HISTORY

The Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC) was created in 2012 by the Florida Legislature, through the consolidation of four statewide organizations: The College Center for Library Automation (CCLA), the Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA), the Florida Center for Advising and Academic Support (FCAAS), and the Florida Distance Learning Consortium (FDLC).

In 2014, the Legislature amended FLVC to be a Complete Florida Plus Program and in 2015 moved management to the University of West Florida’s Division of Research and Strategic Innovation. While its mission and purpose remained the same the newly named units under FLVC included the Florida Academic Library Services Cooperative, Distance Learning and Student Services.

In July 2020, the Complete Florida Plus Program was decommissioned, and the Florida Virtual Campus was moved to a new host organization, the Northwest Regional Data Center at Florida State University. With this new alliance, FLVC will continue to grow, innovate and create leading-edge educational tools and resources to help Florida’s students, teachers, counselors and administrators succeed.

MISSION

The Florida Virtual Campus is made up of several units which provide statewide innovative educational services for Florida's educational institutions and K-adult students. Working collaboratively with Florida’s 12 public universities, 28 public colleges, 74 K-12 school districts, and other partners, FLVC provides free services to help students go to college, succeed in school, prepare for career success, and in life after graduation.

CORE SERVICES

The Florida Virtual Campus offers shared educational services for K-12 to adult learners throughout the state of Florida:

- Florida Academic Library Services Cooperative (FALSC): Operates the integrated library system used by all public Florida college and university libraries along with a shared catalog and a statewide collection of online journals, e-books, and other valuable e-resources.
- Distance Learning and Student Services (DLSS): Provides an array of innovative educational services for students, educators, and administrators in the sunshine state.
- FloridaShines: Offers free online tools and resources to help students prepare for college, succeed in college, and find a bright career. All in one place.
STATEWIDE IMPACT

Overall, FLVC’s centralized shared-service model saves the state of Florida more than $42 million.

Centralized Integrated Library System (ILS)
- The ILS provides students with access to more than 17 million books, 400,000 e-resources, and 1.2 million unique digital archival items.
- Students perform more than 20 million catalog searches for library materials each year.
- FLVC’s centralized model saves the state of Florida more than $16 million, compared to implementing the system at 40 individual colleges and universities.
- FLVC saves the state more than $1.8 million in annual ILS software licensing.
- The open educational resources in the FLVC system saved 50,000 students $5 million in aggregate textbook costs ($100 per student) in 2018.

Statewide Collection of Online Journals, E-books, and E-resources.
- Students perform more than 37 million searches of e-resources each year.
- Centralized licensing of e-resources by FLVC saves the state of Florida $12 million per year, collectively, compared to decentralized licensing.

The Centralized Library System Enables Students to Request/Borrow Books and Materials from Other Libraries.
- Over the past six years, Florida’s college and university libraries have used FLVC’s UBorrow system to borrow and lend more than 190,000 items, making each library’s collection easily accessible to students across the state.

Negotiate group licensing for institutions desiring e-resources beyond the statewide collection.
- FLVC’s group licensing process saves participating institutions more than $4.2 million per year, compared to the licensing costs for individual institutions.

FloridaShines Catalog: The Statewide, Internet-based Catalog of Distance Learning Courses, Degree Programs & Resources.
- For academic year 2020-21, the FloridaShines Catalog lists more than 125,000 courses offered by Florida institutions.
- Places Florida’s institutions in front of hundreds of thousands of students and parents each year who otherwise would not have seen them.

Manage Florida’s Official Transient Student Admissions Application (TSAA).
- In 2019, more than 60,000 students used the TSAA process to request admission to other Florida institutions, enabling them to take needed courses and remain on track to graduate.

Negotiate Licensing Contracts for Distance Learning-related Software on Behalf of Participating Institutions & K-12 Districts.
- FLVC’s group contract negotiating will save the state more than $3.6 million in 2020-21, compared to the licensing costs for individual institutions and K-12 districts.
LEADERSHIP
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