Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Pathways to Success for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities through Postsecondary Education

Paula D. Kohler, PhD.

Drew Andrews, EdD.

University of
Central Florida

Today

▶ Federal and State support for postsecondary education programs that serve students with intellectual disabilities

▶ Overview of the FCSUA at UCF

▶ Building a sustainable program

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Higher Ed Opportunity Act – 2008

▶ Defined Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Program (CTP)

▶ Established parameters

▶ Defined eligible students

▶ Established Federal approval process

Higher Ed Opportunity Act – 2008

PART D—PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WITH A QUALITY HIGHER EDUCATION ''SEC. 760. DEFINITIONS.

In this part: ''(1) COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION AND POSTSECONDARY PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES.—The term 'comprehensive transition and postsecondary program for students with intellectual disabilities' means a degree, certificate, or nondegree program ....

…… (D) requires students with intellectual disabilities to participate on not less than a half-time basis …..

''(2) STUDENT WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY.—The term 'student with an intellectual disability' means a student— ''(A) with mental retardation or a cognitive impairment, characterized by significant limitations in

Federal Guidance: 2011

▶ Letter to accrediting agency executive directors

▶ Letter to IHE financial aid offices

▶ Title IV provisions re: federal student aid

▶ Instructions to submit updated application

▶ Outlined CTP requirements

▶ IHEs must notify accrediting agency of the CTP

Federal Support: 2010 and 2015

▶ National center – Think College

▶ Model demonstration projects – TPSID projects

▶ Florida Consortium on Inclusive Higher Education = a TPSID Project

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

CTP Application Process

▶ Submit through Title IV portal – add the CTP to your E-App

▶ Provide a detailed description of the program

- Credential and curriculum

- SAP policy

- Letter informing SACS this is added to portfolio

- Submit, respond to questions, and wait!!

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Florida Legislation

▶ The Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program Act (FS 1004.6495)

▶ Signed into law January 21, 2016, effective July 1, 2016

The FPCTP Act

▶ Established the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities at UCF

▶ Established Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs (FPCTP)

▶ Funds scholarships for students to attend approved programs

▶ Funds start-up and enhancement grants to IHEs

FCSUA's Charge

▶ Put all the rest of the Act in place:

- Application, submission, and approval process

- Administer the development and enhancement grants

- Award the scholarships to eligible students

- Collect, analyze, and report evaluation information regarding program and student outcomes

Eligibility

▶ Public and private IHEs, not for profit, accredited

- Universities

- State and community colleges

- Career tech centers

- Private colleges

▶ Students with intellectual disabilities, attend in person, documented disability
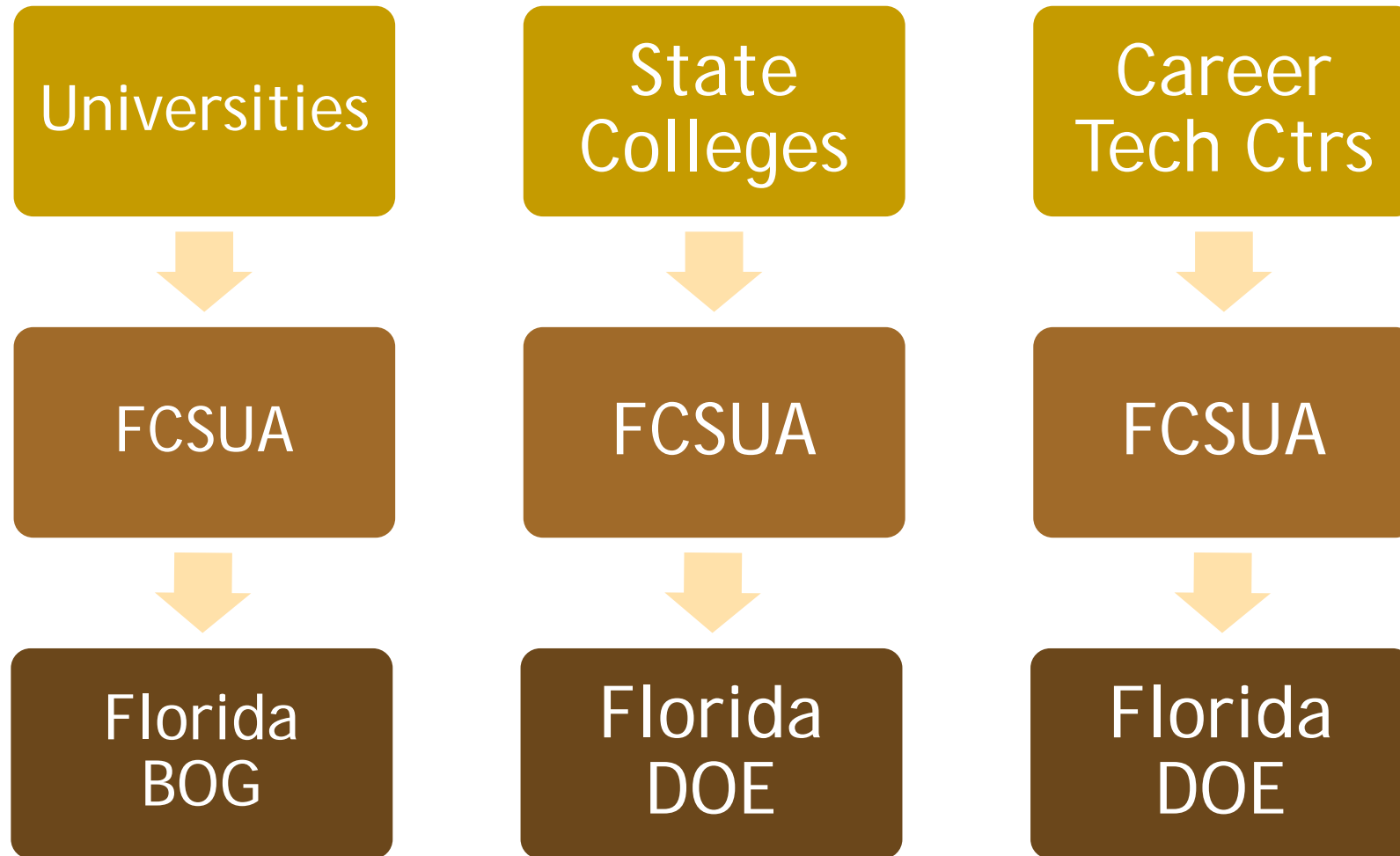
- Exited K-12 system

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

FPCT Programs

▶ Focus on **employment** outcomes

▶ Inclusive contexts

▶ No less than half-time enrollment

▶ **Meaningful credential, industry certification**

▶ Requires definition of *satisfactory academic performance*

▶ Requires federal comprehensive transition program (CTP) application

FPCTPs and CTPs

▶ Parallel requirements

▶ Similar content

▶ Just different submission process

▶ FPCTP approval is usually quicker!!

FPCTP Approval Process

Universities	State Colleges	Career Tech Ctrs
↓	↓	↓
FCSUA	FCSUA	FCSUA
↓	↓	↓
Florida BOG	Florida DOE	Florida DOE

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

FPCT Programs – Universities

- Florida Atlantic University – Jupiter and Boca Raton campuses

- University of Central Florida – Orlando (to be fully implemented by end of 2017-18 academic year)

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

FPCT Programs – State Colleges

▶ Florida Keys Community College – Key West and expanding to upper Keys

▶ Santa Fe College – Gainesville

▶ Indian River State College – Ft. Pierce

FPCT Programs – Career Tech Centers

- Florida Panhandle Technical College – Chipley

- Miami-Dade County Public Schools – Robert Morgan Technical Center, Miami

- Broward County Public Schools – McFatter Technical College, Davie

FCSUA Resources

- ▶ FPCTP Scholarships

- ▶ FPCTP Start-up and Enhancement Grants

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

FPCTP Scholarships

▶ Scholarships are available for eligible students attending the approved FPCTPs

▶ Annual scholarship is currently $7,000

▶ Scholarships cover students' expenses

▶ 88 scholarships @ $7,000 annually awarded for 2017-18 to date

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Scholarship Award Process

▶ FPCTP requests scholarships for eligible students

- Before fall semester and when new students admitted

- Estimate costs of the program

- Identify eligible students

▶ FCSUA approves and awards scholarships **via the IHE's financial aid office**

- UCF sends check or EFT to IHE **financial aid office**

- Includes list of scholarship awardees

- FCSUA sends award certificates to program director for students

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

FPCTP Grants

► Start-up

  ▪ Establish a new program

► Enhancement

  ▪ Add FPCTP "standards" to an existing program

  ▪ Expand or improve an approved FPCTP

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Start-up Grants

► Will provide resources to institutions to implement the program described and approved in their FPCTP application. In this case, the FPCTP application may be submitted either prior to or at the same time as the Start-up Grant proposal.

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Enhancement Grants

May be used….

▶ To establish the program elements needed to move the program from its current state to an *approved* FPCTP

- Then the FPCTP application may be submitted either prior to or at the same time as the Enhancement Grant proposal.

▶ To expand the capacity or quality of an already approved FPCTP

- Then the FPCTP application has been approved previously.

Florida Center for Students with
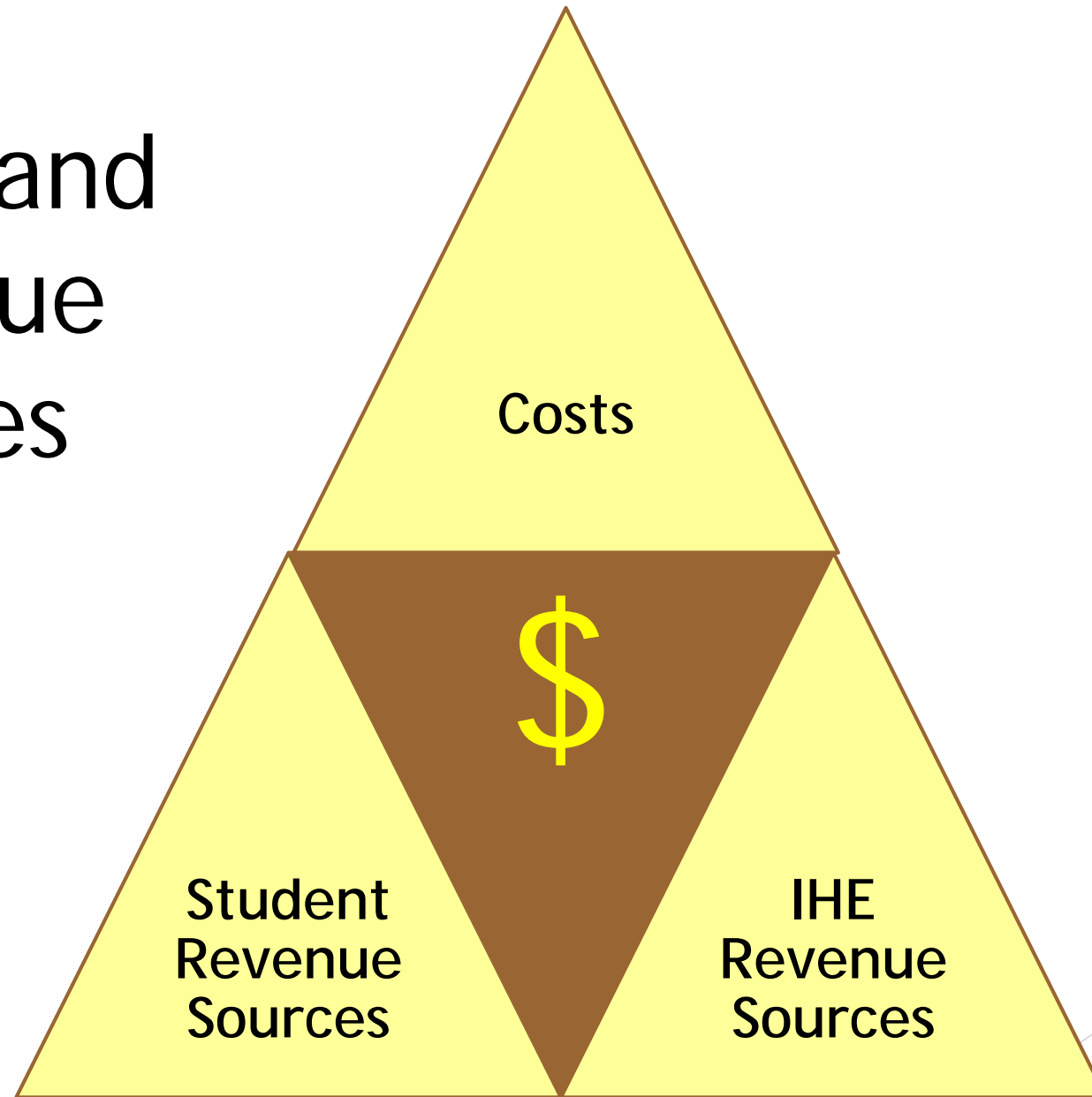**UNIQUE ABILITIES**

Funding Amount and Budget Periods

▶ Up to $300,000

▶ Budget period is fiscal year: July 1 – June 30

▶ Budget periods can run from 1 to 3 years for a total of $300,000 across years

▶ Grant proposals accepted on a rolling basis

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Grant proposal packet is at
http://fcsua.org/I_grant.php

University of
**Central
Florida**

Costs and Revenue Sources

Costs

$

Student Revenue Sources

IHE Revenue Sources

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Conceptualizing FPCTP Costs

Costs	Cost Recovery Revenue Sources	Revenue Sources – Students
Typical Higher Education	**Typical Higher Education**	**Typical Higher Education**
‣ Instruction ‣ Instructional materials ‣ Textbooks ‣ Advising ‣ Other support services ‣ Facilities, physical plant, maintenance ‣ Business functions (accounting, HR, administration, etc.) ‣ Equipment ‣ Technology ‣ Safety ‣ Grounds ‣ Transportation ‣ Housing ‣ Other	‣ Standard tuition* ‣ Differential tuition ‣ Enrollment fees ‣ Technology fees ‣ Transportation fees ‣ Lab fees ‣ State FTE funds ‣ Development/gifts ‣ External funding/grants ‣ F&A recovery from externally-funded projects ‣ Other ‣ ‣ * Student credit hours!	‣ Parent(s) ‣ Spouse ‣ Higher ed savings accounts ‣ Scholarships ‣ Federal financial aid (i.e., Pell Grant, FSEOG, Work-Study) ‣ Student loans (including Federal) ‣ Employment ‣ Paid internship ‣ Gifts specific to a student ‣ Traditional VR service support ‣ Pre-employment VR service support (<22 yrs) ‣ Other ‣
Unique to FPCTP	**Unique to FPCTP**	**Unique to FPCTP**
‣ Program administration ‣ Mentors ‣ Specialized technology ‣ Program-specific activities ‣ Program-specific student supports ‣ Job placement services ‣ Other	‣ Specific service fees ‣ Service contracts (e.g., VR vendor) ‣ FPCTP Grant (up to three years)	‣ FPCTP Scholarship ‣ Other service agency support (e.g., FDDC) ‣ Specific grant support ‣ Student loans (not Federal) ‣ Federal financial aid (i.e., ONLY Pell Grant, FSEOG, Work-Study), when CTP approved

Conceptualizing FPCTP Costs

| Typical Higher Education	Unique to FPCTP
‣ Instruction ‣ Instructional materials ‣ Textbooks ‣ Advising ‣ Other support services ‣ Facilities, physical plant, maintenance ‣ Business functions (accounting, HR, administration, etc.) ‣ Equipment ‣ Technology ‣ Safety ‣ Grounds ‣ Transportation ‣ Housing	‣ Program administration ‣ Mentors ‣ Specialized technology ‣ Program-specific activities ‣ Program-specific student supports ‣ Job placement services ‣ Other

Conceptualizing Revenue Sources

Typical Higher Education	Unique to FPCTP
‣ Standard tuition* ‣ Differential tuition* ‣ Enrollment fees ‣ Technology fees ‣ Transportation fees ‣ Lab fees ‣ State FTE funds ‣ Development/gifts ‣ External funding/grants ‣ F&A recovery from externally-funded projects ‣ Other * Student credit hours!	‣ Specific service fees ‣ Service contracts (e.g., VR vendor) ‣ FPCTP Grant (up to three years)

FPCTP Student Revenue Sources

Typical Higher Education	Unique to FPCTP
‣ Parent(s) ‣ Spouse ‣ Higher ed savings accounts ‣ Scholarships ‣ Federal financial aid (i.e., Pell Grant, FSEOG, Work-Study) ‣ Student loans (including Federal) ‣ Employment ‣ Paid internship ‣ Gifts specific to a student ‣ Traditional VR service support ‣ Pre-employment VR service support (<22 yrs) ‣ Other	‣ FPCTP Scholarship ‣ Other service agency support (e.g., FDDC) ‣ Specific grant support ‣ Student loans (not Federal) ‣ Federal financial aid (i.e., ONLY Pell Grant, FSEOG, Work-Study), when CTP approved

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Costs and Revenue Sources

Students
$

IHE
$
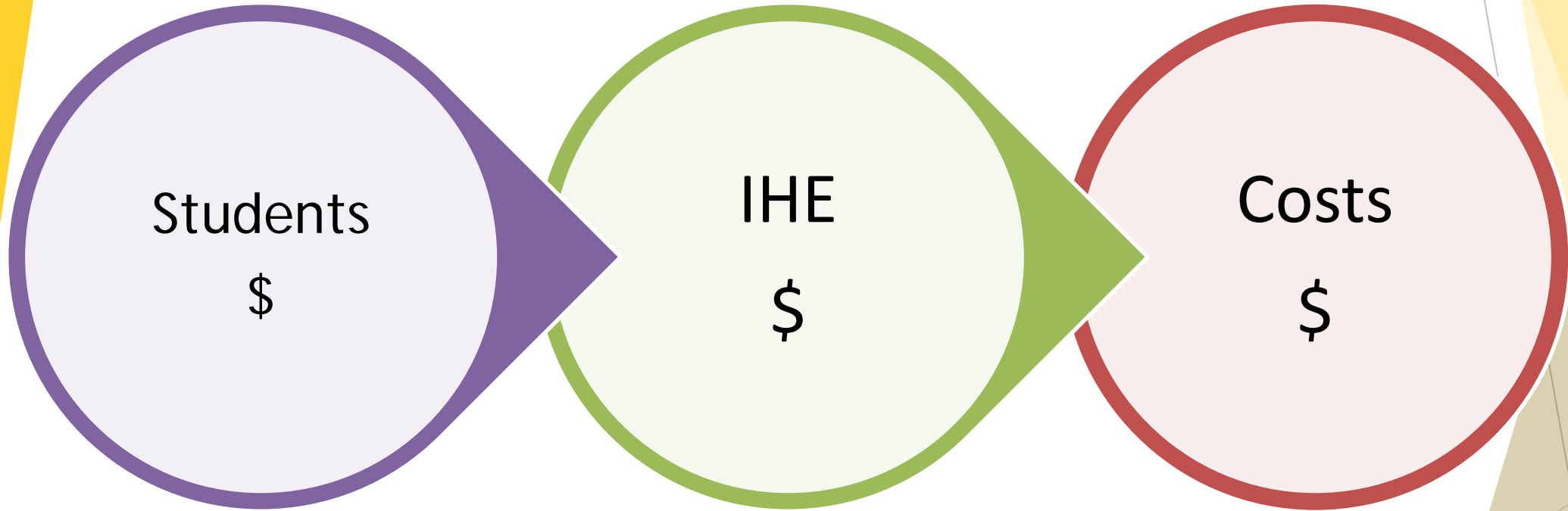
Costs
$

Recovering Costs from/for Students

▶ Fees for services, billed to student account

▶ Generate student credit hours for learning experiences – recover via tuition

- ▪ Courses

- ▪ Occupational skill development experiences

- ▪ Social/emotional skills development experiences

- ▪ Independent living skill development experiences

- ▪ Work experience, internships

Recovering Costs via Students

▶ Assist students to become VR clients with an Individual Plan for Employment (IPE) that includes employment preparation via the FPCTP

▶ Request FPCTP Scholarships for eligible students

▶ Become a VR vendor (e.g., for job placement)

▶ Upon your Federal CTP approval, assist students to apply for Federal financial aid

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Recovering "Indirect" Costs

How does the IHE come up with its **contribution** to the FPCTP?

- ▶ Utilize existing services and supports
  - Advising
  - Service learning
  - Residential supports (CILs?)
  - Job placement
  - Writing center, other instructional resources/career center
- ▶ Become a VR vendor (e.g., job placement)
- ▶ Use VR pre-employment transition services funds to cover specific program components (students < age 22)

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Recovering FPCT Program Costs

▶ Apply for a FPCTP grant

- Program development

- Program implementation

▶ Fund specific personnel and/or services while you put the various funding strategies in place

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Food for Thought – Estimate Capacity

- How many students do you need to serve to cover costs?

- How many students do you have the capacity to serve?

Collaboration is Essential

- ▶ Early!

- ▶ Often!

Who are the FPCTP Developers?

▶ It varies!

▶ Academic affairs division leaders

▶ Faculty

▶ General student services

▶ Disability student services

▶ Institutional assessment/accreditation

Collaborate Within the IHE

▶ Program developers and **financial aid**

▶ Registrar/enrollment services

▶ Academic affairs

▶ General student services

▶ Disability student services

▶ Institutional assessment/accreditation

▶ Faculty

▶ Public safety

▶ Others

**Florida** Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Collaborate Outside the IHE

- ► K – 12 (CTE, Exceptional Ed, school counselors, etc.)

- ► Florida Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR)

- ► Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC)

- ► Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)

- ► State and local Down Syndrome organizations

- ► Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)

- ► Centers for independent living

- ► Chamber of Commerce

- ► Local business and industry

- ► Parent organizations

Use Our Strategic Planning Process

▶ *Team Planning Tool for Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs*

▶ Integrates available evidence-based and promising practices into a step-by-step planning process

▶ Designed for TEAMS!

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Use Our Strategic Planning Process
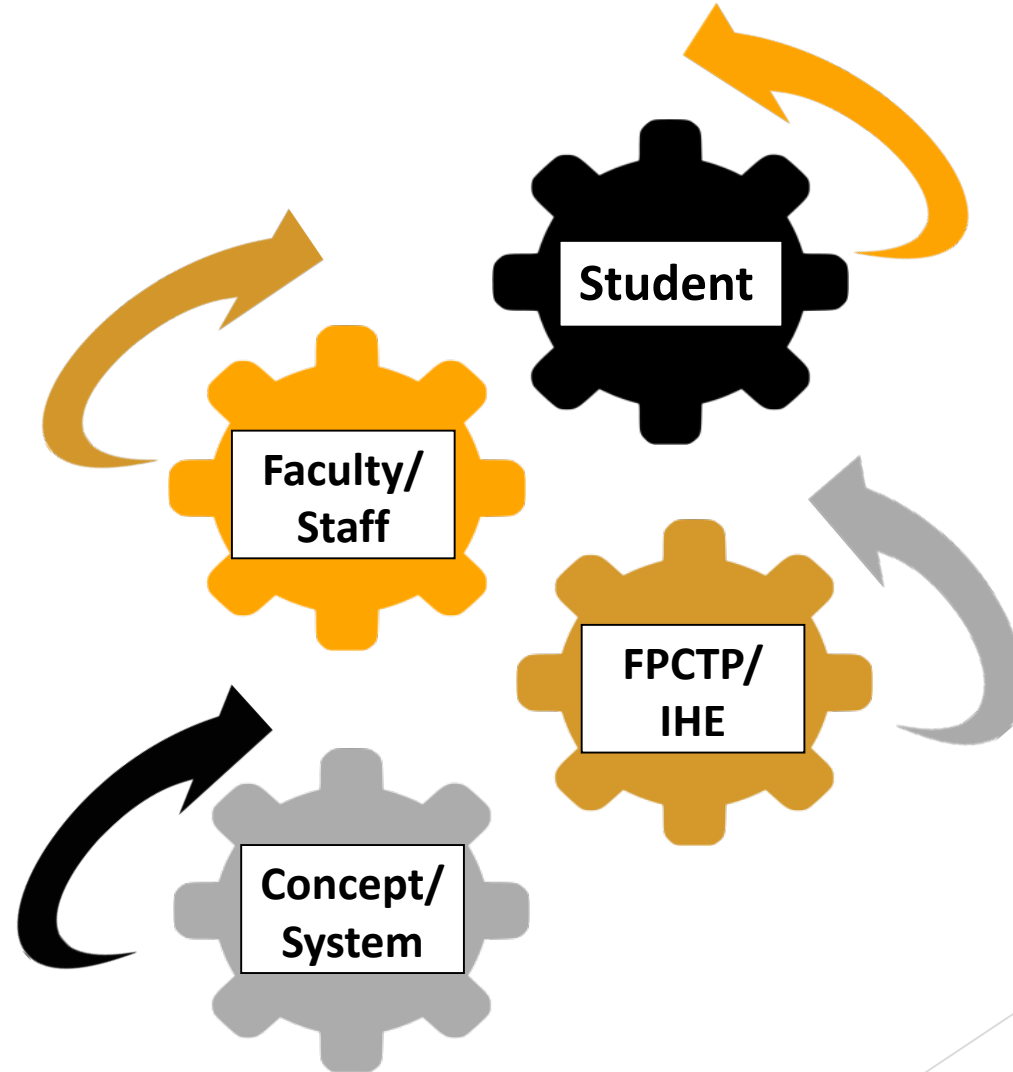
Use Our Strategic Planning Process

▶ Guides you through topics that help you plan and develop your program considering things relevant to what we've discussed today

- Funding

- Program services

- Collaboration

- Institutional commitment

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

The FCSUA Provides

► Assistance to prepare FPCTP applications and grant proposals, and to request scholarships

► Assistance to design evaluation plans, and to collect and analyze evaluation data

► Assistance to develop the Federal CTP proposal

► Feedback to the State legislators re: funding and policy needs

Florida Center for Students with
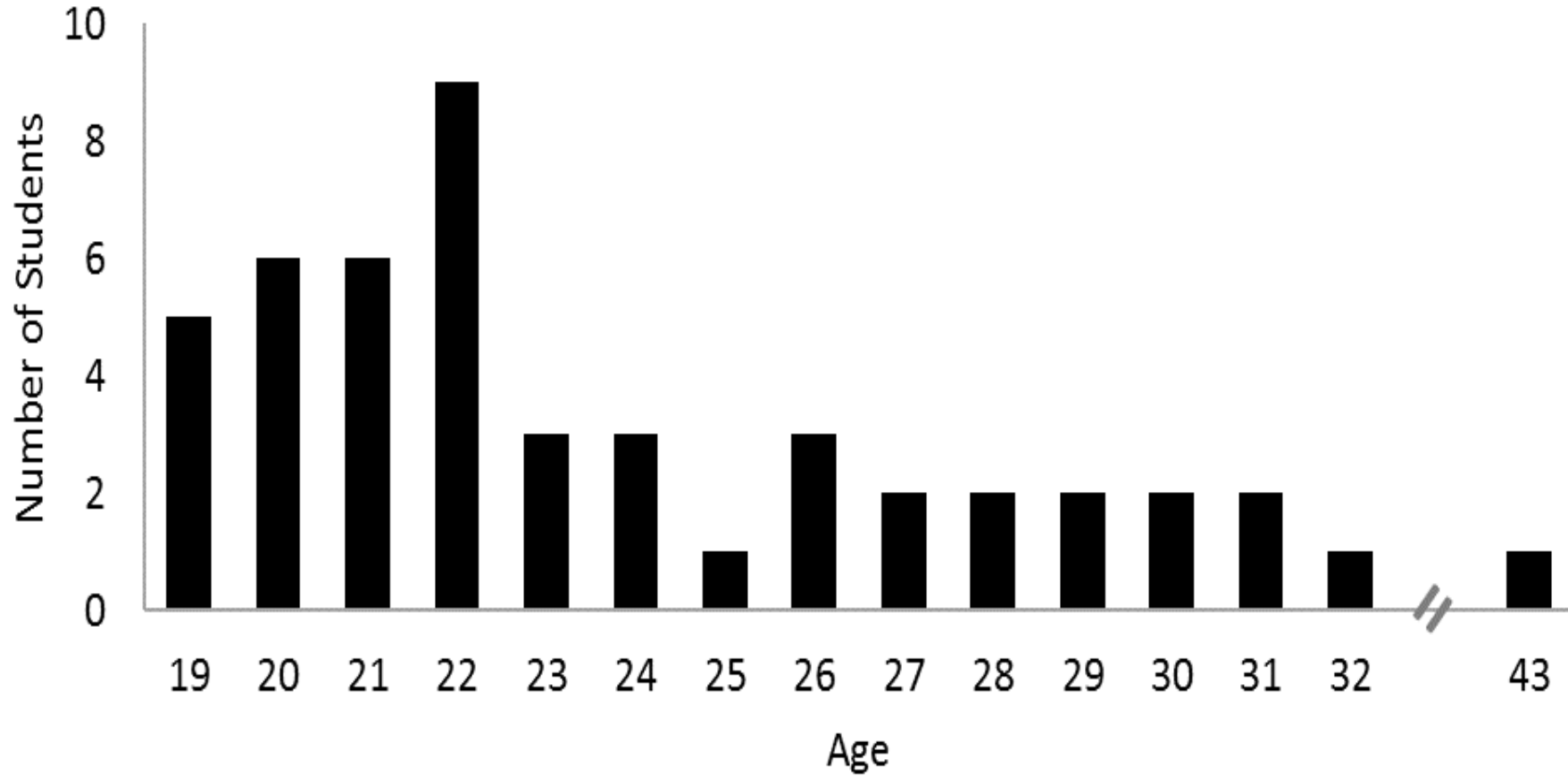**UNIQUE ABILITIES**

Who are these programs serving?

Results from FPCTP Annual Reports

Gender

50% female   50% male

Florida Center for Students with UNIQUE ABILITIES

Age on Entry into Postsecondary Education Program

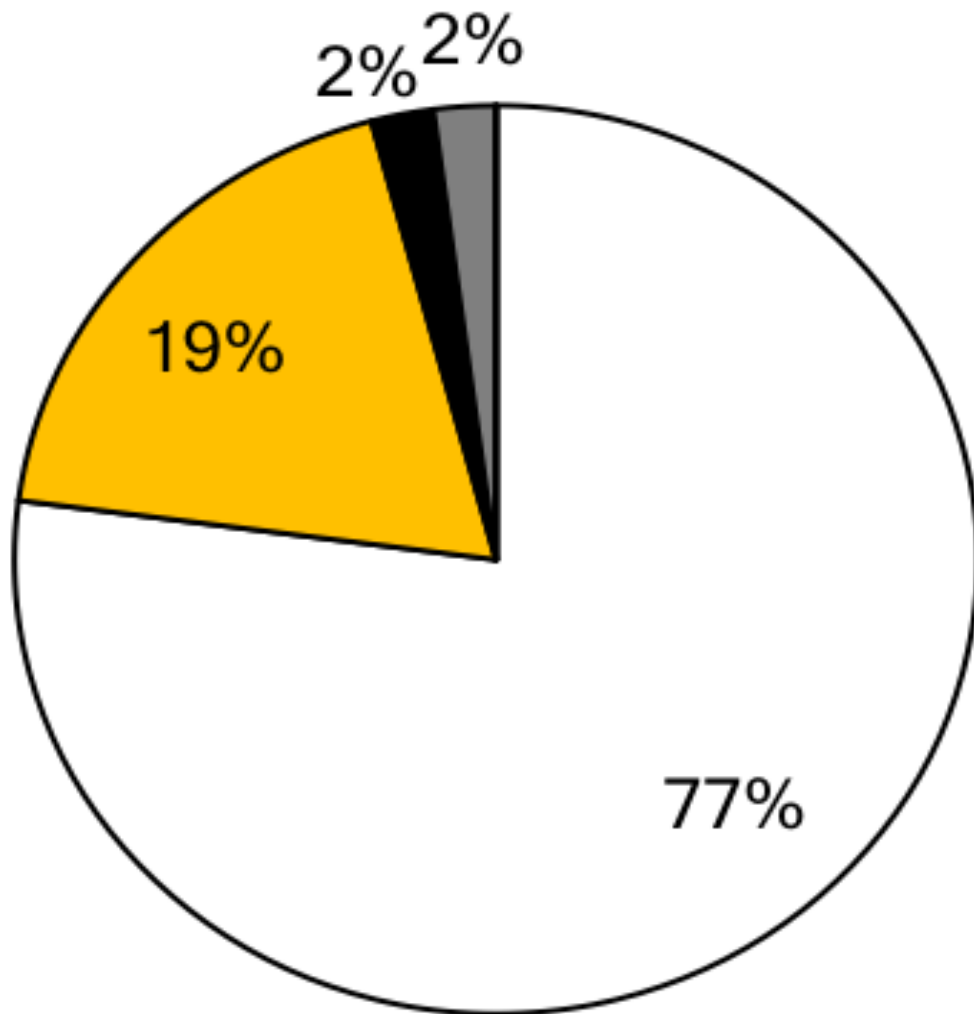Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Ethnicity
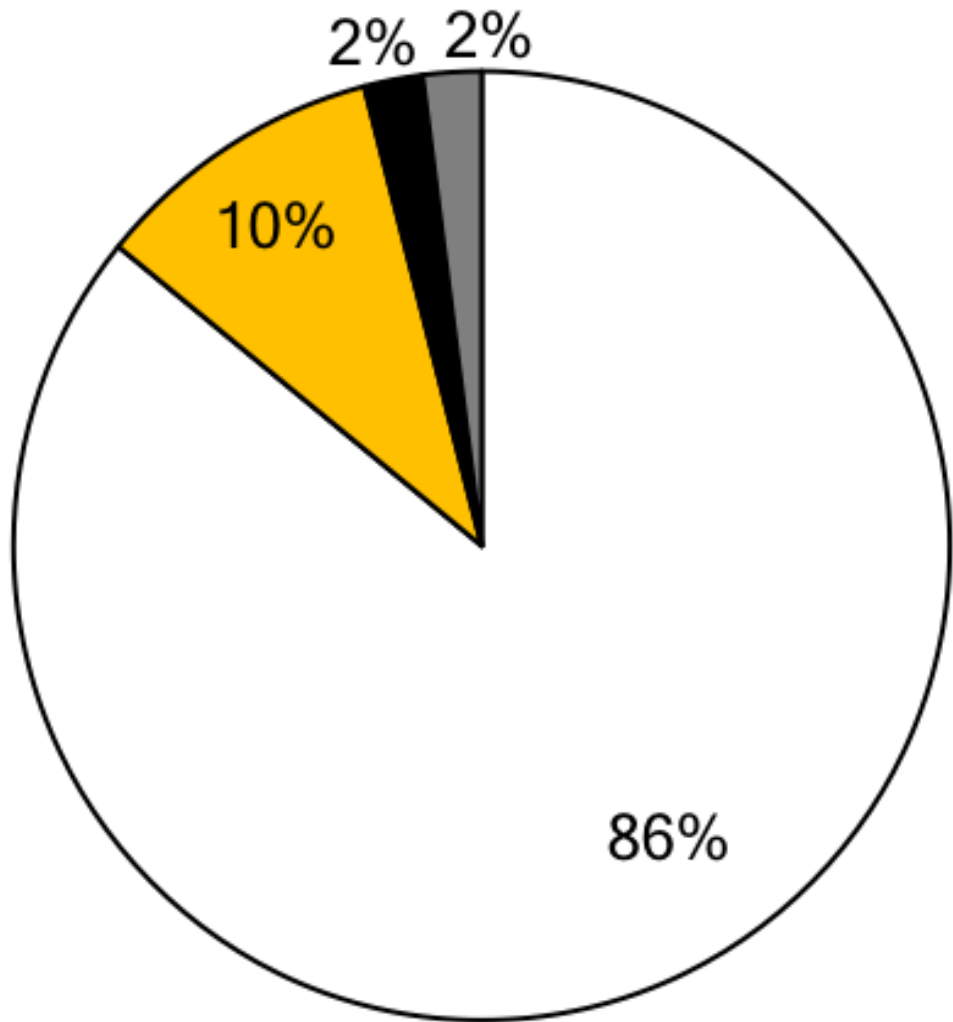
- White or Caucasian
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Other or Unknown

86% · 10% · 2% · 2%

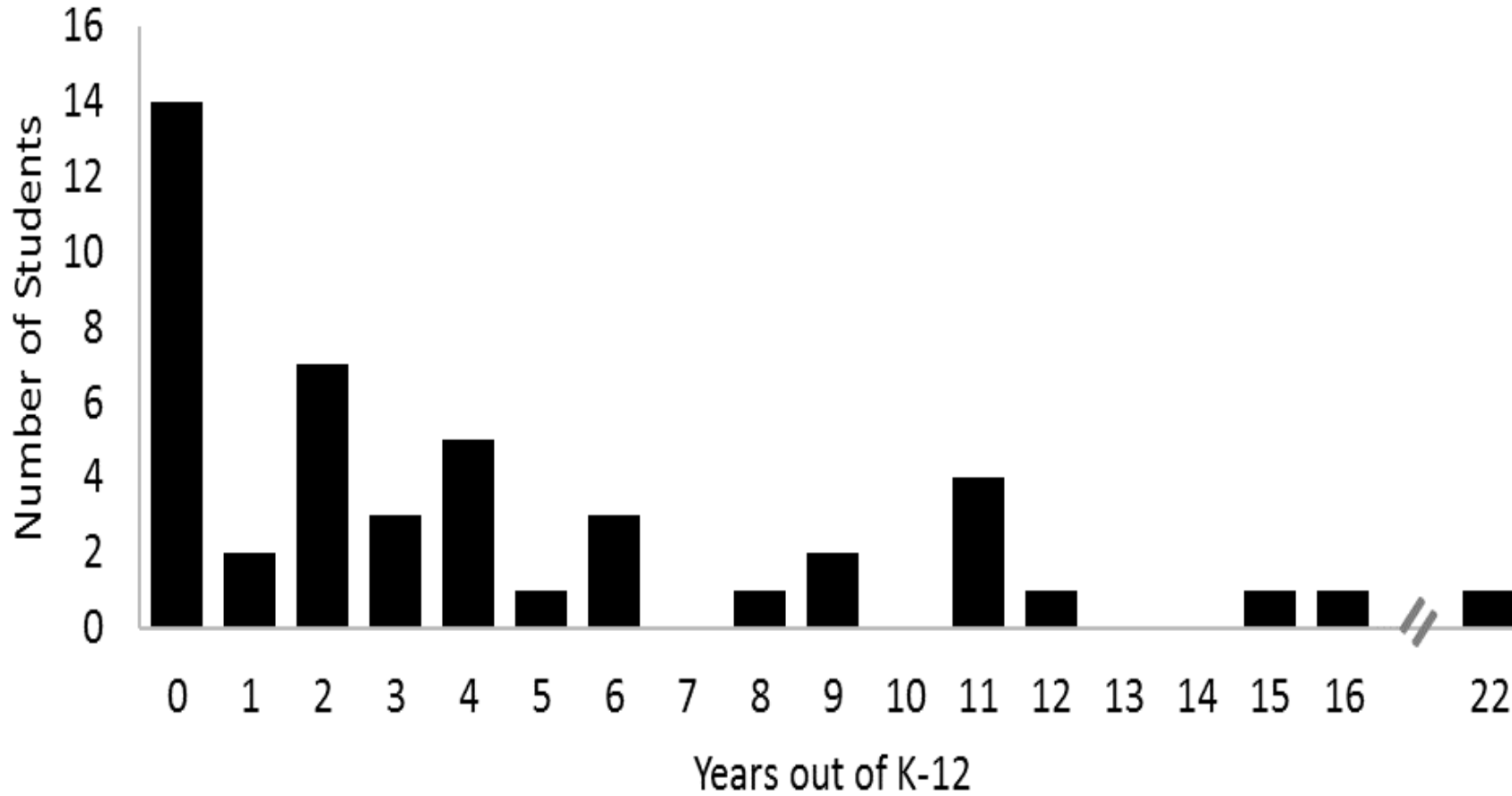Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Most Recent K-12 Setting

- Public school
- Private school
- Self-contained center school
- No response
- X Virtual school
- X Home school

2% 2% 19% 77%

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Type of K-12 Exit

- Special diploma — 67%
- Regular high school diploma — 13%
- Certificate of attendance or completion — 8%
- Unknown — 8%
- Other — 4%
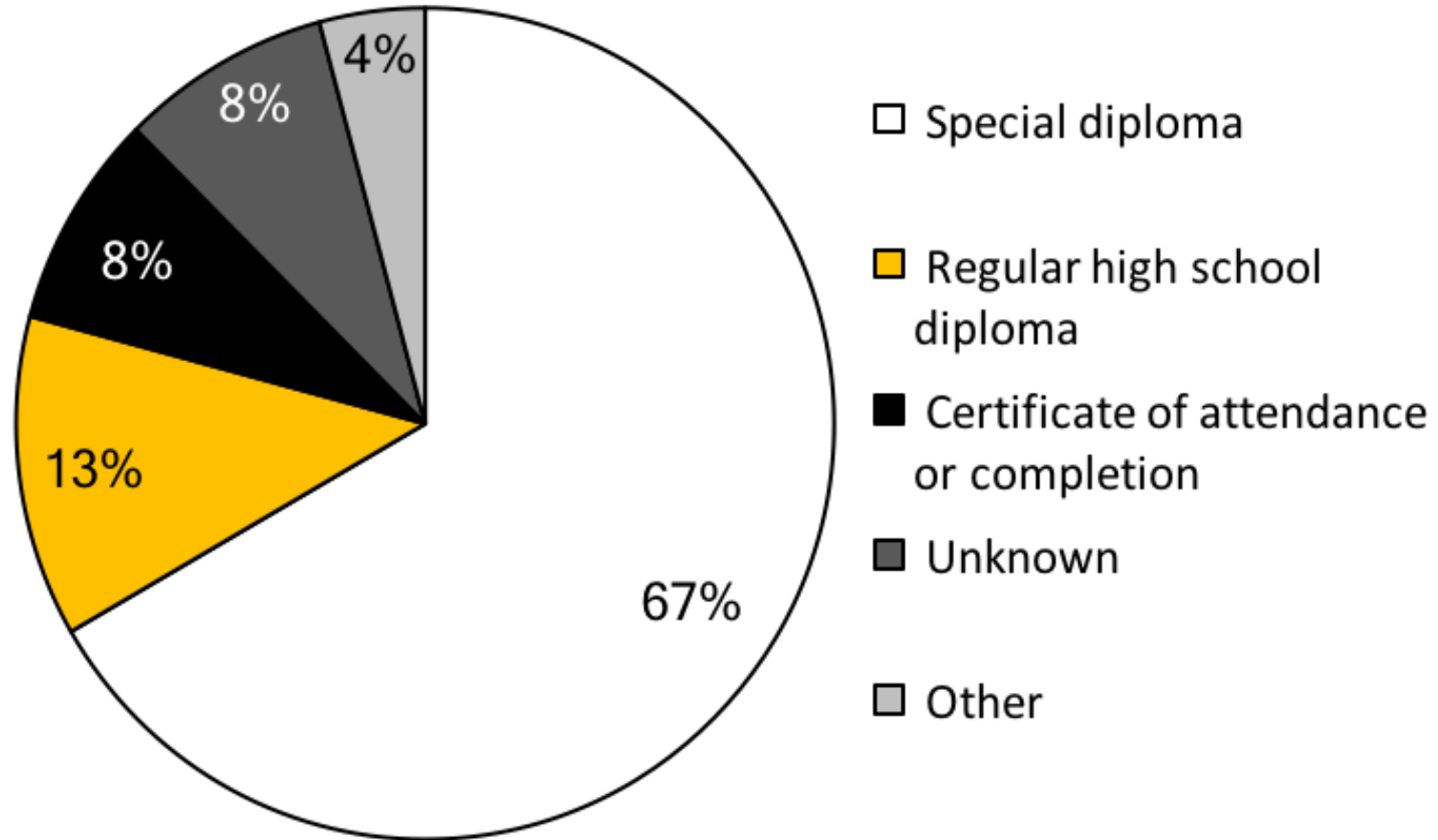
Years Out of K-12 Before Postsecondary Education Program Entry

Satisfactory Academic Progress

2

46

Yes

No

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES
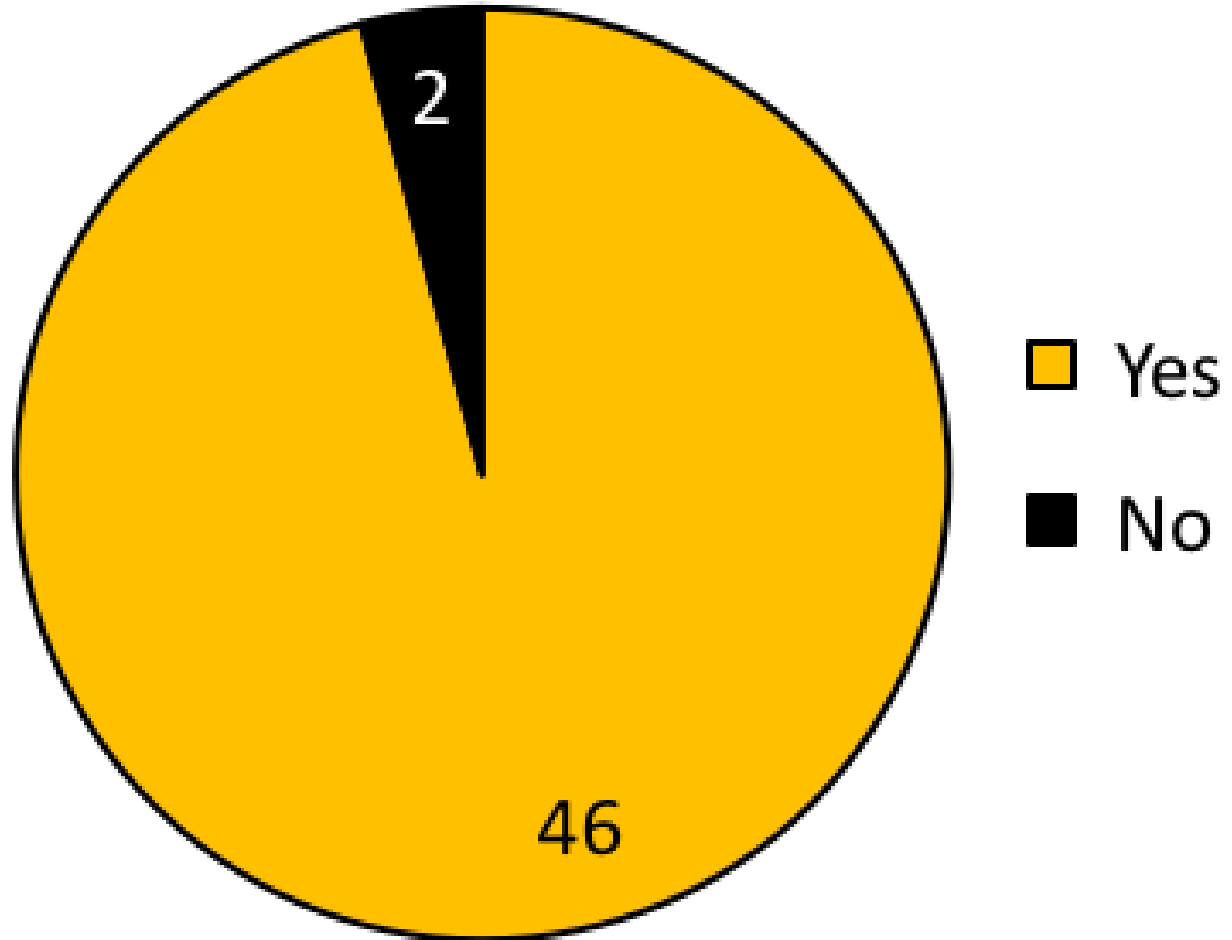
FPCT Programs

▶ Inclusive contexts

▶ No less than half-time enrollment

▶ Requires definition of *satisfactory academic performance*

▶ Requires federal comprehensive transition program application

▶ Focus on employment outcomes

▶ Meaningful credential, industry certification

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Challenges: Think About

▶ Who are you serving/will serve?

- Gender, ethnicity, SES, age?

▶ What are needs of business and industry?

- Career opportunities, credentials?

▶ What are the strengths of your institution?

- Academics, services, partnerships?

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Challenges: Think About

▶ Does enrollment reflect ethnic diversity of the State?

▶ Do your approaches meet the needs of your multi-cultural community?

▶ Are the students prepared for their postsecondary education program?

▶ Are student completers achieving employment?

▶ What are key program predictors of success?

■ Secondary

■ Postsecondary

K – 12: Create the Demand

▶ Empower students and families

▶ Target postsecondary education programs in students' IEPs (SPP/APR I-13!)

▶ *Prepare* students to access and succeed in a FPCTP!

▶ Develop meaningful SOPs

▶ Create and provide choices for postsecondary education – reach out to postsecondary education institutions to offer a range of opportunities across Florida

PSE: Create the Supply

▶ Create and provide choices for postsecondary education – offer a range of opportunities across Florida

▶ Connect with other partners: VR, APD, FDDC

▶ Expand your team as needed

▶ Access the Center's resources

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Lessons Learned

▶ Institutional capacity varies widely

- Staff commitments

- Resource allocation

- # of students that can be supported in the program

- Types of student supports provided

▶ Many different approaches, credentials

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Lessons Learned

▶ Collaboration is essential – Wide range of partners and team members

▶ Students need a range of options and supports

▶ People need ideas and examples

▶ All institutions do most things differently

▶ Connection with K-12 systems is fundamental

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

The FCSUA Provides

▶ Assistance to prepare FPCTP applications and grant proposals, and to request scholarships

▶ Assistance to design evaluation plans, and to collect and analyze evaluation data

▶ Assistance to develop the Federal CTP proposal

▶ Feedback to the State legislators re: funding and policy needs

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

How the FCSUA Provides Services

▶ Site visits – at any point in the FPCTP process

▶ Web meetings

▶ Telephone

▶ Lots of presentations to relevant stakeholders

▶ Combination of all the above!

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

FCSUA Strategies

▶ K – 12 system

- College and Career Transition Clubs

- Outreach to K-12 administrators

▶ Postsecondary education institutions

- Mentor development this summer

- Sustainability strategies

- Evaluating student learning

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

FCSUA Strategies

- Across systems

  - Team building

    - Postsecondary Education Program Planning Institute

    - Midyear Check and Connect Institute

  - Resource development – e.g., useful SOP

- Knowledge development

  - Webinar series

Upcoming Events

▶ Annual Postsecondary Education Program Planning Institute

▶ January 2019

▶ Orlando area

▶ Content re: programs and strategies

▶ Planning time with a facilitator

▶ Register at www.fcsua.org

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Questions or Issues?

Contact Us/Follow Us

▶ Telephone 407-823-5225

▶ www.fcsua.org

▶ fcsua@ucf.edu

▶ Facebook: @FloridaCSUA

▶ Instagram: @floridacsua

▶ Twitter: @FloridaCSUA

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES