



**SMARTHINKING Inks Deal With Florida College System**  
*The Florida College System Uses Portion Of College Access Grant  
To Fund Online Tutoring And Academic Support*

January 15, 2009, WASHINGTON, D.C. – SMARTHINKING, Inc. ([www.smarthinking.com](http://www.smarthinking.com)), the market leader in providing online tutoring and academic support to students, has announced that The Florida College System (FCS), formerly the Division of Community Colleges, has elected to use a portion of its College Access Grant to assist in funding the cost of SMARTHINKING for its colleges. Using the grant dollars, FCS will supplement the cost of SMARTHINKING services to state colleges in Florida who use the service this year. This will provide all schools with a discounted rate and allow the state's small schools to receive the same services as large institutions, for the same price. FCS will supplement a portion of the cost for the first 34,000+ hours purchased statewide through July 31, 2009. This plan takes into consideration the annual growth in usage expected by Florida colleges during the 2008 fiscal year.

Studies by Florida colleges have shown that students who use SMARTHINKING's online tutoring services achieve higher grades than those who don't. This success has led to increased usage. FCS has been looking for a more affordable way for its colleges to cover the cost of the program and this grant will allow colleges to continue offering this successful service. Currently 21 of the state's 28 community colleges utilize SMARTHINKING to provide supplemental tutoring to both on-campus and online students, as well as expand their ability to meet the ever-growing needs of their students for academic assistance outside the classroom. For more information about SMARTHINKING, visit [www.smarthinking.com](http://www.smarthinking.com).

Related Links:

[www.smarthinking.com](http://www.smarthinking.com)  
[www.mmimarketing.com](http://www.mmimarketing.com)

Quotes:

"Applying grant funds to expand our relationship with SMARTHINKING is timely for faculty and students in Florida," said Dr. Judith Bilsky, Executive Vice Chancellor, Florida Department of Education, Florida College System (Formerly Division of Community Colleges). "We are excited to offer this opportunity for every institution that is part of the Florida College System throughout the state, to continue or even expand their use of SMARTHINKING Online Tutoring. This will allow them to meet the ever-growing academic support needs of students both on and off campus and enhance their learning experience."

"Tallahassee Community College is pleased to be able to help not only our students, but students throughout the state, by managing the grant funds for the Florida Department of Education's Division of Community Colleges. The access to SMARTHINKING's quality educators anytime, anywhere complements our own academic services providing students help when they need it most," said Dr. Barbara Sloan, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Tallahassee Community College.

"Broward College began using SMARTHINKING in 2005 as a means of enhancing our students' access to tutoring services, especially during evenings and on weekends. Broward students and faculty have embraced these high quality tutoring resources, especially those for math and writing. In addition, our in-house tutors use the SMARTHINKING platform to provide tutoring in our health-related courses and programs. And, since Broward College now offers nine fully online degrees, SMARTHINKING is a critically-important resource for our online students as

well,” said Russ Adkins, Associate VP of Instructional Technology, and Janet Sturdy, Associate Dean of Learning Resources, in a joint statement.

“This expanded relationship with the Florida Department of Education enables all campuses, large and small, within the Florida College System, to continue to offer outstanding academic support to their students and we are proud that SMARTHINKING is a part of their success,” said Burck Smith, CEO of SMARTHINKING.

**About SMARTHINKING:**

SMARTHINKING is the market leader in providing online tutoring and academic support to students. Their services were honored with the Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) CODiE award for Best Instruction Solution for Students at Home. Schools, colleges, universities, libraries, government agencies, textbook publishers and other education providers partner with SMARTHINKING to increase student achievement and enhance learning. SMARTHINKING connects students to e-structor®-certified tutors for assistance in math, writing, science and business, up to 24/7, on any Internet connected computer. SMARTHINKING’s corporate office is located in Washington, D.C. For more information, visit [www.smarthinking.com](http://www.smarthinking.com).

**Keywords:**

SMARTHINKING, Burck Smith, Online Education, Online Tutoring, Education Technology, Online Academic Support, E-structor, e-structor®, e-scholars, McGraw-Hill, Blackboard, Whiteboard, Online Learning, College Accreditation, The Florida College system, Division of Community Colleges, Broward College, Russ Adkins, Janet Sturdy, Dr. Barbara Sloan, Tallahassee Community College, Dr. Judith Bilsky, Florida Department of Education

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