



Facts!

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Update on Chipola College Grant Activities

This month's *Chipola Facts* provides an update on current grant activities of the College.

CDBG-DR – Workforce Recovery Training Program (WRTP)

On October 10, 2018, Hurricane Michael made landfall near Mexico Beach in Bay County as a Category 5 storm. The hurricane moved northeast across several Florida counties before traveling into Georgia and across the southeastern United States.

Following a major disaster, Congress can appropriate funds through the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program to satisfy a portion of unmet need that remains after other federal assistance such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Small Business Administration (SBA) or private insurance have been allocated. Based on its disaster impact assessment, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that the state of Florida would receive an allocation of \$735,553,000 in CDBG-DR funds to assist in long-term recovery from Hurricane Michael. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) is the lead agency and responsible entity for administering the CDBG-DR funds allocated to the state of Florida. Chipola competed for this grant was \$1,732,576, was dedicated to increasing the workforce in the construction and welding industries for our local area. The agreement was funded in 2022. This grant ends on September 30, 2026.

Florida Jobs Growth Grant Program – Cybersecurity

On August 6, 2021, the state of Florida awarded Chipola College \$354,879 from the Florida Jobs Growth Grant to expand the college's cybersecurity training programs for students. It's purpose was for enhancements for the Associate of Science degree program in networking systems technology and in two college credit certificate programs in the AS degree: network/cybersecurity and digital forensics. The money is being used to purchase training equipment and software and to hire additional faculty. The grant can also support professional development for instructors and cover certification costs for students to earn industry-recognized IT credentials. The grant ended on June 30, 2024.

Take Stock in Children Program

Take Stock in Children (TSIC) was founded in response to persistent high school dropout rates among Florida's most under-resourced youth. Research has increasingly shown that low-income students

are less successful academically than their higher-income peers due to the constraints of living in poverty. The Take Stock in Children program was designed to be a simple yet transformative model for 100% low-income youth in grades 6-12 by combining a volunteer mentor, college readiness and coaching, and a Florida Prepaid Project STARS scholarship. Chipola's TSIC program serves over 65 currently enrolled students in 6-12 grades and 30 currently enrolled college students. The TSIC program is ongoing depending on local participation from our five-county service area through scholarship and state funding through appropriations money to Take Stock in Children.

Perkins V Postsecondary Education Basic Grant

The federal Carl D. Perkins Act provides funds to improve secondary and postsecondary career technical education. Through the Florida Department of Education, Chipola College was awarded \$88,334 in Perkins funds for the period of the current program year. Examples of activities supported with Perkins funds at Chipola College include personnel, equipment, materials, and supplies in career technical programs. The College applies for Perkins funds annually, and the grant period is July 1 through June 30.

Perkins V Rural Areas Grant

The Florida Department of Education allocated part of the state's Perkins funds to colleges serving rural and sparsely populated areas. Chipola College was awarded \$32,793 of these funds from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Funds strengthen the connection between secondary and postsecondary education by providing career technical programs that prepare students for employment in targeted high-wage and high-demand occupations. Funds purchase equipment, materials, and supplies in Chipola's career technical programs.

Rebuild Florida Hurricane Michael Hazard Mitigation Grant Match Program and FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

In 2022, the Florida Department of Commerce (FloridaCommerce) allocated \$109,000,000 in funding for the Rebuild Florida Hazard Mitigation Grant Match Program (HMGP) through the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to address unmet disaster recovery needs related to damage from Hurricane Michael. Chipola's share within this grant is \$1.418 million. Chipola College has been approved from FloridaCommerce of an extension to July 30, 2027.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in their Hazard Mitigation Grant represent a unique and significant opportunity for the state, in the areas most impacted by recent disasters, to carry out strategic and high impact activities to rebuild and harden infrastructure to prevent or reduce losses in future disasters. Chipola's share in this grant program was more than \$4.256 million, which will be used to harden critical infrastructure at the college to serve as an emergency shelter and housing for emergency responders after a disaster. This grant ends on February 28, 2027.

Student Support Services (SSS)

In 2025, Chipola College was awarded a SSS grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Since then, the College has received \$272,364 through this year-to-year federally-funded grant program, which ends August 31, 2026.

SSS funds have been used to implement tutoring and other student support activities that promote degree attainment and transfer into baccalaureate programs.

During the 2024-25 academic year, 46% of SSS students either graduated or transferred to four-year institutions (AY 25 target of 45%). The SSS program serves low-income students, first-generation college students, and disabled students.

Florida Jobs Growth Grant Program - Automotive Technology

On June 23, 2023, the Florida Department of Commerce (FloridaCommerce) announced it was accepting proposals for \$75 million through the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund for projects that focus on rapidly developing a highly skilled workforce and on infrastructure initiatives that attract businesses, create jobs, and promote economic growth. Participating programs at Chipola include automotive technology. This award will fund the purchase and installation of up-to-date training equipment for the automotive service technicians and mechanics program at Chipola College. Chipola was awarded \$397,619 for this grant. The grant period ends on June 30, 2028

Workforce Development Capitalization Grant – Electrical and Plumbing

On January 18, 2024, Chipola was awarded a share of the Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Program. This incentive program is to provide grants to Florida College System institutions to fund some or all of the costs associated with the creation or expansion of career and technical education programs that lead to industry certifications included on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List. The programs may serve secondary or postsecondary students if the postsecondary career and technical education program also serves secondary students. This funding will be used to start the electrical and plumbing certification courses, provide up-to-date equipment for instruction, and help make capital updates to the facility where the programs will be housed. Chipola's share in this grant program is \$542,195. The grant period ends on June 30, 2026.

Workforce Development Capitalization Grant – Advanced Manufacturing

On September 30, 2025, Chipola was awarded a share of the Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Program. This incentive program is to provide grants to Florida College System institutions to fund some or all of the costs associated with the creation or expansion of career and technical education programs that lead to industry certifications included on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List. The programs may serve secondary or postsecondary students if the postsecondary career and technical education program also serves secondary students. This funding will be used to expand the Advanced Manufacturing & Production Technology program, provide cutting-edge equipment for instruction including mobile Industrial Numerical Control (INC) units and robotics systems, and help make capital updates to the facility where the program will be housed. Chipola's share in this grant program is \$310,000. The grant period ends on June 30, 2026.

Chipola Facts is a monthly accountability and institutional effectiveness factsheet published jointly by the Chipola College Offices of Development/Planning and Information Systems/Technology. Its purpose is to facilitate good decision-making by publishing college-related data at regular intervals throughout the year. For more information contact Brent Shelton at (850) 718-2344, Chipola College, 3094 Indian Circle, Marianna, FL 32446, sheltonb@chipola.edu.

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