

FPN State Attainment Goal FAQs

How did FPN's Education Funders Affinity Group arrive at the positions expressed in the position paper?

FPN's Education Funders Affinity Group (EAG) spent several months exploring critical education policy issues for Florida, over a series of meetings, and as a group identified college and career access and success as a top priority area at a meeting in June 2014. The EAG then engaged in a deeper dive around critical issues in this policy area during a series of additional meetings over the next several months. Drafts of the position paper were shared and discussed with EAG members at the EAG meeting in January 2015, and in a conference call. The positions expressed in the paper were approved by FPN's Public Policy Committee and FPN's Board of Directors.

How is FPN utilizing this position paper?

FPN is using the position paper as an educational piece both internally for FPN members and externally with key stakeholders. Internally, FPN is offering learning opportunities around the position paper for member staff, board members, etc. to provide a fuller understanding of these positions and issues. FPN is also communicating the positions with key external stakeholders, including policymakers such as leadership at the Florida Department of Education, the Governor's office, and in the Florida Legislature. We will use the paper as another opportunity to communicate the value of philanthropy as an important partner with other key stakeholder groups to improve education outcomes in the state.

As a member of the EAG, how can I help communicate the position paper?

FPN would like all of its members with an interest in education to understand the positions expressed in the paper and to share them with your staff, board and key stakeholders. FPN has developed a template letter that you can use to send to key legislative leaders, including the legislators for your district, if you so choose, and a sample newsletter article you can use in your organization's communications channels.

What is the compelling argument for these positions?

The position paper includes data and arguments in support of each position based, primarily, on increasing the economic competitiveness of Florida, but also on improving the quality of life of individual Floridians. As the governor and legislature continue to seek ways to foster strong economic growth and recruit new industries, it is recognized that a well-educated workforce, ready to take on technical (and well-paying) jobs is a "must."