



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1422

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

DREAM'S programming focuses on sparking life-long interest in STEM in youth of color in grades K-8 (six to thirteen years old).

DREAM'S flagship program, DREAM Academy, is a blended, STEM and sports-based afterschool youth development program with a culturally competent curriculum that provides homework assistance, develops positive behaviors, and drives improved student outcomes in reading, writing, math, science, health, and art.

STEM Saturdays transforms locations into "Incubators of Excellence" by engaging youth ages 7-16 through STEM activities on the weekends at no cost to participants and their families.

Virtually we have expanded both programs throughout the state of Florida.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	540,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	540,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	540,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	540,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	1,080,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2020-21		540,000	114	Yes

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.



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Corporate donations, private donor funding, CBDG, and other donations.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

35000 was requested from the PPP loan. 50000 was requested from the SBA.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	To cover partial salary of the Executive Director.	35,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Executive assistant, chief of staff and office interns	80,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Laptops, office rent, office supplies, technology, travel expense and office equipment	40,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Accountant, Graphic designer, lawyer, STEM consultant, operations consultant	25,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Director of Programming, Operations manager, Program coordinator, site coordinators, STEM Enhancement Coordinators salaries; staff that work with the students after school and on the weekends. 40 staff members	125,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	PPE, STEM kits, financial literacy workbooks, socio-emotional curriculum, sports equipment, health & wellness equipment, mentorship manuals and books, book bags, student supplies, and additional STEM supplies. Mileage for employees and other office supplies.	185,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Youth Sports Coordinators salaries, Mentorship/socio-emotional consultants, STEM professional consultants.	50,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		540,000

12. Program Performance

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

DREAM'S programming focuses on sparking life-long interest in STEM in youth of color in grades K-8 (six to thirteen years old).

DREAM'S flagship program, DREAM Academy, is a blended, STEM and sports-based afterschool youth development program with a culturally competent curriculum that provides homework assistance, develops positive behaviors, and drives improved student outcomes in reading, writing, math, science, health, and art.

STEM Saturdays transforms community centers into "Incubators of Excellence" by engaging youth ages 7-16 through STEM activities on the weekends at no cost to participants and their families.

The goal of STEM Saturdays is to engage the entire community in Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM). By facilitating engaging events on Saturdays, all stakeholders - parents, teachers, community volunteers and/or corporate volunteers, will be given an opportunity to engage students in fun, and educational STEM-Based activities virtually.

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



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These funds will serve over 1000 youth throughout the state of Florida. Funds will be used to provide for PPE, STEM kits, stipends to after-school coordinators, nutritional meals, and social-emotional toolkits; social-emotional toolkits help youth develop social competencies—such as resiliency, self-management, and responsible decision-making skills—that are crucial for success in life and academics.

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

Through DREAM Academy and STEM Saturdays, scholars will engage in hands on activities to enhance their development. Through our blended, STEM and sports-based after-school youth development program with a culturally competent curriculum that provides homework assistance, develops positive behaviors, and drives improved student outcomes in reading, writing, math, science, health, and art.

The DREAM Academy engages participants every school day. The daily schedule consists of:

1. Homework and Academic Tutoring, individualized support facilitated by dedicated and trained teachers and teacher's aides;
2. STEM workshops, engaging and interactive STEM projects facilitated by DREAM's expert STEM professional and DREAM's Enhancement Coordinators;
3. Blended Activities and Workshops, custom designed programming that bridges sports, academic skills and life skills training.

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

Our target demographic, K-12 students of color from low-income communities in Orlando, North Miami, Liberty City, Opa Locka, Broward County, Homestead and Allapattah. The student population in these areas are 91% African-American and 9% Hispanic, with 94% of students eligible for free or reduced lunch. Approximately half of children living in our recruitment area live below the poverty line, in communities where the unemployment rate is consistently above 35%. For these students and their families, cost of and access to quality afterschool programming is too often a barrier to entry. Languages spoken: Spanish, Creole, and English. Average age: 34, Average Income: \$33,849.

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

Program outcomes include improvement in attendance, overall school rating, average student GPAs, FSA math scores, reduction in crimes rates, increase interest in STEM related subject and program completion.

Outcomes will be driven by high-quality, well-staffed programs. Competitive personnel stipends and benefits will ensure highly-qualified, experienced professionals are designing, implementing and monitoring an engaging curriculum for participants. High-quality programming will not only keep students invested through the entirety of the school year, but it will also set them up for a successful educational experience. Additionally, a culturally competent STEAM curriculum will engage participants and ensure they find value and opportunity in the 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 the contract?

If certain objectives and deliverables are not met, we will look at returning the funds received.

13. 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



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14. Requestor Contact Information

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

15. 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

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

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