

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY UNDER THE FLORIDA WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM, WHEREBY JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY WILL REIMBURSE THE SALARIES FOR ITS STUDENTS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$32,400, AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL COVER FRS/FICA RETIREMENT COSTS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,557, FROM JULY 1, 2001 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2002**

The Florida Work Experience Program was instituted to introduce eligible students to work experience that will complement and reinforce their educational program and career goals. Johnson & Wales University is a grantee institution that proposes to enter into a contractual agreement with Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) as an employer of part-time eligible students in paraprofessional positions. M-DCPS has been informed that funds will be available for the 2001-2002 school year. Johnson & Wales University, the sponsoring post-secondary institution, provides 100 percent of the wages of the students who will be hired as M-DCPS paraprofessional employees. These college students will provide instructional aid primarily with low-income, inner city area elementary and secondary students and secondly, with adult students lacking basic or functional literacy skills.

Johnson & Wales University students are paid an hourly rate equivalent to that of M-DCPS paraprofessionals. Enrollees in the program must meet the requirements set forth under Section 240.404, Florida Statutes. Johnson & Wales University will reimburse M-DCPS for actual salaries up to a maximum of \$32,400. M-DCPS' share of the cost is limited to paying FRS/FICA retirement costs, in an amount not to exceed \$5,557.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 2001-2002 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2001 under Fund 0100, Object 5150, Location 8001, Program 9274, Function 5102.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent or his designee to enter into a contractual agreement with Johnson & Wales University under the Florida Work Experience Program, whereby Johnson & Wales University will reimburse the salaries of its students, in an amount not to exceed \$32,400, and Miami-Dade County Public Schools will cover FRS/FICA retirement costs, in an amount not to exceed \$5,557, from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 2001-2002 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2001.

NJP:rn