



# State Farm Education Assist Fund 2018 Guidelines

Community  
Foundation  
for Greater Atlanta



## **ABOUT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR GREATER ATLANTA**

Since 1951, the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta has been connecting donors, nonprofits and community leaders to strengthen the 23-county Atlanta region through philanthropy. As a top 20 community foundation of approximately 750 nationally, with approximately \$1.1 billion in current assets, Georgia's second largest foundation exists to connect the passions of donors with the purposes nonprofits strive to improve. Through its quality services and innovative leadership on community issues, the Foundation received more than \$144 million from donors in 2017 (unaudited) and distributed more than \$100 million that same year to support nonprofits throughout the region and beyond. For more information, visit: [cfgreateratlanta.org](http://cfgreateratlanta.org) or connect with the Foundation via [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

At the Community Foundation, we believe in the power and potential of individuals and organizations to change communities, whether those communities are physical neighborhoods, a group of individuals with a common interest or a cohort of organizations focused on similar issues. We play a variety of roles, but our key goal is to be the connecting point for the various partners, nonprofit organizations and community leaders working together toward the common vision of stronger greater Atlanta region.

## **ABOUT STATE FARM**

State Farm, well known for being a "good neighbor" by "being there" for its customers, was founded in 1922 by retired farmer and insurance salesman George Jacob "G.J." Mecherle. Originally a single-line auto insurance company, State Farm now offers 100 products and services in five different lines of business, including property and life insurance, banking products and mutual funds. As a mutual company, State Farm is focused on its policyholders. Its mission is to help people manage the risks of everyday life, recover from the unexpected and realize their dreams. It insures more cars and homes than any other insurer in the U.S., handling nearly 39,000 claims per day. State Farm is currently ranked number 33 on the Fortune 500 list of largest companies.

State Farm has a rich history of giving back to the communities where people live and work. Its values support building safer, stronger and better educated communities. Aligning with its company mission, State Farm supports social good efforts through:

- Auto, home safety programs and activities that help people manage the risks of everyday life.
- Disaster preparedness, recovery programs and services that help people recover from the unexpected.
- Education, economic empowerment and community development projects, programs and services that help people realize their dreams.

## **ABOUT THE STATE FARM EDUCATION ASSIST FUND**

The State Farm Education Assist Fund is being launched in 2018 to build safer, stronger and better educated communities in South DeKalb. The fund provides mini-grants (grants of \$1,500 or less) to South DeKalb community groups and nonprofit organizations taking an active role in strengthening and improving their communities. The fund is administered by a select group of promising young State Farm Scholars from the South DeKalb area who are currently attending Georgia State University's Perimeter College and have a passion for giving back to their home community.

Grant awards are made based on a number of factors, including those outlined on page 2 and 3 of these guidelines. Grants will range from \$500-\$1,500 for a 6-to-12 month grant period. Each grantee will be asked to complete a report on its progress and challenges at the end of the grant period.

## AREAS OF INTEREST

The State Farm Education Assist Fund supports community groups and nonprofit organizations that strengthen and improve communities in South DeKalb. The fund is particularly interested in supporting efforts in the following issue areas:

- Youth development and leadership
  - Ex: afterschool programs, sports programs, leadership development programs, standardized test tutoring, travel/field trip opportunities
- Higher education
  - Ex: school textbook and supplies support, tutoring, mentoring programs, transportation assistance, housing and food aid, club and school organization support
- Health and wellness
  - Ex: senior programs, health clinics, outside activities, homelessness programs, chronic disease management, mental health programs, exercise programs, therapy/counseling, addiction and substance abuse recovery programs
- Arts and culture
  - Ex: visual and performing arts funding, public art volunteer opportunities, art field trips, up-and-coming artist support
- Environmental responsibility
  - Ex: gardening programs, park clean-ups, climate change education, recycling programs
- Safety
  - Ex: neighborhood watch programs, transportation access, creating safe spaces for children and youth, anti-bullying programs, graffiti removal
- Financial literacy
  - Ex: financial literacy classes and workshops, financial planning opportunities
- Workforce development
  - Ex: soft skills training, job training, job opportunities, youth internships, re-entry programs

## HOW APPLICANTS ARE PRIORITIZED

The State Farm Education Assist Fund will give priority to eligible organizations and requests that:

- Are located in and/or serve residents of the specific geographic area of South DeKalb, which is defined as the portion of DeKalb County that is below Interstate 20. This includes all of zip code areas 30034 and 30038 as well as parts of zip code areas 30094, 30315, 30316, 30288 and 30294 (to determine whether your organization is in the priority area, please use [this map](#));
- Work with underserved populations, disadvantaged children, youth, adults and families or those without adequate resources and opportunities; and
- Provide a reasonable project budget and timeline.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The State Farm Education Assist Fund will follow the schedule below:

### 2018 SCHEDULE

Monday, June 11 at noon	Grant application material made available online
Wednesday, July 11 at noon	Grant application deadline
Wednesday, June 20 at 5 p.m.	Webinar Orientation. To register click <a href="#">here</a> .
Friday, July 27 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Site visits (via phone or in person) are conducted as needed
Friday, November 16	Applicants are notified of funding decision

## APPLICATION PROCESS

- 1] Organizations interested in this funding opportunity must complete an online application available [here](#) and [budget](#) by noon on Wednesday, July 11, 2018.
- 2] State Farm Scholars and Foundation staff review applications. Select organizations will receive site visits on Friday, July 27, if needed.
- 3] Funding recommendations are made to the State Farm Board of Trustees and grants are awarded.
- 4] Organizations receiving grants will be required to complete an end-of-grant report at the end of the 6-to-12 month grant period.

## APPLICANT ORIENTATION

Nonprofits and community groups interested in learning more about this funding opportunity should register for the orientation webinar on **June 20, 2018**. To register, click [here](#).

## ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

Community groups and nonprofit organizations seeking funding must meet the following criteria to be eligible to receive a grant from the State Farm Education Assist Fund:

- Must provide services that align with the areas of interest outlined on page 3.
- Must provide services in the South DeKalb area defined on page 3.
- Must be led by at least two unrelated people. Volunteers or paid staff are eligible.
- Must have a bank account with at least two signatures.
- Must have a working history of at least one year.
- Must be one of the following organization types:
  - Community group or organization (can be non-501c3 or 501c3)
  - 501c3 nonprofit organization
  - Education organization
  - Government organization

## **INELIGIBLE ENTITIES**

The following entities are not eligible to apply for funding:

- Individual persons
- Private for-profit businesses
- Organizations that require participation in religious services and/or education as a condition of receiving services
- Organizations that have discriminatory policies and/or practices on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex/gender, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information or political beliefs

## **ELIGIBLE REQUESTS**

Funds may be requested for project and/or programmatic costs including hard materials, supplies, food, equipment, space rental, entertainment, permits, insurance, etc. The grants will be up to \$1,500 and no more than 75% of a project budget. Funds may not be requested for overhead costs including rent, utilities, personnel, etc.

## **QUESTIONS**

If you have questions about the application, please email Vanessa Meyer at [vmeyer@cfgreateratlanta.org](mailto:vmeyer@cfgreateratlanta.org).