

FRAG TOP TEN

WHY THE FRAG IS GREAT FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS, COMMUNITIES AND FLORIDA!

Reason 1: FRAG Enables Student Success

- Florida's independent colleges and universities enrolled over 29,116 FRAG recipients last year.
- ICUF students graduate in an average of 4.2 years.
- Last year, ICUF awarded 16,748 bachelor degrees – 26% of all Florida's baccalaureate degrees.
- Last year, ICUF awarded 40% of all graduate degrees in Florida—56% of all First Professional Degrees in Florida.
- More than 88% of all classes have fewer than 30 students.
- With 180 educational sites – 42 on community colleges campuses – ICUF provides more educational locations around the state than the state university system or community college system.

Reason 2: FRAG Helps Florida Meet Its Workforce & Workplace Demands

- ICUF Schools produce 39% of all degrees in Florida. The FRAG is only 1.48% of what the state spends in higher education.
- Nearly 52% of ICUF Bachelor Degrees Awarded are in critical fields of Education, Health Care, Engineering, Computer Science and Biological/Biomedical.
- ICUF Institutions award 41% of the education degrees; providing needed teachers for Florida.

Reason 3: FRAG Students are Educationally & Academically More Diverse

- 41% of FRAG Recipients are minority students and 26% were over age 25.
- Over half of all FRAG Recipients are First Generation in College.

Reason 4: ICUF Attracts Out-of-State Talent, Dollars and Workforce

- ICUF attracts 42% of its students from other states and countries.
- Those 50,000 students bring their college savings to Florida and pay all their own expenses.
- Two-thirds of ICUF graduates, regardless of “home” state, stay in Florida, boosting the skilled workforce.

Reason 5: ICUF Students Give Back to Local Communities

- ICUF institutions provide athletic, cultural, entertainment and study programs in communities.
- Thousands of school children and teachers study on ICUF campuses each summer.
- ICUF institutions promote and often require volunteer service by students in surrounding communities.
- ICUF institutions provide faculty and staff volunteers, mentors, coaches, advocates and professional resources for their communities.

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Reason 6: FRAG Relieves Over Crowded State Universities

- Cuts to FRAG place increased pressure on Florida's state universities and community colleges as our students would be forced to leave school and transfer to the public institutions where the state costs are much higher to the taxpayer.

Reason 7: ICUF Institutions are More Available to Lower-Income Families

- ICUF institutions provide an average of over \$7,000 per student in private institutional aid to students in need each year.
- Around 36% of ICUF students come from families with incomes less than \$60,000.
- ICUF provides nearly \$400 million in institutional scholarships annually.
- ICUF comprises 20 of 25 institutions with highest percentage of students receiving Pell Grants.

Reason 8: ICUF Institutions Boost Florida's Economy

- The 28 ICUF institutions contributed more than \$7 billion to Florida's economy each year.
- Their capital construction expenditures totaled \$278 million in fiscal year 2005 – all at private expense.
- Gross payroll expenditures exceeded \$1.3 billion in fiscal year 2005 for more than 26,000 employees.

Reason 9: FRAG Helps Florida's Students

- A cut in FRAG is the same as increasing tuition for these students by that same amount.
- ICUF institutions educate the underserved of Florida who want the opportunity to improve themselves which will in turn improve Florida. These students need the critical scholarship funds of the FRAG to make their success possible.

Reason 10: FRAG Saves Taxpayers Money

- The 46,000 Florida undergraduate students at ICUF institutions would cost Florida taxpayers and the State budget an additional \$457 million were they to attend state universities.
- ICUF Schools produce **39%** of all degrees in Florida for less than **3%** of what the state spends in higher education.