



**State University System
Education and General
2014-2015 Legislative Operating Budget Issue
Form I**

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| University: | Florida A&M University |
| Issue Title: | Improve retention and four-year and six-year graduation rates for FTIC students |
| Priority Number 1 | |
| Recurring Funds Requested: | \$ |
| Non-Recurring Funds Requested: | \$3,400,000 |
| Total Funds Requested: | \$3,400,000 |

- I. **Description** (*Describe the service or program to be provided if this initiative is funded. Include whether this is a new or expanded service/program. If expanded, what has been accomplished with the current service/program?*)

Since the establishment of the Office of Retention in 2010, 29 full-time advisors have been hired. Advisors and tutors are continuously trained with three university-wide academic advisors workshops annually. Additionally, the First Year Experience course has been developed to assist students with a successful transition, academically and socially, from high school to college. The fall 2012 retention rate for FTIC increased from 79% to 80% compared to the fall 2011 retention rate. The requested funds will significantly enhance the retention services that combine academic rigor with wrap-around support services in order to increase retention and graduation rates. In addition, funds would be utilized to improve the overall quality of the foundational STEM pre-requisite courses. The existing STEM foundation curriculum will be redesigned and implemented to increase the institutions capacity to enhance graduation rates and to effectively and efficiently prepare students for careers in STEM fields.

- II. **Return on Investment** (*Describe the outcome(s) anticipated, dashboard indicator(s) to be improved, or return on investment. Be specific. For example, if this issue focuses on enhancing marine bioscience research, indicate the anticipated outcome associated with the research, the accountability metric(s) that could be improved upon, and any expected return on investment to the State.*)

As a result of the initiatives it is anticipated that by 2015-16 freshmen retention rate will increase to 83%, and the six-year graduation rate to 44%.

III. **Facilities** (If this issue requires an expansion or construction of a facility and is on the Capital Improvement List complete the following table.):

| | Facility Project Title | Fiscal Year | Amount Requested | Priority Number |
|----|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | | | | |
| 2. | | | | |



**State University System
Education and General
2014-2015 Legislative Operating Budget Issue
Form I**

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| University: | Florida A&M University |
| Issue Title: | Increase first-time pass rates on professional licensure exams |
| Priority Number 2 | |
| Recurring Funds Requested: | \$ |
| Non-Recurring Funds Requested: | \$2,340,000 |
| Total Funds Requested: | \$2,340,000 |

- I. **Description** *(Describe the service or program to be provided if this initiative is funded. Include whether this is a new or expanded service/program. If expanded, what has been accomplished with the current service/program?)*

In the work plan, the University identified as its goal, increasing pass rates to be above the national or state average in all five examinations being tracked by the BOG. This goal cannot be increased since the university had already selected the maximum possible. However, with additional funding, the University intends to increase pass rates further in all five programs and increase the number of students accepted and graduated in the critical need areas of nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy and an additional discipline of cardiopulmonary sciences. The last of these is not tracked by the BOG but is another allied health discipline in which the FAMU Board of Trustees wants to increase the pass rates. The funding would address the most critical need for improving pass rates that the university has not been able to tackle due to budget constraints. Included in the request is released time for faculty, and the cost of hiring expert consultants. In addition, efforts will assist in changing curricula and course examinations in nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy pharmacy and law, to further enhance the learning competencies tested on licensure examinations.

- II. **Return on Investment** *(Describe the outcome(s) anticipated, dashboard indicator(s) to be improved, or return on investment. Be specific. For example, if this issue focuses on enhancing marine bioscience research, indicate the anticipated outcome*

associated with the research, the accountability metric(s) that could be improved upon, and any expected return on investment to the State.)

The University anticipates that licensure first-time pass rates for nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, pharmacy, law and cardiopulmonary sciences will increase to the point that they will exceed the state and/or national average pass rates, as well as meet accreditation requirements. Additionally, it is anticipated that with the requested funding, the number of students enrolled in the nursing and allied health programs will increase, subsequently resulting in an increased number of graduates.

III. Facilities *(If this issue requires an expansion or construction of a facility and is on the Capital Improvement List complete the following table.):*

| | Facility Project Title | Fiscal Year | Amount Requested | Priority Number |
|-----------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | | | | |
| 2. | | | | |



**State University System
Education and General
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Form I**

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| University: | Florida A&M University |
| Issue Title: | Increase Percent of Course Sections Offered via Distance and Blended Learning |
| Priority Number 3 | |
| Recurring Funds Requested: | \$ |
| Non-Recurring Funds Requested: | \$1,000,000 |
| Total Funds Requested: | \$1,000,000 |

- I. **Description** (*Describe the service or program to be provided if this initiative is funded. Include whether this is a new or expanded service/program. If expanded, what has been accomplished with the current service/program?*)

FAMU began its distance learning initiatives with the launch of three online degree programs and offering seven undergraduate course sections in 2011-12. The University intends to significantly increase the online offerings by 2015-16. However, it needs to make a major investment in infrastructure and temporary personnel in order to make this goal a reality. The funding will be utilized to hire necessary temporary personnel to establish the infrastructure for distance learning, purchase hardware and software, release time and faculty incentives to develop additional courses and programs in distance learning.

- II. **Return on Investment** (*Describe the outcome(s) anticipated, dashboard indicator(s) to be improved, or return on investment. Be specific. For example, if this issue focuses on enhancing marine bioscience research, indicate the anticipated outcome associated with the research, the accountability metric(s) that could be improved upon, and any expected return on investment to the State.*)

Currently, the percent of course sections FAMU offers online is less than 2%. The anticipated outcome is to increase the total E&G course sections offered online to 105 by 2015-16, leading to approximately 2.4 % of FAMU's courses being offered online. The offerings will include an additional degree program, a degree completion program, and general education courses. The

investment will enable the University to continue to increase online course offerings in subsequent years as well.

III. **Facilities** (If this issue requires an expansion or construction of a facility and is on the Capital Improvement List complete the following table.):

| | Facility Project Title | Fiscal Year | Amount Requested | Priority Number |
|----|------------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | | | | |
| 2. | | | | |