



F L O R I D A F I R S T . G A T O R S F O R E V E R .

## A Decade of Opportunity Policy Brief

### OVERVIEW

**THE ROLE OF FINANCIAL AID IN FACILITATING STUDENT MATRICULATION AND SUCCESS IS WELL-DOCUMENTED.** Recently, no-loan and loan replacement programs have been adopted to increase low-income and underrepresented minority enrollment. This research examined the impact of participation in the University of Florida's Machen Florida Opportunity Scholars program.

### RESULTS

**IN GENERAL, MACHEN FLORIDA OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARS ARE 44.2 PERCENT MORE LIKELY TO GRADUATE WITHIN FOUR YEARS THAN THEIR PEERS,** and 46.6 percent more likely to do so in six years.

→ Hispanic Opportunity Scholars benefit the most, with a four-year graduation rate 79.9 percent higher than their peers and a six-year graduation probability 42.5 percent higher.

→ For African American students, the increase in four-year graduation probabilities was 33.5 percent and their six-year graduation probabilities were 61 percent higher than peers.

→ White students only experienced a significant increase in their four-year graduation estimates (40.2 percent) and a 35.7 percent difference in their six-year graduation probabilities.