SAN JOSÉ LEARNS GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Summer 2023 and Academic Year 2023-2024

Informational Meeting and Q&A
December 9 and 12, 2022
Office Hours: January 3 12:30 – 1:30
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<tr>
<td>Kavitha Kavuri</td>
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<td>Lauren Hancock</td>
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<td>Kristen Yamada</td>
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<td>Grants Assistant</td>
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SJ Learns aims to bolster academic achievement by funding promising and innovative *expanded learning programs* that serve San José public school students in transitional kindergarten (TK) through 3rd grade.

- Launched in 2015 by Mayor Sam Liccardo and shaped by the SJ Learns Working Group and SJ Learns Committee.
- Administered by the San José Public Library Foundation, with support from the San José Public Library’s Education and Digital Literacy Team.
- Historically, SJ Learns has awarded between $62,000 and $376,000 per year to *Local Education Agencies* (LEAs) to support summer and academic year expanded learning programs.
SJ Learns aims to provide LEAs with resources that leverage their own expanded learning program budget, as well as that of any provider(s) it selects, to increase the number of at-risk students who attend high-quality expanded learning programs.

A Community of Practice facilitates dialogue among participating LEAs, school sites, program providers, and the broader learning community to inform understanding around best practices and shape policy.

Priorities:
- Whole Child Learning
- Collaboration
- Family Engagement
- Continuous Quality Improvement
VISION

All students in San José are college, career, and life ready.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

There is a substantial opportunity gap for low-income students in San José: approximately 39 percentage point difference in ELA; and approximately 43 percentage point difference in math in comparison to their wealthier peers.¹ SJ Learns will support low-income families of San José by developing innovative and ongoing opportunities that strengthen pathways beyond the school day for young students to thrive.

THEORY OF CHANGE

STRATEGIES
- Grant Making
- Community of Practice
- Data Evaluation & Analysis
- Communications & Public Awareness

OUTCOMES
- Expand access to high-quality out-of-school programs for TK-3rd grade students
- Support innovative child and family-centered practices
- Strengthen collaboration between CSJ, schools, CBOs, families and students
- Support a well-qualified and trained provider workforce
- Shape local policy and investment
- Provide SJ specific data points for low-income, vulnerable students
- Boost awareness of the importance of out-of-school learning

IMPACT
- Close the opportunity gap
- More children are grade level proficient in ELA and math
- More children graduate high school
- Better prepared workforce for San Jose
LOGIC MODEL

**Inputs**
- Funding
- Partnerships
- Library
- Community Based Organizations
- Out of School (OST) providers
- School Districts
- Mayor’s Office
- Shortino Foundation
- California Department of Education
- OST Expertise

**Activities**
- Provide grants
- Convene Community of Practice (CoP)
- Conduct data evaluation and analysis
- Generate communications and publicity
- Provide framework for OST best practices
- Foster funders collaborative
- Advocacy for high-quality programs

**Outputs**
Every year:
- Provide funds for direct programing
- 3 CoP meetings
- Evaluation Reports
- Programs participate in continuous improvement processes
- External Communication

**Outcomes**

- **Community**
  - Community-wide support for high-quality OST
  - Educated City and Workforce

- **Programs**
  - Alignment with quality standards
  - Partnership with families, schools, & others
  - Proliferation of promising practices

- **Families**
  - Partnership with schools and programs
  - Academic involvement & family efficacy

- **Students**
  - Student agency
  - School engagement
  - Academic achievement
  - Social Emotional Learning skills
WHO CAN APPLY?

- Local Education Agencies (LEAs; public school districts, charter schools, and charter networks/management organizations) serving San José students in TK-3rd grade are eligible to apply as the lead applicant.

- Community-based organizations (CBOs) are considered sub-grantees of the lead applicant. CBOs are encouraged to collaborate with eligible LEAs throughout the application process.
APPLICATION PROCESS
AND TIMELINE

• LEAs are invited to submit a proposal through the grant management system.

• Create an account if you do not already have one.

• The proposal/application is due by 11:59pm on Thursday, January 5, 2023.

• The proposals will be reviewed by the SJ Learns Committee in late January and meetings to confirm grant award decisions will be held in March.

• SJ Learns staff will reach out with any follow up in February and decisions will be shared with applicants in March.

• All details are available on the Grant Opportunity Webpage.
Expanded Learning Programs must:

• Be administered at (or by) a school site (or school sites)* with a minimum of 40% of students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals

• Serve TK-3rd grade students who are residents of the City of San José and attend public schools

• Demonstrate a clear strategy for recruitment or referral that uses available data, including valid and reliable assessments, to ensure the program enrolls students who are both low-income and performing below (or at-risk of performing below) grade-level standards in Mathematics and English Language Arts

• Demonstrate alignment with the LEAs in-person or distance learning programs, as well as the Quality Standards for Expanded Learning in California

*On-site instruction will only be required if allowable under current public health orders at the time.
MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

LEAs must:

- Demonstrate alignment with SJ Learns strategies and priorities through the Local Control Accountability Plan (or Local Continuity and Attendance Plan; LCAP).
- Identify a funding source to provide a 1:1 match in LEA funding for every dollar of grant funding. Funding may be from any source other than the City.
- Use SJ Learns funds to ensure students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals are not charged program fees.
- Use the Santa Clara County Office of Education's DataZone tool to collect program data. This is important for the SJ Learns evaluation strategy and is an eligible expense of SJ Learns grant funds.
- Commit to participate in the Expanded Learning Community of Practice.
The grant review committee will give preference to proposals that:

- Prioritize schools that serve a higher percentage of students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals.
- Identify a clear plan to recruit students who do not meet (or are at risk of not meeting) grade-level standards.
- Demonstrate an enhanced commitment/innovative approach to implementing SJ Learns strategies and priorities.
- Include both summer and academic year expanded learning programs.
- Focus on student achievement in both Mathematics and English Language Arts.
- Include a clear financial narrative or strategy that shows diversified funding sources other than ASES or 21 Century funds.
QUESTIONS?
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