

Budget Detail Request - Fiscal Year 2016-17

Your request will not be officially submitted unless all questions and applicable sub parts are answered.

1. Title of Project: State Academic Tournament
2. Date of Submission: 12/21/2015
3. House Member Sponsor(s): Colleen Burton

4. DETAILS OF AMOUNT REQUESTED:

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? Yes
If answer to 4a is ?NO? skip 4b and 4c and proceed to 4d
- b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded? 2015-16
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No
- d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request (Note that Column E will be the total of Recurring funds requested and Column F will be the total Nonrecurring funds requested, the sum of which is the Total of the Funds you are requesting in Column G):

FY:	Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project for FY 2015-16 (If appropriated in FY 2015-16 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2016-17 (If no new Recurring or Nonrecurring funding is requested, enter zeros.)			
	Column: A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column A + Column B)	Recurring Base Budget (Will equal non-vetoed amounts provided in Column A)	INCREASED or NEW Recurring Requested	TOTAL Nonrecurring Requested (Nonrecurring is one time funding & must be re-requested every year)	Total Funds Requested Over Base Funding (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column E + Column F)
Input Amounts:	132,738	0	132,738	132,738	67,262	0	67,262

- e. New Nonrecurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
 Operating Expenses Fixed Capital Construction Other one-time costs
- f. New Recurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
 Operating Expenses Fixed Capital Construction Other one-time costs

5. Requester:

- a. Name: Lisa Windham Rawls
- b. Organization: Polk County School Districts
- c. Email: lisa.rawls@polk-fl.net
- d. Phone #: (863)298-5713

6. Organization or Name of Entity Receiving Funds:

- a. Name: Polk County School Districts
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended) Polk
- c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding) Statewide

7. Write a project description that will serve as a stand-alone summary of the project for legislative review. The description should summarize the entire project's intended purpose, the purpose of the funds requested (if request is a sub-part of the entire project), and most importantly the detail on how the funds requested will be spent - for example how much will be spent on positions and associated salaries, specifics on capital costs, and detail of operational expenses. The summary must list what local, regional or statewide interests or areas are served. It should also document the need for the funds, the community support and expected results when applicable. Be sure to include the type and amount of services as well as the number of the specific target population that will be served (such as number of home health visits to X, # of elderly, # of school aged children to receive mentoring, # of violent crime victims to receive once a week counseling etc.)

Academic Tourney

Project's Purpose

The Academic Tourney funds a statewide academically based competition for high-achieving students in grades 9 ? 12.

The project's goals are to:

1. To provide highly academic high school competition to stretch our most accomplished students and provide a lifetime, family-oriented experience and appropriate recognition.
2. To encourage broad participation and an experience among top peers by defraying costs for participating teams.
3. To sharpen skills for teachers and to challenge this promising student population.

The program relates to the Strategic Plan - B.3 - Enhance & strengthen school & district level partnerships and exemplifies the Florida Department of Education's mission by providing students with the ?opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through learning opportunities.?

As one of our tournament attendees put it?

?The opportunity to spend time with other smart kids is great. It is nice to be rewarded for academically working hard.?

By funding the statewide academic competition, the Academic Tourney is the impetus for establishing academic teams and tournaments in many of our state's school districts. The state level competition is the ultimate goal and provides a prestigious arena where students are recognized for their academic prowess.

Purpose of funds

- ? Team grants for student registration costs.
- ? Operating expenses of the tournament (event registrations, rooms, incidental travel)
- ? Fund half the salary and benefits of the tournament director
- ? support the learning needs of targeted student groups by providing materials and training to educators

Detail of Expenditures

Salaries - \$76,494.76

Operational Expenses - \$56,233.24

Interests Served

Local ? individual district academic teams use materials developed by the Academic Tourney to prepare teams for local competition

Regional ? district academic teams come together for pre-tournament scrimmages using materials developed by the Academic Tourney to prepare for state-level competition

Statewide ? all 67 school districts are invited by The Commissioner to send a 6 member team to participate in the state competition in April to compete for the title of State Champion

Need

Need for operating support stems from year-long activities to bring together teachers to be trained in constructing curricular-based, challenging questions, to organize volunteers who help plan and operate the actual competition, to keep corporate sponsors informed and enthused, and to follow up with proper recognition for star students.

A major portion of the preparation for the state academic tournament is writing and editing questions in the stated subject areas. Funding is used by the tournament director to solicit and train teachers with subject-area expertise to write and review questions related to state curricular benchmarks. Quality of questions developed by trained teachers is a credit to the creativity and depth of knowledge and instructional skills of the question authors.

Community Support

Districts academic teams receive support from local business organizations, news outlets, school volunteers and parents.

The state tournament is supported by members of the educational community including Herff-Jones (rings to champions in each division) and the Florida High School Athletic Association (trophies and medallions to top 2 teams in each division). Walt Disney World negotiates contractual 20% discounts on food beverage and a 10% discount on audio-visual equipment rental rates. Group room rates are also extended as an additional courtesy. Polk and Pinellas Counties are co-hosts of the state level event and Pinellas contributes \$10,000 annually.

Districts are asked to contribute an additional \$2000 toward tournament support above the required costs to attend the event. A handful of districts send these additional contributions.

Expected Results

? It is expected that school districts from around the state will send a six member team to compete in the state academic team competition for the chance to be crowned State Champion. All 67 districts are invited to attend and on average 38 ? 40 districts attend annually.

? It is expected that the more than 1,000 assessment items developed annually for use in tournament competition are to be written by educators from Florida school districts. These items are developed using state adopted materials found in classrooms throughout the state.

? It is expected that teams will compete in a double-elimination tournament answering questions in the areas of language arts, the fine arts, foreign language, the humanities, mathematics, science, social studies, health and PE, and technology.

? It is expected that a State Champion will be crowned in each of three divisions.

Target Population to be Served

All 67 school districts are invited to participate in the state academic tournament. If all 67 districts sent a 6 member high school team along with one coach and one co-coach the number of individuals served would be 536.

Currently there are an average of 38 ? 40 districts that participate making the number of individuals served at the event 300 and 320.

Keeping in mind that the state tournament hosts the best of the best from across the state, there are hundreds of high school students involved in local academic competitions leading up to the state championship. These students are served via the Academic Tourney grant as well due to the fact that competing districts use the state tournament format in their local competitions and incorporate questions obtained directly from the tournament office.

8. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2016-17 from all sources of funding:

Federal: 0

State: 0 (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column G)

Local: 70,000

Other: 0

9. Is this a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year?

Yes