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MEDIA ALERT

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Planning Grants To Expand College Access Services Awarded

~ Grants designed to facilitate the initial process to develop community-based college access programs ~

Tampa, FL- Today the [Florida College Access Network](#) awarded three college access planning grants to members of the local college access network—Hillsborough C.A.N. The [Hillsborough Education Foundation](#), [Brain Expansions Scholastic Training, Inc.](#), and [Guidance Services of Hillsborough County Public Schools](#) will receive a one-time grant of up to \$6,000 to cover costs associated with determining a community's college access needs and designing an implementation plan for starting or expanding a college access program. The announcement was made today during the [Hillsborough C.A.N.](#) meeting in Tampa. Tampa organizations [recently came together](#) in March to form the local college access network with a mission to expand college access programming to first generation, limited-income students in Hillsborough County. Members of the network include Tampa Bay Academy Hope, Brink Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay, Boys and Girls Club of Tampa, University of South Florida, Hillsborough Community College, B.E.S.T., School District of Hillsborough County, Hillsborough County Crime Prevention, Hillsborough County Public Libraries, S.M.A.R.T., and the Tampa Metropolitan YMCA. All members are part of a statewide effort to increase the proportion of working adults in Florida who hold a postsecondary degree or credential to [60%](#) by 2025.

About Florida College Access Network

Florida College Access Network (formerly ENLACE Florida) engages communities for higher education promoting college-readiness, access, and success for limited-income, first generation, and underrepresented students through research, communication, advocacy, and community support. Our Big Goal is to increase the proportion of working adults in Florida who hold a quality postsecondary degree or credential to 60% by 2025. For more information, visit www.floridacollegeaccess.org