



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1253

1. Title of Project: First Star Central Florida Academy

2. Senate Sponsor: Randolph Bracy

3. Date of Submission: 02/06/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

50% of youth in foster care graduate high school. First Star is a national college prep program for youth in foster care with a 98% graduation rate. First Star Central Florida Academy, (FSCFA) is a career and college prep program for middle and high school students who have been exposed to poverty, trauma, and/or foster care. Using research based strategies, FSCFA focuses support on (1) educational advocacy, (2) mentoring, (3) psychosocial development, and (4) life skills education to cultivate in students the desire, knowledge and skills necessary to graduate high school and persist through college. Program activities include a STEAM after-school program focused on project-based learning, UCF campus visits, mentoring, guest speakers, tutoring, and career and college exploration through experiential learning. FSCFA will host professional development workshops to assist teachers in (1) developing trauma informed classrooms and (2) conducting and disseminating action based research.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Education

State Agency Contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	444,699
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	444,699

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	444,699	84.9%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	66,150	12.6%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	12,650	2.4%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	523,499	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes



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a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 450,000

10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Responsible for building the infrastructure, overseeing day-to-day operations and the development of grade-appropriate curriculum and activities, hiring and supervising staff, managing the budget, working with internal and external community constituents and schools to develop the program, identifying and developing mechanisms for financial viability and program support, supervising teacher researchers, conducting research on program efficacy and participant experiences.	107,100
Other Salary and Benefits	Assistant Director – Responsible for recruiting and retaining participants, assist with designing and implementing curriculum, training and supervising staff and volunteers, interface with Education Advocates and other primary adults to ensure participants’ academic/career/transition plan and overall wellbeing, develops and maintains accurate reports on participants, coordinates with school and community members to develop presentations, speaker series, campus tours, service learning, cultural a	88,200
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Local travel to and from program sites; National and international professional development/conference presentations and attendance; phone and workspace occupancy	11,633
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	First Star annual consultation fee	15,000
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	Education Advocates - a school faculty or staff member who will coordinate school-based tutoring, monitor student participation in tutoring, advocate for students academic and behavior wellbeing at the school. The program will have 1 per school site. Teacher Researchers - Identify problem of practice, conduct classroom research, disseminate results The program will have 10 teacher researchers per school site each year.	22,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	College tour for high school participants, after school program curriculum, program events and activities for participants/caregivers/mentors, participant laptops, UCF summer residential camp, local STEAM focused summer camps based on student interests	200,766
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		



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Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:	
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)	444,699

11. Program Performance:

a. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds requested?

First Star Central Florida Academy, (FSCFA) is a career and college preparation program for middle and high school students who have been exposed to poverty, trauma, and/or foster care. Nationally, 50% of youth in foster care graduate high school. Comparatively, 98% of youth in the national First Star program graduate high school, and the First Star Central Florida Academy has a graduation rate of 70%. The ultimate desired goal is that participating youth graduate high school prepared for post-secondary education and/or entrance into the work force and have the life skills to successfully transition to adulthood.

b. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

Using research based strategies, FSCFA will focus support on (1) educational advocacy, (2) mentoring, (3) psychosocial development, and (4) life skills education to cultivate in students the desire, knowledge and skills necessary to graduate high school and persist through college. Activities include in-school academic and behavior monitoring, after-school and summer enrichment programs, life skills and psychosocial skills development through experiential learning and college and career exploration.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

Direct services include tutoring, mentoring, an after school program focused on STEAM themed project-based learning, college tours, residential summer camp at UCF, opportunity to attend interest based summer camps, social and cultural events, guest speakers series, real world application to develop life and psychosocial skills, and career exploration. Additionally, professional development in action based research and developing trauma informed classrooms will be conducted with teachers.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

The target population is Orange County Public Schools' middle and high school students living in Pine Hills and Parramore who have been impacted by poverty, trauma, and/or foster care. Students will enter the program in 6th grade and be served through high school graduation in a cohort model. The program is expected to serve 1,100 students. Additionally, the program targets the 186 teachers working in schools that house the program through professional development and classroom action based research opportunities.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

The expected program outcomes are that (1) By the end of each academic year, 100% of participants who have a 70% program attendance rate or better will be on track for high school graduation, as measured by credits earned (2) By the end of students' junior year of high school, 100% of participants can identify a career and/or postsecondary goal and demonstrate understanding of how to access resources needed to pursue the goal. (3) Each year of high school, students' competencies needed to transition to adulthood will improve by .5% as



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measured by the Casey Life Skills Assessment. (4) By the end of each academic year, teachers who complete the action based research project will see a 5% increase in academic performance for the lowest 25% of students.

- f. **What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?**

None

12. **The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.**

n/a

13. **Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** DeShawn Chapman
- b. **Organization:** First Star Central Florida Academy
- c. **E-mail Address:** deshawn.chapman@ucf.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (321)239-3436

14. **Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** First Star Central Florida Academy
- b. **County:** Orange
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** DeShawn Chapman
- e. **E-mail Address:** deshawn.chapman@ucf.edu
- f. **Phone Number:** (321)239-3436

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** None
- b. **Firm Name:** None
- c. **E-mail Address:**
- d. **Phone Number:**