The purpose of the College Preparatory and Remediation Program is to assure that students who do not qualify for placement into college-level courses have an opportunity to bring their academic skills to the appropriate level and proceed in the higher education system.

Florida law authorizes the Florida College System as well as the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) to offer college preparatory courses. The College Preparatory Program supports the Florida College System’s mission of providing an open door policy for all citizens. The Florida College System is made up of 28 institutions with over 180 campuses and centers. All 28 institutions offer College Preparatory and Remediation Programs.

All students entering a Florida college system institution who are seeking a degree and FAMU students who score below the acceptable levels on the SAT or ACT are given the Florida College Entry Level Placement Test. This state-adopted test has cut-off scores that will determine if students need to take college preparatory courses in reading, writing, or mathematics before beginning their associate in arts or associate in science programs.

Policymakers have encouraged improvement in K-12 educational offerings as a way to reduce the need for postsecondary remediation. The establishment of the K-20 governance system as well as improved articulation between high schools and colleges should further reduce the need for remediation once students have enrolled.

A 2007 OPPAGA study (Report No. 07-31) found mixed results regarding the success of the College Preparatory Program. Only half (52%) of the students who enrolled for the first time in a Florida college system institution in Fiscal Years 2000-01 through 2003-04 and who were identified as needing remediation subsequently completed their college preparatory program requirements by the end of Fiscal Year 2004-05. The study also found that most students who fail to complete remediation requirements leave school and few earn career or technical certificates. Only 15% of students who failed to complete remediation were still enrolled in school, less than 1% had earned a vocational or career certificate, and none had earned an associate degree.
While a significant percentage of students needing remediation do not complete their college preparatory program requirements, the OPPAGA study found that program completers generally perform well academically in subsequent coursework. Students who successfully completed college preparatory program requirements passed related college-level foundation courses at similar rates to students who entered their postsecondary institutions ready for college level coursework. For instance, over three-quarters (76%) of the students in the OPPAGA sample who successfully completed mathematics preparatory requirements earned a “C” or better in college algebra, MAC 1105. This performance was only slightly lower than that of college-ready students who did not need remediation; 81% of such students earned a “C” or better in this class.

Other performance measures and standards for the department may be found in its Long Range Program Plan.

| How many students are served by the program? | During the 2007-08 school year, 128,920 students took college and vocational preparatory classes, which was 37% of the degree-seeking students in the Florida College System. The percentage for the 2006-07 school year was 36.2%. |
| How is the program funded? | Colleges do not receive state fund allocations on a program basis; rather they receive most of their state funds through a lump sum allocation. The program summary for the Department of Education, Florida College System (No. 2100), provides information on recent budget allocations. The Fiscal Year 2009-10 appropriations act, Ch. 2009-81, Laws of Florida, included proviso language that established the College Preparatory tuition rate per credit hour for residents and non-residents at $58.78, and the out-of-state fee for non-residents at $176.46 per credit hour. Section 1009.28, Florida Statutes, requires a student enrolled in the same college-preparatory class more than twice to pay 100% of the full cost of instruction. |
| Current issues | Over half (55%) of all students entering Florida’s public postsecondary institutions require remediation in mathematics, reading, and/or writing. According to a June 2009 report from the Florida College System compiling five years of results for lower division accountability measures, the percentage of degree-seeking students passing the highest level in college prep courses in reading, writing, and math has declined compared to 2004. The retention and success rates have also declined slightly compared to 2004. |
**Where can I get more information?**

**OPPAGA Reports**

*Many Florida Programs Enhance Students' Career and College Readiness, Report No. 10-56, October 2010.*

*Steps Taken to Reduce the Need for College Remediation; Accountability Processes Should Be Strengthened, Report No. 08-47, July 2008.*

*Half of College Students Needing Remediation Drop Out; Remediation Completers Do Almost as Well as Other Students, Report No. 07-31, May 2007.*

*Steps Can Be Taken to Reduce Remediation Rates; 78% of Community College Students, 10% of University Students Need Remediation, Report No. 06-40, April 2006.*

**Other Reports**

The Auditor General reports on community colleges are located at [www.myflorida.com/audgen/pages/subjects/ccollege.htm](http://www.myflorida.com/audgen/pages/subjects/ccollege.htm).


**Websites of Interest**


Florida Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students (FACTS) [facts23.facts.org/florida/facts](http://facts23.facts.org/florida/facts)

Florida Department of Education, High School Feedback Report [data.fldoe.org/readiness/default.cfm](http://data.fldoe.org/readiness/default.cfm)

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<tr>
<th>What are the applicable statutes?</th>
<th>Section 1008.30, <em>Florida Statutes.</em></th>
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<tr>
<td>Whom do I contact for help?</td>
<td>Dr. Jo Conte, (850) 245-9482, email: <a href="mailto:jo.conte@fldoe.org">jo.conte@fldoe.org</a></td>
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<td>Website: <a href="http://www.fldoe.org/cc">www.fldoe.org/cc</a></td>
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