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The Honorable Miguel Cardona
Secretary of Education
400 Maryland Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20202

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Cardona and Secretary Vilsack:

As the Chancellor of the State University System of Florida and CEO of the Board of Governors, I am responsible for implementing policies and regulations adopted by the Board, which impacts 12 institutions of higher education and over 430,000 students annually. The Board is responsible for administering laws enacted by the Florida Legislature regarding higher education.

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Furthermore, when the two niche outliers (low enrollment Honors and STEM colleges) are excluded, the average state funding per FTE in the ten remaining State University System of Florida institutions is \$9,328. The state funding per FTE at FAMU is \$14,773.

FAMU's state funding per FTE is 58.4 percent more than the average of the ten remaining institutions.

Institution	Funding per FTE
State University System of Florida (Average)	\$9,328
FAMU	\$14,773

funding per FTE than the average of the ten remaining institutions. State University

In Florida, our universities can carry forward appropriated funds that are unexpended during the fiscal year. When Governor DeSantis was elected, FAMU had \$34,600,000 available in carry-forward funds. In our current fiscal year, FAMU has \$37,097,588 available in carry-forward funds. Under Governor DeSantis, operational carry-forward

Year	Carry-forward funds
2021	\$34,600,000
2022	\$37,097,588

remaining schools were unranked. This means FAMU has vaulted up from the bottom

16 percent of National Public Universities into the Top 100 during the DeSantis

administration.

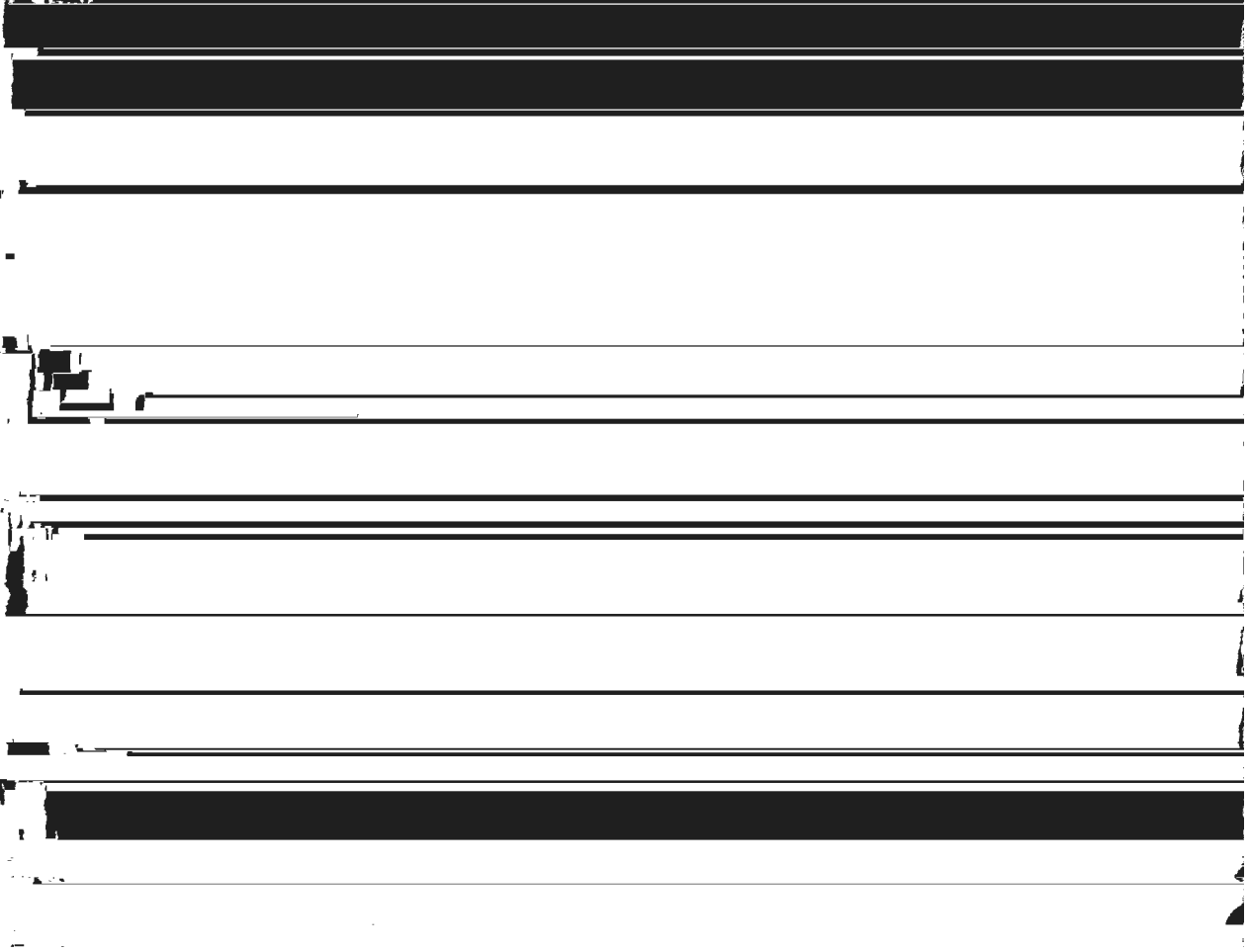
The State University System of Florida is proud of the support FAMU has received from Governor DeSantis and the Florida legislature. You can see the effects of that support in the success of FAMU's students.

When Governor DeSantis was elected, the most recent cohort of FAMU students had a

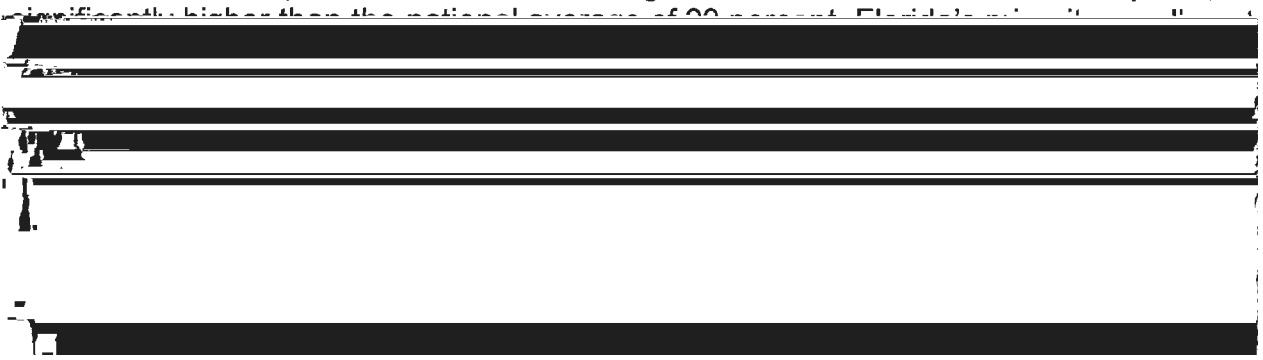
four-year graduation rate of 21.6 percent. The most recent cohort of FAMU students has a four-year graduation rate of 28.4 percent, a significant improvement of 31.5 percent.

When Governor DeSantis was elected, 68.9 percent of the FAMU student population had a student loan. Today, only 38.5 percent of the FAMU student population has a

The most recent U.S. Department of Education data for fall enrollment in post-secondary institutions by race shows the State University System of Florida has a black and Hispanic student enrollment higher than the national average. Florida's fall 2021



data shows that 42 percent of our total undergraduate students are black or Hispanic,



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graduation rate for Hispanic or Latino students is 50.3 percent higher than the national average.

In fact, nearly half of all bachelor's degrees awarded by the State University System of Florida during 2021-22 went to students who identify as African American or

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Raymond Rodrigues

Raymond Rodrigues
Chancellor