

2024-2025

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

UF | Lastinger Center
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



From the Director

Our faculty and associates have been hard at work this year advancing the quality of education through administering state programs for students, families, and communities, and by serving educators with top-tier professional learning opportunities in early childhood, literacy, and mathematics.

Among many milestones and celebrations in 2024-2025, we created Florida's first universal data sharing agreement to connect school districts, universities, and education partners to empower secure, data-driven decision making to serve our students. We developed and piloted the Florida Tutoring Advantage, launched the Math Matrix Micro-Credential statewide, and reached a new milestone with New Worlds Reading by delivering more than 4 million books to over 300,000 Florida students.

Please take a look through this report to see more of what we've been up over last year.

Lastinger Center Reach

This year we served 			We reached 		
36K+ Educators	300+ District coaches, leaders, and administrators	1M+ Students	5 US states	70+ School districts	1,000+ Community events
Our learners completed 			We sent 		
1M+ Hours of coursework	12,683 Micro-Credentials	1,190 Teaching Endorsements	4M+ Books	35K+ Stipends	800K+ Reading tips via text

Research, Data, and Technology

Data Infrastructure

100,000 Educator accounts in our Lastinger Learning LMS	1 TB Of data in the Lastinger Center Data Lagoon	2 Billion Unique records from 8 sources
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GADRRS Universal Data Sharing

Guidance and Agreement for Data Harmony, Responsibility, Retention, and Sharing

Developed by the UF Lastinger Center for Learning in partnership with the AIMS Collaboratory, the GADRRS universal data sharing agreement is a **free resource** intended to serve as a standard agreement for schools, districts, researchers and solutions providers. This universal data sharing agreement will:

1. Ensure parents are aware of how their student’s data is being shared by schools/districts.
2. Ensure that all school district partners consistently uphold the highest level of safety and security when receiving and handling student data.
3. Reduce time spent and legal and administrative costs to create a data sharing agreement.
4. Increase secure data availability for research.
5. Support small districts with a template that has already been vetted and approved by legal entities and other districts.

Artificial Intelligence Projects

AI Professional Learning Review

Partnering with Vollee, the UF Lastinger Center has developed an AI model to grade assignments within the Literacy Micro-Credentials program to yield swift feedback and enable instructors to focus time on learners who need the most support.

ALTER Math

In this program developed by UF College of Education affiliate faculty, Seminole County pilot students learned math concepts by “teaching” an AI chatbot which takes on the role of a learner.

Khan Academy Partnership

Through the Florida Tutoring Advantage program, the Lastinger Center connected over 140,000 6–12th grade students from 14 districts to Khanmigo to receive personalized learning through the AI platform, allowing for real-time academic support and adaptive feedback.

Early Childhood

More than 41,000 early childhood educators have improved their practice with UF Lastinger Center programs since 2015. Through in-person trainings, ongoing communities of practice and over 1,000 hours of online content in English and Spanish, there’s something to help every early childhood educator, coach or director enhance their skills.

2024–2025 Progress

Online Courses 3,385 educators from 65 counties took one or more early childhood online, on-demand courses to improve their practice.	Coaching Certification 34 new coaches and 120 certified coaches earned or renewed their certification.	Communities of Practice Facilitator Training 19 new and 113 returning facilitators built skills to facilitate communities of practice with their staff and peers.
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Literacy Micro–Credential Spotlight

The Literacy Micro-Credentials are a hybrid model of online modules, instructor-supported online courses and on-the-job practice opportunities. This professional learning program equips birth to 12th-grade instructional personnel with foundational science of reading knowledge and skills to help students learn to read. Eligible participants earn a stipend for mastery of the content.

Over 12,000 educators successfully completed a micro-credential and earned a \$1,000 stipend.

2024–2025 Literacy Micro–Credential Participation by Track

Emergent 3,579	Elementary 5,791	Secondary 2,648
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Literacy

In addition to the Literacy Micro-Credentials, the UF Lastinger Center for Learning continues to support learners with online, on-demand professional learning pathways that lead to earning their Reading Endorsement or Florida's Literacy Coach Endorsement.

- **111** literacy coaches earned the Florida Literacy Coach Endorsement.
- **702** Florida teachers improved their literacy instruction at New Worlds Reading teacher institutes across the state.
- **1,079** teachers across Florida earned Reading Endorsements through the Literacy Matrix.

Mathematics

The UF Lastinger Center launched the new Math Matrix Micro-Credential statewide to improve mathematics education by building teachers' content and instructional knowledge. Participants completed 60 hours of professional learning that enhanced their instructional skill mastery and earned a \$1,000 stipend upon successful completion.

2024–2025 Participation

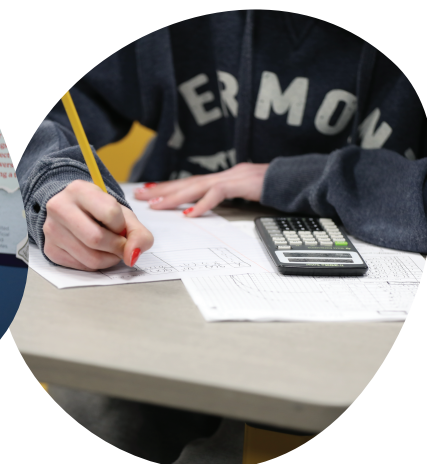
665 Teachers	50 Districts	350 Schools
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90%
of participants

Were satisfied with their learning

Considered the content relevant to their work

Used what they learned with their students



New Worlds Reading

New Worlds Reading is Florida’s free at-home literacy program to help eligible Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) through 5th grade children bolster literacy skills, build reading confidence, and develop a lifelong love of reading.

We offer:

- A **free book each month** (October through June) tailored to the child’s interests.
- **Resources and activities** carefully designed for families to use together to nurture children’s literacy skills and increase caregivers’ confidence and capacity.
- Caregiver workshops and community literacy events to engage with children and families. **Over 1,000 were held in 2024-2025!**
- **Professional learning** opportunities for educators.

Enrolled students earned up to **15% higher FAST reading scores** than their eligible non-enrolled peers.

	Since Program Creation in October 2021	In the 2024–2025 School Year
 Students served statewide	470,000+	306,000+
 Households served statewide	400,000+	260,000+
 Books shipped	11M+	4M+

“It’s wonderful because my daughter gets excited every time she receives a new book! It is also great because they are free and the books have a lot of information that my daughter gets to learn new things from.”

– Colleen G.



To be eligible, children must be VPK – 5th graders who are not yet meeting grade-level expectations in reading in Florida VPK programs, public schools, and charter schools.

Florida Tutoring Advantage

HB 1361 (2024) tasked the UF Lastinger Center for Learning with creating a program to help Florida school districts establish high-impact tutoring programs for students not yet on grade level in reading and/or math. After listening to districts to determine needs; soliciting vendor partnerships through UF’s largest procurement ever; establishing contracts, MOA’s, and data sharing agreements with vendors and districts; and connecting districts with vendors to meet the needs they identified; the Florida Tutoring Advantage pilot launched in spring of 2025.

During the spring 2025 pilot, 13 vendor partners provided tutoring services across 17 school districts. Services were provided in three modalities: in-person tutoring, instructor-led virtual tutoring, and automated software.

Enrolled K–5 students demonstrated, on average, **11% more growth in math and 10% more growth in reading compared to eligible peers who did not participate.**

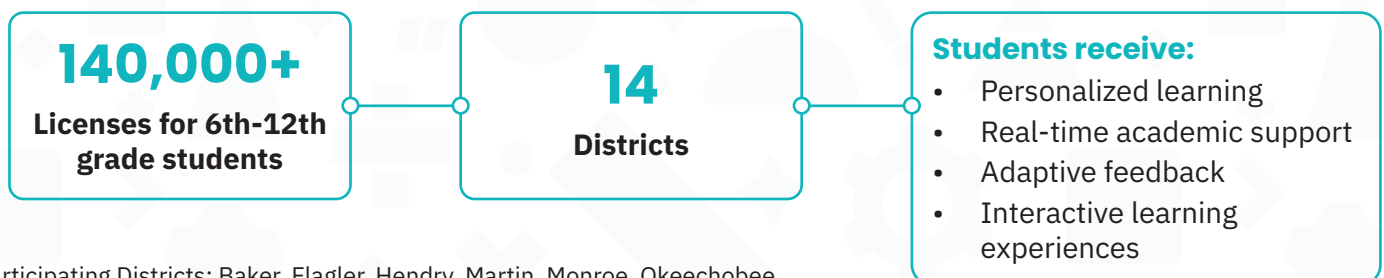
13 Vendor Partners	17 School Districts	3,500+ Students	11,500+ Sessions	25,000+ Hours
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Pilot Partners: Alachua, Baker, Bridge Prep Academy, Charlotte, Duval, Gadsden, Glades Academy, Hardee, Hillsborough, Lake, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Pasco, Sumter, Volusia

Due to the success of the pilot, the program is slated to serve 35 or more school districts in fall 2025.

Artificial Intelligence support for students and teachers through Khan Academy’s Khanmigo

Through a partnership with Khan Academy and school districts across the state, the Lastinger Center has implemented F.S. 1002.321(3) to extend high-quality learning support at scale. Through Khanmigo, students are empowered through interactive learning experiences, and teachers leverage AI to enhance instruction.



Participating Districts: Baker, Flagler, Hendry, Martin, Monroe, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Suwannee

“

I know it's important to have student-centered instruction, but this module did a great job in touching on how I can do a better job at it.

– **Secondary Math Educator**

“

Every Lastinger training I have participated in exceeds expectations: from hands-on materials to personable trainers, the time spent feels great and well taught – ready to deliver to my team and students.

– **Elementary Reading Educator**

“

This course has challenged my thinking and pushed me to learn new strategies and skills. The class was really great.

– **Early Childhood Educator**

The UF Lastinger Center for Learning strengthens education by building strategic partnerships, advocating for change, and fostering community engagement. We are committed collaborators who believe in the power of relationships to drive progress. Our research and data science initiatives support innovation, connect systems, and improve learning outcomes.

These efforts have led to impactful professional development programs in early childhood, literacy and mathematics for educators serving children from birth through 12th grade. With two decades of trusted leadership, we administer major statewide initiatives, New Worlds Reading and Florida Tutoring Advantage, demonstrating our commitment to supporting learners and educators across Florida.



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