



PRESS RELEASE
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REPORT CALLS FOR COLLEGE PREP CURRICULUM IN FL. HIGH SCHOOLS

Tampa, FL- In a report released today by ENLACE Florida, the advocacy network suggest Florida can convert its traditional high school program into a college prep curriculum at a minimal cost and should act sooner than later. “In the last three years, at least 15 states have passed legislation imposing higher graduation requirements to a level that enables all students to be prepared to enter and succeed in college,” said Paul Dosal, Executive Director for ENLACE Florida, a statewide network promoting college readiness, access, and success for underrepresented students. “Florida should not be the last state to align high school graduation requirements with we what we know is now the standard that all students need to meet to be successful after high school,” said Dosal. Today over half of Florida high school graduates entering a postsecondary institution require some form of remediation in mathematics, reading, and/or writing costing the state over \$62 million annually. The report suggests these costs can be offset by better aligning high school graduation requirements with college entrance expectations. “If we expect more from our students they will rise and meet the challenge,” said Braulio Colón, Assistant Director for ENLACE Florida. “Today’s workforce requires a higher level math skill, more technical skills, and in this global economy exposure to a foreign language. Our current graduation requirements fall short and are sending the wrong message to our students,” said Colón. Florida currently offers its high school students the option of choosing from three different programs of study: Traditional, Accelerated College Prep, or an Accelerated Career Prep Program. Last year, only 97 students completed the Accelerated College Prep option.

ENLACE FLORIDA is a statewide network funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and managed by NCCEP to promote college readiness, access, and success for Latinos, African-Americans, and other underrepresented students through non-partisan research, communication, advocacy, and support.