

Education  
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH STATE AND PRIVATE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO PLACE STUDENT PHYSICAL AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS AND STUDENT PHYSICAL AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS WITH THERAPISTS SERVING AS CLINICAL INSTRUCTORS, FROM JULY 1, 2002 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003**

Several post-secondary educational institutions in the South Florida area offer a number of health-related training programs, including programs to train physical and occupational therapists and physical and occupational therapist assistants. Requests have been received from Miami-Dade Community College, Miami, Florida; Keiser College, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Florida International University, Miami, Florida; the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida; Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida; and Barry University, Miami Shores, Florida to enter into cooperative agreements in order for student trainees at these institutions to receive their practicum experience in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) physical and occupational therapy program. Other colleges and universities may make such requests during the school year. These cooperative agreements have been in effect since 1992.

The student physical and occupational therapists and therapist assistants will be assigned to a registered physical and/or occupational therapist who will serve as a clinical instructor. Trainees will be supervised by these registered physical and occupational therapists.

There is no exchange of funds.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent:

1. to enter into cooperative agreements with state and private colleges, universities, and community colleges to place student physical and occupational therapists and student physical occupational and therapist assistants, with therapists serving as clinical instructors, from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003; and
2. to renew the cooperative agreement for up to two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.