

# FACT SHEET

## for State Grants

### Introduction

State funds are allocated each year for Mentoring and Student Assistance Initiative grants. The purpose is to improve student performance for at-risk students who are low-performing and to reduce dropout rates by providing additional learning opportunities. This is accomplished through enhanced instruction, mentoring activities, training, mentor support, and addressing unmet needs at low-performing schools.

### Best Buddies

<http://www.bestbuddiesflorida.org/>

- Targets middle school and high school students
- Provides mentoring activities for students with special needs
- Pairs students with and without special needs in one-to-one friendships
- Through their Best Buddies friendships, students learn social skills and develop self-confidence

### Big Brothers Big Sisters

<http://www.bbbs.org>

- Targets at-risk & low-performing students in low-performing schools
- Students are assigned to a mentor & a case manager
- Provides mentoring activities: one-on-one mentoring, homework support, extended classroom learning, and addresses skill gaps
- Provides training and support to mentors

### Black Male College Explorers

<http://www.famu.edu/oldsite/acad/colleges/ced/blackmalecollege/admissionspage.htm>

- Targets at-risk black males in grades 7-11
- Program is designed to prevent black males from dropping out of high school
- Provides a continuance of academic support in middle and high schools
- Students stay on a college campus for five weeks to participate in concentrated developmental experiences

### Boys & Girls Club Mentoring Services

[www.bgca.org/programs/education.asp](http://www.bgca.org/programs/education.asp)

- Targets at-risk & low-performing students
- Provides tutoring and mentoring services
- After school activities include:
  - Power Hour – homework help & tutoring
  - Power Learn – reinforces & enhances skills and knowledge learned at school
  - Goals for Graduation – teaches the concept of academic goal setting
  - Other academic activities

## Family Community Outreach



If you have any questions about State Grants or for information on family and community involvement, please contact:

Florida Department of Education  
Bureau of Family and Community Outreach  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 544  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400  
Phone: (850) 245-0424, SunCom: 205-0424, Fax: (850) 245-0849  
<http://www.fldoe.org/family/>  
[www.fldoe.org](http://www.fldoe.org)

# Grant Information

## Communities in Schools

<http://www.cisnet.org/default.asp>

- Targets at-risk & low-performing students
- Provides connection of community resources for schools
- Provides community with model process to make the most of their resources
- Ensures students have the Five Basics to succeed
- Establishes and maintains collaborative partnerships with local community stakeholders

## Girl Scouts

- Targets at-risk middle school girls
- Provides the Get Real! Program to provide mentoring activities
- Provides reading and writing opportunities
- Provides interactive activities to teach life skills
- Increases motivation and ability to make positive life choices

## Governor's Mentoring Initiative (GMI)

<http://www.flamentoring.org/index.php>

- Recruits and trains high school students to mentor 3rd grade students
- Provides mentors with step-by-step curriculum guide
- Provides mentoring activities through the Teen Trendsetter Reading Mentors Program (TTRM)
- Provides one-on-one reading sessions
- Increases number of mentors in Florida for academically at-risk youth

## Learning for Life

[www.learningforlife.org](http://www.learningforlife.org)

- Targets elementary, middle, and high school students
- Supports schools in preparing youth to handle today's society and enhance their self-confidence, motivation, and self worth
- Provides a character education program that can be integrated into daily lesson plans
- Provides teachers with curriculum that is classroom-based with grade specific lesson plans for K-12
- Provides training for teachers

## Take Stock in Children

<http://www.takestockinchildren.com>

- Targets and identifies students between 6th-9th grade
- Provides mentors and college scholarships for low-income children
- Mentors provide tutoring, motivation, guidance, friendship, and support
- Students are assigned to a mentor and meet one hour per week
- Students are required to sign a contract agreeing to maintain good grades, remain drug/crime free, and meet with mentor once a week

## Florida State Alliance of YMCAs

- Targets at-risk 1st & 2nd graders from low-performing schools or schools that have a high percentage of students scoring below grade level in reading
- Provides mentoring and tutoring assistance in reading through YMCA READS! Program
- Uses Systematic Instruction in Phoneme Awareness, Phonics, and Sight Words to increase reading levels
- Mentors assist students in reading mechanics and to instill a love for reading and literature
- Provides 1:2 or 1:1 mentoring
- Provides character development and building of self-esteem