

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Registration is now open for the 2024 Talent Strong Florida Summit!**

*Join us on May 8-10 and be part of the movement ensuring Access for All in postsecondary education.*

[Press Kit](#)

TAMPA, FLA. — Registration opens today for Florida College Access Network's (FCAN) annual **Talent Strong Florida Summit** taking place May 8-10 at the Hilton Orlando on 6001 Destination Parkway in Orlando. The summit convenes educators, researchers, policymakers, program administrators, and education stakeholders from multiple sectors who are passionate about ensuring all Florida students have the support they need to pursue and succeed in postsecondary education.

The summit "Access for All" theme emphasizes the importance of securing education equity for Florida's communities while meeting the [Sail to 60 postsecondary educational goal](#). Since 2019, education leaders have committed toward the goal of having 60% of working-age Floridians hold a high-quality degree, credential, or training experience by 2030 as a result of the passage of Florida's House Bill 7071.

While approximately 52.5% of Florida residents aged 25-64 have attained some type of postsecondary degree or credential, recent reports show attainment equity gaps are widening. Inequities in postsecondary education attainment based on race and ethnicity persist in every state, however the gap between Florida's Black and white working-age population exceeds that of the nation. Despite a broad increase in degree attainment since 2009, the current attainment gap in Florida is 15.5% between white and Black residents, and 9.2% between white and Hispanic/Latino residents.<sup>1</sup>

"Recent reports show the need for targeted efforts to help achieve equitable degree attainment goals," said Braulio Colón, FCAN's executive director. "There are many opportunities to improve and expand our work, and this year's theme is a reminder that all students in Florida deserve access to the opportunities that lead to rewarding careers and economic prosperity."

FCAN believes that by working together, Florida will build a talent-strong workforce prepared for the challenges of our rapidly evolving economy.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.luminafoundation.org/stronger-nation/report/#/progress/racial\\_equity&equity-highlight=FL&equity-time-state=FL&equity-time-age=25\\_34](https://www.luminafoundation.org/stronger-nation/report/#/progress/racial_equity&equity-highlight=FL&equity-time-state=FL&equity-time-age=25_34)

[Register today](#) and join us for two days of fresh approaches and lessons learned.

Among the highlights are:

- Dozens of dynamic sessions connected to FCAN's [Seven Conditions that Create a Resilient Workforce and Spark Economic Mobility](#)
- Policy-focused discussions
- Opportunities to connect and share ideas with over 400 peer professionals working throughout Florida.

**Registration fee is \$369**, and there is a **special early registration rate of \$319** available through **March 31**. [Sponsor and exhibitor opportunities](#) are also available.

Visit [www.fcansummit.org](http://www.fcansummit.org) to register, view the full agenda, and learn how you can connect with over 400 peer professionals from throughout the state!

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### About Florida College Access Network

Florida College Access Network (FCAN) is Florida's collaborative network committed to ensuring all Floridians have the opportunity to achieve an education beyond high school and a rewarding career. We envision a Florida working together where education is the pathway to economic mobility for all.

FCAN strives to expand knowledge of research, data, policies, and practices that impact postsecondary access and attainment in Florida. For more information, visit [www.floridacollegeaccess.org](http://www.floridacollegeaccess.org).

FCAN is a statewide independent organization hosted by the University of South Florida (USF). The statements and positions presented are those of FCAN and are not made on behalf of the USF Board of Trustees or intended in any way to be representative of USF.