

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

September 1, 2021

SUBJECT: Pillars of Excellence 2021-22 Spending Plans

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Consider approval of 2021-22 spending plans for universities receiving funding as part of the Board of Governors Pillars of Excellence initiative.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At its August 29, 2019 meeting, the Board of Governors identified three Pillars of Excellence as a framework for funding System initiatives. The Pillars included: Performance Based Funding, Universities of Distinction, and Preeminence/National Ranking. Universities of Distinction is designed to support the nine non-preeminent institutions in the State University System. In the fall of 2019, institutions submitted proposals to the Board of Governors that identified a program or program area that is a core competence capable of reaching national or state excellence. Universities of Distinction was formally established by the 2020 Legislature, in section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes.

The 2020 Legislature provided \$6 million to the University of North Florida and \$3 million to Florida Gulf Coast University to support the Universities of Distinction Pillar. Additionally, the legislature provided \$15 million to the University of Florida and \$15 million to Florida State University to support the Preeminence/National Ranking pillar. The Board requested 2021-22 spending plans for the four institutions that received funding in the 2020 legislative session, as this funding is recurring except for \$3 million out of the \$6 million provided to the University of North Florida.

If approved by the Strategic Planning Committee, the 2021-22 spending plans for universities receiving funding as part of the Board of Governors Pillars of Excellence initiative will be forwarded to the Full Board for consideration.

Supporting Documentation Included:

In Strategic Planning Committee
Materials