

Florida College System Risk Management Consortium

WHAT DOES THE CONSORTIUM DO FOR MEMBER COLLEGES AND WHY?

This is a program authorized by the Florida Legislature which allows the community colleges to join together to develop and implement a cooperative system of risk management under one comprehensive plan using the Florida College System Risk Management Consortium. The term "Florida Community Colleges Risk Management Consortium" used in this booklet includes all participating colleges and is hereinafter referred to as the "Consortium".

The Consortium is created by mutual agreement of the Boards of Trustees of the Florida public community colleges for the sole purpose of joining in a cooperative effort to develop, implement and participate in a coordinated statewide community college risk management program, including all optional programs:

- A. To provide protection against civil actions, as provided for in the self-insured Plan Document of Coverage or such other policies as may be purchased; to obtain protection against loss or damage to property owned by or under the control of each board or groups of Boards, casualty loss, workers compensation protection and such other protection mutually agreed upon.
- B. To provide an organizational structure, operating policies, guidelines and procedures to effectively implement and administer a long range program to meet risk management objectives.
- C. To provide for the utilization of the expertise of the community college staffs, and to incorporate the necessary authority and flexibility to administer the program.
- D. To consolidate services to reduce duplication of effort and achieve maximum utilization of resources.

As a participating member, the colleges agree to comply with the policies and procedures and other directives as may be issued from the Risk Management Council (Council of Presidents), which is the Consortium supervising authority. A college must be a full participating member in the Property and Casualty Program in order to participate in any of the Optional Programs of coverage including Health and Life.

Consortium services include:

- *Management of self-insurance, specific insurance and excess insurance for 27 community colleges Property and Casualty Programs and 22 community colleges Health and Life Programs;
- *The Consortium coordinates the marketing and purchasing and administration of all excess insurance, specific insurance, self-insurance and Third Party Administrator requirements for both Property and Casualty and Health and Life Programs;
- *Providing State Requirements for Educational Facilities inspection services for 20 community colleges and safety oversight to 7 colleges. Publication of a Safety Manual and Safety Strategy Plans for all colleges is also included;
- *Recommend actions for new and renewal coverage's to colleges as needed using the Consortium Operations Committee and the Risk Management Council for the approval process;

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- *Issuing specific subject risk management memorandums to colleges;
- *Providing coverage and claims information for participating colleges as needed;
- *Coordinating with Fiscal Agent all Consortium accounting and Human Resource needs.

The Florida Legislature has provided authority for community colleges to participate in programs of self-insurance. Specifically:

Florida Statute (F.S.)

F.S. 1004.725 provides authority for expenditures for self insurance services (Appendix B),

F.S. 440.38 - F.S. 440.381 provides authority for self-insuring workers' compensation (Appendix C),

F.S. 111.07 - F.S. 111.072 provides authority for self-insuring liability issues (Appendix D),

F.S. 1001.64(27) provides authority for self-insuring property (Appendix E),

F.S. 112.08 provides authority to self-insure health and life programs (Appendix F),

F.S. 768.28 provides authority for waiver of sovereign immunity (Appendix G)

The benefits of the self-insured program for general liability center around F.S. 768.28 (see Appendix G).

Funds collected from participating colleges, by the Consortium, will be utilized to provide the necessary administrative services, make claim payments for self-insured exposures, and to purchase specific and excess insurance to cover a catastrophe or series of catastrophes. Catastrophic payments may be distributed based on damage, need, timeliness of claim reporting and submission of appropriate documentation (invoices) at the discretion of the Executive Director. All catastrophic claim payments over \$200,000, which may be changed from time-to-time, require the approval of the Operations Committee. All other claims may be approved by the Executive Director pursuant to his authority as extended by the Operations Committee.

Such a program demands an increased awareness of and responsibility for safe conditions. The benefits are apparent for the continued well being and safety of Consortium members, the protection of property and to minimize the cost of the program to each college.

The full scope of the program is detailed in the FCCRMC Risk Management Manual.