

Florida Work Experience (FWEP)

Program Overview

The Florida Work Experience Program (FWEP) is a need-based program funded by the State of Florida to provide eligible MDC students work experiences that will complement and reinforce their educational and career goals. Participating employers are reimbursed a portion of the wages paid to the student employees. As an added benefit, employers have the opportunity to train workers in their respective industries, which may eventually lead to continued employment once the students graduate and leave the program.

To qualify a student must:

- Demonstrate financial need by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). A new FAFSA must be completed each academic year to re-establish eligibility for need-based assistance. Students are encouraged to submit the FAFSA, as soon as possible after January 1st, each year. Since funds are limited, late applicants may lose eligibility due to insufficient funding.
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress in their program of studies based on standards established by the State of Florida. To remain eligible, the student must maintain a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale and complete a specified number of credit hours based on their prior year enrollment status each academic year.
- Must enroll for a minimum of 6 credit hours each term while participating in the FWEP.

How are funds disbursed?

Funding is based on the student's eligibility and the number of hours a student works. The employer will pay the students the stipulated salary as set in the job description for the work they perform, and then invoice Miami Dade College. Once a month, the employer must send the Time Sheet and Billing Form to the College, to receive their reimbursement (between 70-100%) of the gross wages.

How long may a student receive funding?

The duration of training and participation on the job can vary and is typically based on the length of the educational program in which the student is enrolled or at an earlier time at the discretion of the employer. A student is eligible to participate in the program for a maximum of 8 semesters, or the equivalent for less than full-time enrollment, or until receipt of an Associate or Baccalaureate degree, whichever comes first. Students enrolled in college preparatory instruction, or requiring time to complete graduation requirements may be eligible to extend their eligibility.