



Office of the President
Willis Holcombe Center
Phone 954-201-7401
Fax 954-201-7357

www.broward.edu

BROWARD COLLEGE

Define yourself.

To: Members of the Board of Trustees

From: J. David Armstrong Jr., President

Date: April 28, 2009

Place: Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Broward College
Willis Holcombe Center - Boardroom #1208, Building #33
111 East Las Olas Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Subject: Agenda Item VII-L-On-Line Tutoring for Students

Brief Description: The attached is an agreement to purchase 24/7 on-line tutoring services through Smarthinking, with a price reduction provided by Florida College System grant.

Benefit to Broward College: Student access to online tutoring promotes learning and student success.

Relationship to College Master Plan: This program is related to Goal #1 by promoting student success and Goal #3 by increasing success rates for college preparatory students.

Board Agenda Approved: _____
Date: _____

Agenda Item VII-L
Enclosure _____

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AGENDA TRANSMITTAL SHEET**

To: **President**
From: **Vice President/Provost**
Subj: **On-line Tutoring for students**

Date: **March 25, 2009**

Issue: Request approval to purchase 24/7 online tutoring hours from Smarthinking, with price reduced through a grant by the Florida College System.

Background/Analysis:

Broward College has successfully been using Smarthinking as an on-line tutoring service to increase student success. Online tutoring is an essential service for our on-line students (required for SACS accreditation), but it is also widely used by our face to face students. The most utilized services are the help given to students writing papers and the 24/7 math help available. Math tutoring is also available in Spanish. Our current contract with Smarthinking will expire on June 30th, 2009.

Fiscal Impact:

\$194,810 from student activity and service fees.



Initiating Official



Vice President/Provost

Staff Position:

THIS RECOMMENDED ACTION MEETS THE FOLLOWING ELEMENT(S) OF THE COLLEGE'S MISSION STATEMENT:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Providing high quality educational programs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Providing high quality services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Providing for affordability to a diverse community of learners | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Providing for accessibility to a diverse community of learners |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commitment to student achievement | <input type="checkbox"/> Commitment to lifelong learning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commitment to academic excellence | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Providing use of current technology |

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE HOW THIS RECOMMENDATION ACHIEVES THE ABOVE ELEMENT(S) IN THE COLLEGE'S MISSION STATEMENT:

Provides all levels of tutoring help to students whenever they need to access that help.

Minority Firm: Yes ___ No x N/A ___

Broward Firm: Yes ___ No x N/A ___



SMARTHINKING.COM
PROPOSAL FOR
BROWARD COLLEGE

Institution: **Broward College**
Contact: **Janet Sturdy**
Term: **2009-2010**

Date: **March 25, 2009**
Phone: **954.201.6665**
Proposal valid for **60 days**

SMARTHINKING Contact Information:

Cindy Hewitt, Director of Sales
Ph: 407.905.9221
Fax: 206.260.8525
chewitt@smarthinking.com

SMARTHINKING is pleased to present the following proposal.

Options include:

- Unlimited access for administrators to student usage reports.
- Archiving of all tutoring sessions.
- Unlimited access to SMARTHINKING study resources and student archives.
- Hosting of all technology.
- Customer service and technical support by phone and e-mail.
- Complimentary faculty preview accounts.
- Access to the SMARTHINKING platform for Broward to staff your own tutors.

ACQUIRED FROM VII-L

APR 28 2009

ENCLOSURE



Pricing Options

A. BROWARD COLLEGE HOURLY PURCHASE THROUGH FDLC AGREEMENT:

This 2 year proposal is based on the statewide pricing agreement with the Distance Learning Consortium dated August 16, 2006.

	Year 1: 07.01.09 – 06.30.10	Year 2: 07.01.10 – 06.30.11
Number of Hours	8,470	9,317
Cost Per Hour	\$28	\$28
SCS Grant	(\$5 per hour)	(possible \$5 per hour)
Total	\$194,810	\$214,291 with Grant \$260,876 without Grant

- Unused hours roll-over from Year 1 to Year 2 at no charge; if hours remain at the end of Year 2, they will be subject to whatever existing policy is in place between the FDLC and SMARTHINKING at that time.
- Additional hours may be purchased according to current Florida pricing

B. ADDITIONAL SERVICES:

- Onsite faculty orientation sessions may be purchased for \$1,250 per day.
- Online faculty orientation sessions will be provided at no additional charge.

APPROVED VII-L
APR 20 2009
ENCLOSURE



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), 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.

Related Links:

www.smarthinking.com
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

2009/01/15

VII-L

APR 28 2009

ENCLOSURE

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.

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

Media Contacts:

Patty Briguglio
MMI Associates, Inc.
(919) 233-6600
(919) 233-0300 (fax)
patty@mmimarketing.com

Kate Catlin
MMI Associates, Inc.
(919) 233-6600
(919) 233-0300 (fax)
kate@mmimarketing.com

(end)

APR 28 2009 V11-L
ENCLOSURE