot of good information was provided in support of the applications, inconsistent documentation for each section and duplication in student and partnership counts across sections prevented staff from accurately rank scoring the universities. The universities were asked to resubmit their applications and supporting data by November 16, 2012 using a standard format that allowed for more accurate and defensible comparative ranking.

The resubmitted applications were received and reviewed by Board staff to eliminate duplicative entries in each category and entries that were incomplete or that did not appear to meet the definition of the category for which they were submitted. Board staff also requested additional clarification from each applicant university on a number of items to aid in review of the applications. This winnowing process resulted in a negligible effect on the top four rankings because it impacted every university in one or more categories. The applications were then ranked scored for each section and the score for each section added together to establish an overall rank score for the application. The final rankings and section definitions are provided on the following page.

Funding Awards

Statute requires that the "award per state university shall be a minimum of 25 percent of the total amount appropriated pursuant to this section." This requirement allows the Board to either divide the funds equally among the top four universities, or to award varying amounts to three or fewer universities.

Key Points to Consider for Future Efforts

Record keeping was a big factor in how universities scored. Explanations provided by some universities clearly indicate that their departments are actively engaged in soliciting industry partners for cooperative education, internships, and collaborative training, but formal documentation was inconsistent because there has been no need to maintain such records. This omission will likely change if the pilot is continued.

Industry certifications earned by students while enrolled in targeted programs are not consistently tracked by any university because they are proprietary courses offered by technology corporations. However, Florida International University incorporated Kaseya Certified Administrator into its curriculum as a required course and this propelled it into first place for Section 2. This result could encourage more universities to do the same.

In aggregate for the eight university applicants scoring in these categories, more than 200 students were enrolled in technology cooperative education, more than 500 students worked in technology internships, and more than 750 participated in instructional and practicum activities with industry partners that provided access to cutting-edge technology and real-life projects. Adding in the number of students for which adequate documentation was unavailable would more than double the number of internships.

University Rankings

University	SECTION 1 Employment	SECTION 2 Certifications	SECTION 3 (i) University Agreements	SECTION 3 (ii) Student Participation	Final Rank Score	Overall Rank
	Rank Score	Rank Score	Rank Score	Rank Score		
FIU	3	1	1	5	10	1
UCF	2	4	4	1	11	2
UWF	1	2	6	7	16	3
UF	8	5	2	2	17	4
USF	6	3	5	4	18	5
FAMU	5	5	3	6	19	6
FSU	7	5	8	3	23	7
FAU	4	5	7	8	24	8
UNF	Incomplete resubmission, received past the deadline					
FGCU	FGCU decided not to submit an application					
NCF	Does not offer targeted programs					

Definitions

Section 1: Twenty-five percent of a state university's score was based on the percentage of employed graduates who have earned degrees in five program areas outlined in statute: computer and information science; computer engineering; information systems technology; information technology; and management information systems.

Section 2: Twenty-five percent of a state university's score was based on the percentage of graduates who have earned baccalaureate degrees in the programs in the targeted list and who have earned industry certifications in a related field from a Florida College System institution or state university prior to graduation.

Section 3: Fifty percent of a state university's score was based on factors determined by the Board of Governors which relate to increasing the probability that graduates who have earned degrees in the programs described in Section 1 will be employed in high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand employment.

Section 3 (i) - University Agreements: This section includes the number of cooperative education, internships, partnerships, and employment scholarships agreements between the university and businesses/agencies.

Section 3 (ii) - Student Participation: This section includes the number of students participating in cooperative education, internships, partnerships, and employment scholarships.