

Expansion Competition -- Absolute Priority 2 (General)
Education Analytics, Inc.
S411A210003

Future Forward: Sustaining and Expanding a Student-Centered, Technology-Enabled Early Literacy and Family Engagement Intervention

Project Title: Future Forward: Sustaining and Expanding a Student-Centered, Technology-Enabled Early Literacy and Family Engagement Intervention

Type of Grant Requested: EIR Expansion (Rural Applicant)

Absolute Priorities: 1 and 2

Invitational Priorities: 1 and 2

Total number of students served by the project: 6,000

Grade levels: Kindergarten through third grade

Definition of high-needs students: Those primarily living in poverty and attending schools with high concentrations of students living in poverty; majority students of color; and significantly disconnected youth who lost meaningful amounts of in-person instruction as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and did not consistently participate in remote instruction when offered during school building *closures* (*aligned with Section 4611 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*).

Brief project description: Education Analytics (EA) and partner districts across geographic areas of South Carolina, Eastern Kentucky, Ozarks of Missouri, Central Wisconsin, and Western Illinois, in collaboration with evaluation partner Socially Responsible Evaluation in Education (SREED), respectfully submit this proposal for the EIR Expansion program. Over the 5-year grant period, EA proposes to scale to a national level its Future Forward program, a kindergarten through third-grade literacy intervention that delivers research-based one-on-one tutoring and family engagement and has demonstrated strong evidence of effectiveness (**Absolute Priority 1**) for improving student outcomes. The proposed EIR Expansion will take Future Forward to national scale to impact a greatly increased number of students (**Absolute Priority 2**) within an unprecedented time of need. Our proposal addresses both learning loss from the COVID-19 pandemic (**Invitational Priority 1**) and promoting equitable access to resources for underserved students (**Invitational Priority 2**) in a diversity of settings. Through EIR Expansion grant funding FF will address previous barriers to scale and lay the foundation for expansion and replication during and after the grant period by utilizing a Gradual Release Model to develop local capacity for implementation (Strategy 1), Strengthening organizational capacity by equipping FF and local staff with a refined technology (Strategy 2), and c) implementing a comprehensive stakeholder engagement and dissemination plan (Strategy 3). The project will be evaluated through a rigorous third-party evaluation and include formative evaluation to guide continuous improvement and a multi-site randomized controlled trial (RCT) to determine impact.