State University System Degree Completion Initiative
Dr. Kathleen Moore (USF) and Dr. Pamela Northrup (UWF)
September 15, 2011
www.flbog.edu
“I think for people who drop out of college, one of the hardest things they’ll ever do is come back, but that’s what makes it so valuable. It’ll make your life so fulfilling because you’ll be doing something you really care about.”

Matthew Dodd
Osher Reentry Scholar and USF Graduate 2009
Need for More Degree Holders

- 25% of job vacancies in Florida require a bachelor’s degree
- 17.4% of Floridians hold a bachelor’s degree
- Bachelor’s degree holders have 3.8% lower unemployment rate
- Bachelor’s degree holders have $16,952 more earning power annually.
Fastest Growing Occupations

- Information Technology
- Health Services
- Business/Finance
- Education Administration
- Information Services
- Sales/Marketing
- Hospitality
- Special Education
Initiatives in Other States

- Kentucky - Project Graduate
- Louisiana - CALL
- Oklahoma - Reach Higher
- Texas - Grad TX
Degree Completion Initiative

- Cooperative Program Agreement
- Statewide web portal
- Enhanced academic/student services (concierge approach)
- Home institution grants degree
- Online course offerings
- Statewide Coordinating Council oversight
Florida has in place...

- University Degree Programs, Concentrations, Specializations
- Online programs/courses
- Florida Distance Learning Consortium
- Florida Distance Learning Course Catalog
- FACTS.org
We still need...

- Advocacy
- Administrative/Operational Support
- Marketing Plan
- Prior Learning Assessment Capability
- Enhanced Academic and Student Services

Estimated cost for 2-year pilot: Discussion