UNDERSTANDING FLORIDA’S NEED FOR HIGHER EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

By 2025, more than 60 percent of Florida’s jobs will require a postsecondary degree or certificate, yet just 47 percent of working-age residents are currently equipped. To bridge the gap, the Florida Higher Education Coordinating Council (HECC) is calling on its partners to help reach a statewide educational attainment goal of 55 percent.

21st
Florida ranks 21st among the 50 states for educational attainment beyond high school.

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Four of the state’s five fastest-growing jobs require a postsecondary vocational education or higher.

10.1
Attainment in Florida has increased 10.1 percentage points since 2008. Our new goal is within reach.

To reach 55 percent attainment by 2025, approximately 784,000 of the state’s 9.8 million adults ages 25 to 64 must earn at least an associate’s degree or certificate. That’s roughly 1 out of every 12.

EARNINGS
Adults with an associate’s degree earn 18 percent more than those with a high school diploma, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Adults with a bachelor’s degree earn 50 percent more and adults with a master’s degree earn nearly two-times more.

ECONOMIC IMPACT
Add one year of college to a region’s workforce and GDP per capita rises 17.4 percent, according to the Milken Institute.

EMPLOYMENT
Higher educational attainment increases opportunities for employment. Unemployment rates are lower among a more educated workforce, shows data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
College-educated citizens are significantly more engaged in their communities than those with a high school diploma, found the Florida Joint Center for Citizenship and the National Conference on Citizenship.

For more information, visit www.floridahighereducation.org.