

# BUILDING FLORIDA'S INNOVATION ECONOMY

## Attracting and Retaining High-Skill Talent



Jennifer Grove, Workforce Development Coordinator at Gulf Power Company, joins the Florida Chamber Foundation's Education Summit to discuss the importance of STEM talent in today's workforce.

**"The Florida Chamber's long-term dedication to helping create a quality education system will help ensure students are prepared for a career or college."**

JENNIFER GROVE  
Gulf Power Company

### Why It Matters to Florida

One of the most common concerns we hear from businesses of all sizes is the need for a qualified workforce and highly-trained talent pool. The Florida Chamber believes a talented workforce is Florida's best long-term economic development strategy. From early learning to lifelong learning, Florida wins when we match business needs with talent. While the teachers' union continues to put their interests before Florida's students, the Florida Chamber will continue to fight for students and champion Florida's entire education system — especially Florida's future workforce.

The Florida Chamber's focus includes:

- ▶ Preparing Florida's Workforce and Addressing the Skills Gap
- ▶ Investing in Digital and Virtual Education Technology
- ▶ Adequately Preparing Florida's Youngest Learners
- ▶ Supporting STEM Initiatives
- ▶ Championing School Choice and Competition
- ▶ Continuing to Improve Florida's K-12 System
- ▶ Empowering Florida's Best Teachers

### Florida's Competitiveness Agenda

#### ▶ Supporting STEM Initiatives

*Renewing a focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) initiatives, with a renewed focus on Medicine, throughout Florida's education system gives students greater opportunities to become globally competitive. The Florida Chamber will continue to support efforts that introduce STEM concepts early in a child's education.*

#### ▶ Attracting and Retaining World Class Talent

*From manufacturing and engineering to R&D and medicine, attracting and retaining talent in emerging and targeted industries means advocating for programs that help our state remain competitive.*

### The Fight for Free Enterprise Continues

#### ACT NOW:

The Florida Chamber will continue to advocate for STEM as a way to help our students become globally competitive. We believe that a quality education and workforce development system is the best way to enable Floridians to compete in a 21st century global economy.

#### CONTACT:

##### BRITTNEY HUNT

Director of Talent, Education and Quality of Life Policy  
(850) 521-1279  
[bhunt@flchamber.com](mailto:bhunt@flchamber.com)

#### GET INVOLVED:

[www.FloridaChamber.com/Innovation](http://www.FloridaChamber.com/Innovation)