



# State Farm Education Assist Fund 2019 Guidelines



## **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. With nearly 70 years serving the 23-county Atlanta region and a robust team of experts, the Foundation inspires philanthropy to increase the vitality of our region and the well-being of all residents, empowering our donors to focus on the joy of giving. For more information, visit: [cfgreateratlanta.org](http://cfgreateratlanta.org) or connect with the Foundation via [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) 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 was 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 (including non-501c3 entities) 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.

Grants are awarded based on a number of factors, including those outlined on page 3 and 4 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 (including non-501c3 entities) and nonprofit organizations working to strengthen and improve communities in South DeKalb. The fund is particularly interested in supporting community-led projects and efforts in the following issue areas:

- Youth development and leadership
  - Ex: afterschool programs, extracurricular activities, leadership development programs, standardized test tutoring, mentoring programs
- College access and completion
  - Ex: college entrance exam tutoring, college/career pathways counseling, college prep programs
- Community development
  - Ex: community gardens, streetscaping, neighborhood safety programs, community organizing, community festivals, public art, park clean-up, voter registration drives
- Workforce development
  - Ex: soft skills training, job training, job opportunities and internship programs

## HOW APPLICANTS ARE PRIORITIZED

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

- Exhibit strong alignment with at least one of the four areas of interest listed above;
- Are based within community and led by residents and/or community members;
- Are located in and/or serve residents in South DeKalb, defined as the following zip codes: 30032, 30034, 30035, 30038, 30039, 30058, 30072, 30083, 30087, 30088, 30288, 30294 and 30316;
- Work with marginalized and/or underrepresented populations, such as ethnic and racial minorities, immigrants and refugees, women and girls, people of differing sexual orientation (LGBTQ community), people living in or near poverty, veterans, etc; and
- Present a reasonable project budget and timeline.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

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

### 2019 SCHEDULE

Monday, May 6 at noon	Grant application material made available online
Monday, May 13 at 6 pm	Webinar orientation (to register click <a href="#">here</a> )
Friday, June 14 at noon	Grant application deadline
Friday, July 12 between 9 am to 5 pm (times will vary)	Site visits (via phone or in person) are conducted as needed
Friday, August 30	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 Friday, June 14, 2019.
- 2] State Farm Scholars and Foundation staff review applications. Select organizations will receive site visits on Friday, July 12, 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 **May 13, 2019**. To register, click [here](#). Organizations that are unable to attend should view the recording, which will be posted after May 13.

**\*\*UPDATE (5/21/2019):** The video recording of the applicant orientation webinar can be found [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:
  - Non-501c3 community group or organization (ex: PTO/PTA, neighborhood association, community coalition, etc.)
  - 501c3 nonprofit organization
  - K-12 schools, colleges or universities

- Government departments or offices

## **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 religious 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 grant awards will be up to \$1,500 and can be no more than 75% of the applicant's project budget. Funds may not be requested for overhead costs including rent, utilities, personnel, etc.

## **QUESTIONS**

If you have questions about the application, please contact Mindy Kao at [mkao@cfgreateratlanta.org](mailto:mkao@cfgreateratlanta.org) 404.588.3215.