



UCF Board of Trustees

Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee

December 5, 2024

Agenda Item

AESC-2: UCF Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program Renewal Application

Proposed Action

The Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee is asked to recommend to the Board of Trustees, on its consent agenda, approval of the five-year renewal application to continue offering UCF's Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program.

Authority for Board of Trustees Action

Florida Statutes s. 1004.6495(6)(a)1 – Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program and Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities

Supporting Documentation Included

Attachment A: UCF Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program Renewal Application*

(Please click the link below to access the full renewal proposal)

- UCF Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program Renewal Application: [Full Application](#)

Facilitators/Presenters

Winston Schoenfeld, Vice President for Research and Innovation

Summary of Key Observations/Recommendations

UCF's Toni Jennings Exceptional Education Institute seeks Board approval of the UCF Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program's five-year renewal application, which implements UCF's Inclusive Education Services program. Approval is required for submission of the application.

Additional Background

- **Inclusive Education Services (IES)** improve the independence and employability of some people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by placing them in a college environment in a structured and supported way. This approach has demonstrated substantial success and return on investment by reducing the cost of lifelong federal and state support services (see below and attached proposal).
- The **US Department of Education sends funds to each state** for IES programs. The **Florida Legislature has delegated** the management of both program certification and disbursement of these funds to **UCF's Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities**. Every five years, Florida universities with IES programs (including UCF itself) demonstrate that their programs (called Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs) meet federal standards and that their boards approve of their programs. Applications for funding are separate, on a three-year cycle.
- **UCF's own IES program** is run by the **Toni Jennings Exceptional Education Institute**, which seeks approval of its five-year renewal of permission to operate.
- **Funding** is separate from permission to operate. The Toni Jennings Exceptional Education Institute is in year two of its current three-year grant.
- **Why is Board approval required by law?** Since IES puts students in UCF classrooms who are not regularly admitted, degree-seeking students, the state requires that approval proposals include a letter from each institution's President certifying that its Board of Trustees has approved the application and will support the execution of the program in its classes and on its campus.
- **More on the IES program:**
IES provides students with intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to prepare for meaningful, paid employment through a credential-bearing Comprehensive Transition Program approved by the US Department of Education. The three-prong goals of the IES program are:
 1. Each new student increasing their academic, employment, and career readiness skills through successful progression through the IES program;
 2. Each continuing student demonstrating their learning by earning a Professional Services Credential in Hospitality, Education, or Social Services concentration through UCF's Division of Continuing Education;
 3. Each student who completes the program to be hired into a position that aligns with their chosen concentration.

- Students completing the program have demonstrated substantially higher income, employment rates, and independent living skills than non-participants with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Implementation Plan

The UCF Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program's five-year renewal application will be submitted once approved by the Board of Trustees.

Resource Considerations

N/A