



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

Fort Lauderdale Education Enrichment Program Application

Bureau/Office

Bureau of Family and Community Outreach

TAPS Number

24A337

Program Name

Fort Lauderdale Education Enrichment Program

Funding Purpose/Priorities

To enrich the summer program and to promote learning continuity through expanded academic services in the City's after school program, which has contributed to closing the learning gap children have experienced. The project intends to build on the success of the City's summer academic program and expand services to include after school enrichment, workforce exploration and citizenship development.

Total Funding Amount

\$704,836

Type of Award

Discretionary Non-Competitive

Budget/Program Performance Period

July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

Target Population(s)

Low-income households

Narrative Section

Scope of Work/Narrative

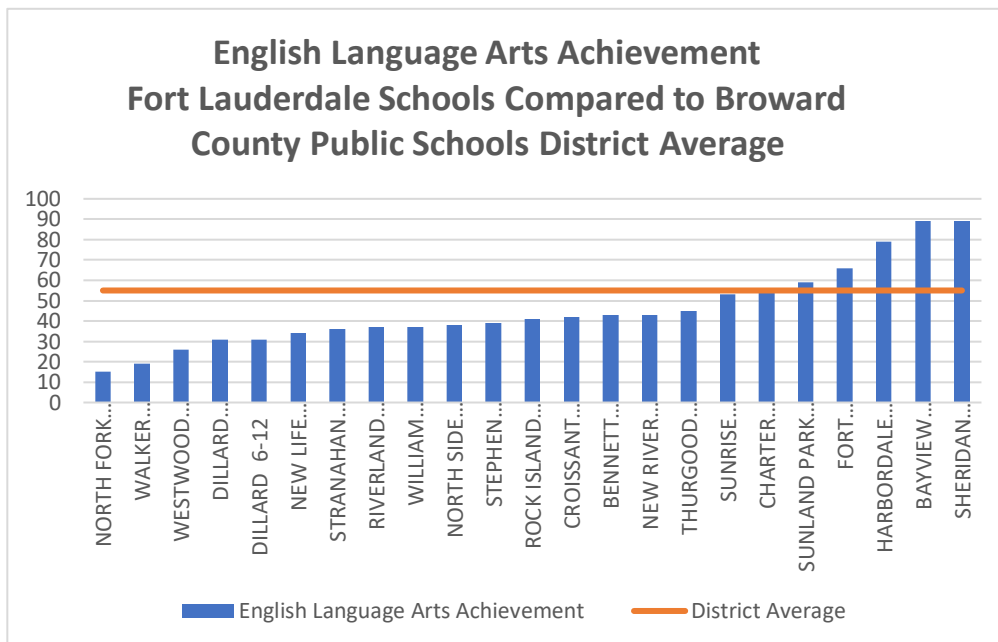
1. Project Abstract

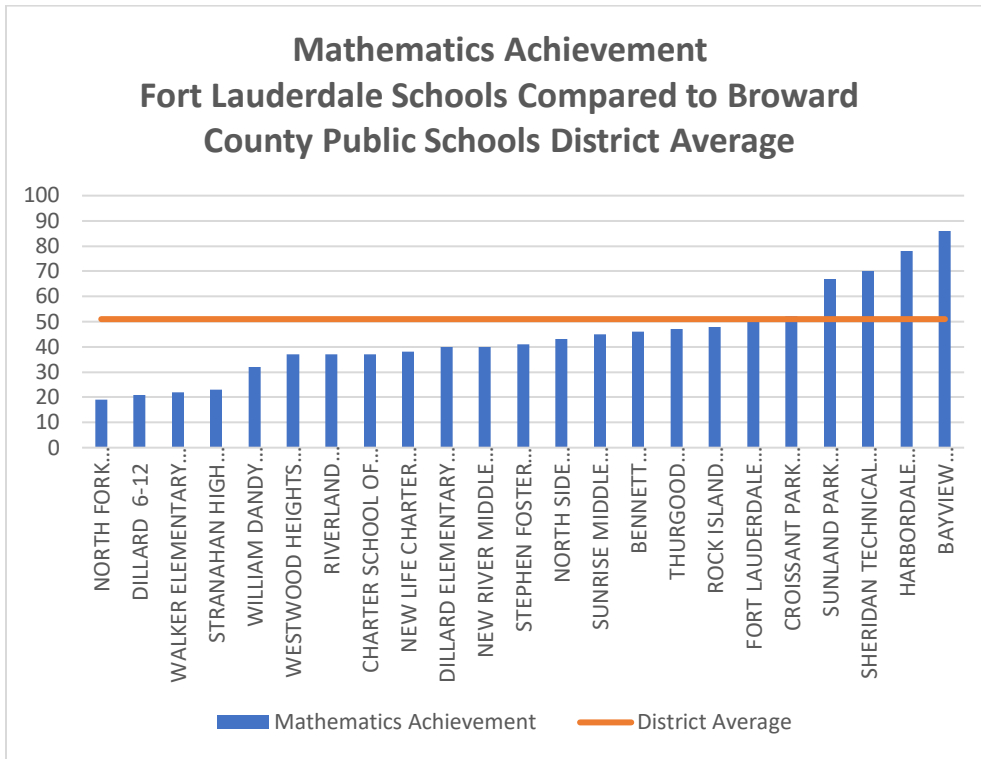
The City of Fort Lauderdale's Education Enrichment Program promotes academic achievement, workforce readiness and citizenship development for over 1,500 low-income children and youth, ages 5 to 18. Certified teachers deliver career-aligned academic enrichment and tutoring through after school and summer programs, using evidence-based curriculum and reliable progress monitoring tools. The program provides supplementary career and college readiness training and civic education through a workshop series. Additionally, the program expands work-based learning opportunities by offering 30 paid summer internships for eligible high school students.

2. Program Need

On average, Fort Lauderdale schools scored lower than the Broward County Public Schools (district) in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics, according to the 2022 Florida Standards Assessment. On average 45% of students in Fort Lauderdale schools scored proficient in ELA compared to the district average of 55%. In Mathematics, 44% achieved proficiency compared to the district average of 51%.

The neighborhoods targeted for the City of Fort Lauderdale's program reside in communities zoned for the lowest performing schools in the district where average ELA proficiency is between 15% and 45% and Math proficiency is between 19% and 48%.





3. Target Population – Participants

a. The target population to be served, including number of youth, adults, age range and risk factors.

b.

The program serves low-income children and youth, ages 5 to 18, through out-of-school time programs, workforce readiness training, civic education, and paid summer internships.

Program Element	Description	Enrollment
Out-of-School Time Programs		
PLAY Aftercare Program	Tutoring for Kindergarten – 5 th grade students through the city’s accredited PLAY (Promoting Lifetime Activities for Youth) aftercare program delivered at 6 locations.	275
TRIP Teen Program	College exploration and support through Teen Recreational Intramural Program (TRIP) delivered at 7 locations.	100

Community Summer Camps	Academic enrichment through 8 elementary school camps and 1 middle/high school camp.	900
Specialized Summer Camps	Academic enrichment through specialized camps for elementary and middle school students, focusing on art, coding, and fitness.	290
Workforce Readiness & Civic Education		
Workshop Series - Spring	Monthly job readiness and civic education workshops for middle and high school students.	100
Workshop Series – Summer	Weekly job readiness training and support for students employed at the city during the summer with a targeted focus on careers in the public sector.	63
Summer Internships	Salaries for 30 summer interns, nearly doubling the city’s paid jobs for summer youth.	30

Regarding risk factors, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in significant learning loss, creating a clarion call for extended learning opportunities to help students catch up. The city’s Education Enrichment program addresses the disparate learning impact on low-income children that persists beyond the pandemic by providing summer and after school enrichment and college and career support for at risk students.

c. The recruitment strategies and whether those strategies have been designed to identify and recruit the participants displaying the highest need.

The city’s recruitment efforts target children and youth from low-income neighborhoods, resulting in over 90% of program participants qualifying for city subsidies that cover part or all of program fees. Recruitment strategies include outreach through community centers, schools, and faith-based organizations in communities with the greatest need. The city offers scholarships to qualifying participants to ensure program affordability, including free enrollment for the most economically disadvantaged families.

Recruitment	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
*Activities/Meetings - Participants			14	14
Activities/Meetings-Volunteers				

*Each community center conducts at least one recruit meeting/activity quarterly.

4. School and Instructional Enhancement Programs

Describe the school and instructional enhancement programs including:

a. Program Goals

The program goals are to improve academic performance in reading and math, promote workforce readiness and increase civic engagement among low-income children and youth, ages 5 to 18.

b. Program Description

To promote academic performance in reading and math, the city provides tutoring and academic enrichment through the Parks & Recreation's out-of-school time programs. Certified teachers provide evidence-based instruction and targeted academic support to children and youth ages 5 to 14 enrolled in the city's accredited PLAY afterschool program and summer camps. Field trips are offered throughout the program to apply learning and create awareness of various careers. Additionally, college and career navigation support services are offered to youth ages 14-18 enrolled in the TRIP teen program.

Promoting workforce readiness and civic engagement is an area of targeted focus and expansion in 2023-24. To achieve these goals, the city hosts a two-part career exploration and job readiness workshop series. Workshops offered in the Spring orient youth to jobs across industries and prepare them to apply for summer and part-time jobs. The Summer workshops provide targeted, weekly professional development to a cohort of 63 high school students employed by the city over the summer. Training includes peer collaboration, career-focused field trips and opportunities to earn job-readiness certificates.

To expand youth employment opportunities, the Education Enrichment grant funds summer internship salaries for 30 eligible high school students, increasing the city's paid summer jobs by nearly half.

c. Times and Frequency

Upon the state's approval of the application, the city will execute contracts with specialized academic vendors to begin delivering services, with an expected start date of February. Services will continue through summer of 2024. Please see below for an overview of the frequency of various program components.

Program Element	Time Frame	Frequency
Out-of-School Time Programs		
PLAY Aftercare Tutoring	Tutoring for Kindergarten – 5 th grade students through accredited aftercare program delivered at 6 locations.	2 – 8 hours/per week February-May

TRIP Teen college preparation	College exploration and support through Teen Recreational Intramural Program (TRIP) delivered at 7 locations.	Monthly February-May
Community Summer Camps	Academic enrichment through 8 elementary school camps and 1 middle/high school camp.	4 hours per week June-August
Specialized Summer Camps	Academic enrichment through specialized camps for elementary and middle school students, focusing on art, coding and fitness.	4 hours per week June-August
Workforce Readiness & Civic Education		
Workforce Readiness Workshop Series- Spring	Job readiness and civic education workshops for teens middle and high school students.	Monthly February-May
Workforce Readiness Workshop Series - Summer	Weekly professional development and public sector career exploration to a cohort of 63 high school students employed by the city over the summer.	Weekly June-August
Paid Summer Internships	Paid summer internships for high school students, ages 16-18.	

d. Type

Program Activities/Services	Number of Participants				Number of Activities per Participant			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
PLAY Aftercare tutoring			250				1-4 weekly sessions	
TRIP college preparation			100				1-2 monthly sessions	
Community Summer Camps				900				4 days per week
Specialized Summer Camps				290				
Workforce Readiness Workshop Series - Spring			100				2 per month	
Workforce Readiness Workshop Series - Summer				63				Weekly
Summer Internships				30				5 days per

									week (30 hours)
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e. Program staff:

Title	Description	Credentials
Senior Enrichment Director (1)	Oversees training, quality assurance and reporting for education enrichment and workforce development programs.	Teaching certificate; Management experience
Enrichment Director (2)	Provide ongoing support and monitoring of assigned programs (organized by geography).	Teaching certificate
Administrative aide (1)	Supports data entry and grant compliance.	Data entry experience
Teacher (28)	Provide instruction.	Teaching certificate

f. Staff/volunteer training

All staff participating in the city's accredited PLAY after care program are required to complete 24 hours of childcare licensing training. All summer camp staff are required to complete 10 hours of training on policies and procedures related to safety, working with children with special needs, accident reporting, bullying, conflict resolution and communication. Teachers are required to participate in curriculum training and weekly professional development.

Training: Number of Sessions	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Volunteers: Required				
Volunteers: Optional				
Staff Training/Professional Learning: Required			10 hours	*32 hours
Staff Training/Professional Learning: Optional				

*The administrative aide is not required to participate in the weekly teacher training.

g. Partnerships

The city contracts with specialized vendors, such as Junior Achievement of South Florida, to deliver program objectives in accordance with Fort Lauderdale's procurement process.

5. Participant Program Objectives

The program participant objectives are as follows:

- 75% of program participants enrolled in the city's afterschool program and summer enrichment camps will improve their academic performance as demonstrated by mastery of new skills in English Language Arts and Mathematics.
- 80% of parents surveyed will report satisfaction with the academic component of the city's after school program and summer enrichment camps.
- 80% of program participants in the job readiness/citizenship development workshops will report an improved awareness of career pathways, job skills and government operations as measured by pre/post surveys.
- 80% of students participating in the Summer Workforce Readiness Workshop Series will earn a Ready to Work certificate or comparable job readiness certificate upon completion of summer employment.

6. Program Evaluation Plan

a. Identification and description of the assessment tools for each program objective.

The city administers a diagnostic assessment to benchmark learning needs in reading and math and conducts a summative assessment at the conclusion of the program to measure learning gains. Throughout the Education Enrichment program, the city uses a mastery learning approach to differentiate and remediate instruction based on student's needs with the support of a digital, personalized learning platform. Selected assessment tools are approved by the Florida Department of Education.

b. A description of how the assessment tools will be applied to each participant as applicable, including assessment format and timing.

The diagnostic is administered within the first week of the after school or summer program and typically takes 20 minutes to complete for each subject. Formative assessments are taken regularly as the student progresses along his/her personalized learning pathway with an estimated 40 minutes per subject weekly. Targeted small group and one-on-one support is provided to accelerate learning. The summative assessment is administered at the conclusion of the program and takes approximately 20 minutes per subject.

c. A description of the data collection protocols.

Parental consent includes permission to collect and monitor academic data through selected assessment tools. The data are only used for the purpose of improving instruction within the scope of the city's Education Enrichment program and are not shared outside of program staff and parents.

d. A description of the process to complete an End-of-Year evaluation to assess progress toward achieving the program objectives.

Academic assessments, attendance data and qualitative measures collected through surveys and participant testimonials are triangulated to evaluate the learning outcomes and identify opportunities for program enhancements.

e. A description of the process to review the End-of-Year evaluation results and make program adjustments as needed.

Program staff convene at the conclusion of the program to review data and discuss success factors and challenges. Small group discussions are facilitated with instructional and operational team members to evaluate the program from their distinct vantage points. As a whole group, the instructional and operational teams report the strengths and challenges identified, followed by an action-oriented discussion focused on continuous improvement.

f. A description of how the previous year's evaluation results were used to refine, improve and strengthen this year's program or activities, as applicable.

The program has been refined over the course of three summers. Based on teacher feedback, the city implemented a new curriculum and integrated assessment platform in 2022 and again in 2023 to support targeted instruction and progress monitoring. Additionally, the schedule for education enrichment has been refined to ensure consistent instructional dosage across sites and to optimize the timing of the academic enrichment block. In 2023, the city incorporated career-aligned project-based learning, focused on aviation and supported by experts at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport. Participants' interest in aviation themed projects led the city to expand workforce development training this year. Additionally, data and teacher feedback highlighted the need for specialized resources and support for struggling readers in the early primary grades, which is another area of focus for the 2023-24 school year.

7. Support for Reading/Strategic Imperatives

The Education Enrichment program supports the State of Florida's strategic imperatives to increase achievement growth on Florida Assessments and close the achievement gap by providing high-quality out-of-school time academic programs. The city uses curriculum aligned to state standards and assessment tools approved by the Florida Department of Education. Additionally, the city's expanded focus on career and college preparation are designed to support the state's goals related to post-secondary completion by educating them on different training pathways to gainful careers.