

SUPPORT AN INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOLS

2026 Legislative Session Request

FUNDING INCREASE REQUEST OF \$6.1 MILLION

The Community School Grant Program (Section 1003.64, F.S.) has strengthened the quality of education across Florida. We respectfully request legislative support to increase grant funding for this initiative so it can reach more of Florida's children.

For the 2025-26 fiscal year, the budget of \$20.1 million supports 50 Community Partnership Schools (CPS) statewide. **An increase of \$6.1 million** in grant funding would allow for:

- **Continued step-up and sustainability efforts** of current implementation sites according to Community Partnership School™ model guidelines.
- Investment in the initiative's infrastructure by leveraging data systems to **improve technical support capacity** and **enable real-time, data-driven decision-making**.
- Up to **ten new planning sites** for future Community Partnership Schools.
- Enhancement of student health programs at all Community Partnership Schools, including **access to behavioral health services**.

WHY THE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRANT PROGRAM: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOLS MODEL?

The Community Partnership School™ model has demonstrated success in improving student behavior, increasing academic achievement and graduation rates, and strengthening parental involvement.

Through a collaborative approach, the model positions schools as central hubs for child well-being by addressing key barriers to learning with services such as counseling, medical and dental care, after-school enrichment, mentoring, and more.

By integrating these supports, Community Partnership Schools create learning environments that expand opportunities and increase the likelihood of success for students across Florida.

45,000+

Florida students positively impacted by community schools

Over 90%

average graduation rate of every high school that is a UCF-Certified Community Partnership School

200K+

hours of tutoring and academic support activities provided to students in 2024-25

\$12.7M

in local cost share-reflecting a 77% match to state investment in 2024-25

86,357

student and family needs addressed by CPS sites in 2024-25, reducing strain on school personnel and improved instructional capacity

11,462

vision and dental visits provided to Florida students in 2024-25

Registered Community Partnership School Sites

“

Anything the community school offered, I did it. I was the first student who engaged in everything. I proved it doesn't matter how bad your life is if you have the right group of people supporting you. ”

-Former Student and Class President at Evans High School

MAP LEGEND

- COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL
- UCF-CERTIFIED COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

A UCF-Certified Community Partnership School signifies that a school has met rigorous standards demonstrating fidelity to the Community Partnership Schools™ model. Certification reflects a school's commitment to sustainable partnerships, shared leadership, and measurable impact on student success and community well-being.

Every Child Deserves A Thriving School

The Community Partnership Schools™ model is built on the belief that every student deserves

access to an education that nurtures both success and well-being. By bringing together education, health, social services, and community partners, the model creates school environments where children can thrive academically, socially, and developmentally.



Learn more at the
UCF Center for
Community Schools
Website



Learn more at the
Children's Home
Society of Florida
Website

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**Center for
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