



April 28, 2021

**TO:** THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF VALENCIA COLLEGE

**FROM:** SANFORD C. SHUGART  
President

**RE:** PURCHASE OF DELL LAPTOP COMPUTERS FOR FACULTY, STAFF, AND  
STUDENTS

Among the challenges to the College created by the Covid-19 pandemic is the heavy demand for laptop computers as the result of the transitions to remote work environments and to the almost exclusive offerings of online courses. This enhanced demand has caused our current inventory of laptop computers to be deficient. Initially, to support student demand, the College quickly developed a free laptop loaner program (including webcams) using CARES funds so that students could continue with their online studies. To date, the college has issued over 3,000 laptops to students and the specific need going forward is stronger than ever.

These mobile devices are and will be more critical for both faculty and staff to complete their work in this new and changing environment. Mobility will allow for work from home with flexible working options and increased access to students as computers will no longer be tied to a desk. Students with the highest need, who now have become more comfortable with distance learning, will have challenges succeeding in their on-line classes unless more computers are provided.

Leveraging the Dell Technology Refresh Program (TRP) contract applicable to the Florida College System, Valencia College recommends the purchase of approximately 2,500 laptops for employee use and 1,200 laptops for student use from Dell, Inc. This purchase is estimated to cost \$4,170,000, with funding to be provided wholly through federal Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF 2 – CRRSAA).

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The President recommends that the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College authorize the College to enter into an agreement with Dell, Inc. for the purchase of laptops for both employee and student use, as presented.

  
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President