



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1426

1. **Project Title** Big Brothers Big Sisters Bigs Inspiring Scholastic Success (BISS) Project

2. **Senate Sponsor** Ed Hooper

3. **Date of Request** 11/06/2019

4. **Project/Program Description**

The purpose of Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida's Bigs Inspiring Scholastic Success (BISS) program is to help children reach their potential through professionally supported one-to-one relationships with measurable impact, with a primary focus on improving the child's ability to achieve academically through the positive influence of their volunteer mentor.

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

State Agency contacted? ☒ Yes ☐ No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	000
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	750000	50.0 %
Matching Funds		
Federal	00	0 %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	00	0 %
Local	00	0 %
Other	746,050	50 %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	1,496,050	100 %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2019-20	2,980,248	500,000	99	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 750,000



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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	The executive provides senior level direction and management in contractual relationships with BBBS local agencies in Florida. Benefits are approximately an additional 7.5% of the salaries and wages. Payroll taxes are also an additional 7.65% of the salaries and wages.	42,500
Other Salary and Benefits	The wages, payroll taxes and benefits for the director of operations and a part-time administrative associate. The director manages the program with the BBBS local agencies and is in direct contact with the Florida Department of Education. A part-time administrative associate assists with the standard review of monthly reports to ensure information is included by the BBBS local agencies. Benefits are estimated as an additional 9.0% of the salaries and wages.	65,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Expenses for liability insurance, travel to BBBS local agencies for program evaluation, supplies, postage, support services.	14,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Consultants and contract services for audit, program reporting and evaluation, and payroll service fees. The allocation of the expense is in proportion of the project to the overall operation of Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida. Additional contracted services for on-line services, technology, communications and website for the Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida BISS project.	26,700
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contract service agreements between Big Brothers Big Sisters Association and BBBS local agencies ensuring quality one-to-one mentor services for youth in following the BBBS national standards. Costs for direct services for youth including professional academic assessment, preparation of youth development plans, monthly contact by a BBBS professional for support offered to the youth and parent as well as professional support for volunteer mentors.	600,800
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		750,000



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11. Program Performance

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

The purpose of Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida's Bigs Inspiring Scholastic Success (BISS) program is to help children reach their potential through professionally supported one-to-one relationships with measurable impact, with a primary focus on improving the child's ability to achieve academically through the positive influence of their volunteer mentor.

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

Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida through our network of BBBS member agencies provides mentoring services and support for youth between the ages of 5 and 18, in elementary, middle or high school. Youth are determined at-risk of academic failure because of factors such as poor academic performance, a history of truancy, economic disadvantage, among others. Every youth is assessed and evaluated for participation in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Mentors are recruited, background screened and trained in BBBS guidelines for mentoring youth. BBBS local agencies assign professional mentor managers to monitor and support volunteer mentors and activities. Mentor managers are in regular contact with the youth, the parent or guardian of the youth and volunteer mentors. Through contact with the school and educational professionals, the mentor managers monitor progress of each youth participant and completion of the annual youth development plan.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

The funding for BISS is spent for direct program services and support for youth who are at-risk academically. With an annual cost to the State of Florida of \$1,250 per youth served, BBBS local agencies will support delivery of one-to-one mentoring to individual youth. Mentor support activities including intake of volunteers and youth, assessments of prospective youth and volunteers; background screening; case plan and youth development planning; case management monthly support; volunteer mentor training; community and school needs assessments; activity reports, tracking and safety evaluations; fiscal and program accountability activities.

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

BISS provides mentoring services and support for youth in grades K- 12 (between the ages of 5 and 18), in elementary, middle or high school. Youth are determined at-risk of academic failure because of factors such as poor academic performance, a history of truancy, economic disadvantage, among others. BBBSAF will match an estimated 2,984 youth with mentors during the project year and during the project year every youth matched with a mentor will attend mentor sessions with their mentor.

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

BISS incorporates the first goal of the State's K-20 Strategic Education Plan, which is to "increase the proficiency of all students." BISS measures gains across four domains related to student learning gains, including academic performance, school attendance, grade level promotion, and behavioral outcomes – all of which lead to improved student learning. To ensure success, children and youth who participate in BISS receive one-on-one weekly and/or bi-weekly mentoring sessions with regular homework and academic assistance as the key focus. Mentors address social, confidence and behavioral issues and encourage their Little to behave well in class, and provide positive role modeling on how to interact with others. Outcomes are measured in relation to a baseline risk assessment determining an incremental measure of gains in youth academic performance and attitudes during participation in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

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?

The performance deliverables include the number of mentor sessions, the number of training sessions, and the number of youth served. A financial penalty is assessed for not reaching a goal for each performance measure on a per unit basis for service delivery below a minimum accepted level of performance. The financial consequences are measurable and specific to program performance and are tied to BBBS service delivery.



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12. The owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

N/A

13. Requestor Contact Information

- a. First Name Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.

14. Recipient Contact Information

- a. Organization
- b. Municipality and County
- c. Organization Type
- ☐ For-profit Entity
 - ☐ Non-Profit 501(c) (3)
 - ☐ Non-Profit 501(c) (4)
 - ☐ Local Entity
 - ☐ University or College
 - ☒ Other (please specify)
- d. First Name Last Name
- e. E-mail Address
- f. Phone Number

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.