

**Full-Service Community Schools Program (FSCS)  
Project Abstract FY 2023**

**Applicant Name: University of Central Florida**

**Project Title: Project UPCS: Unlimited Potential Community Schools - Empowering Students, Families, and Communities through Statewide University Partnerships within High Need Districts**

**Absolute Priority the Project Addresses:** (select all that apply) (Please note: You must select 1 or 2 and 3 or 4 or 5)

- Absolute Priority 1 – Title IA Schoolwide Program Eligibility
- Absolute Priority 2 – Title IA Schoolwide Eligibility and Rural Districts – Small and Rural or Rural and Low-Income
- Absolute Priority 3 – Capacity Building and Development Grants
- Absolute Priority 4 – Multi-Local Educational Agency Grants
- Absolute Priority 5 – FSCS State Scaling Grants

**Competitive Preference and Invitational Priorities the Project Addresses:** (select all that apply)

- Competitive Preference Priority 1—Meeting Student Social, Emotional, and Academic Needs
- Competitive Preference Priority 2—Strengthening Cross-Agency Coordination and Community Engagement to Advance Systemic Change
- Invitational Priority—Supporting Effective Transition Practices, Continuity of Services and Supports, and Aligned Instruction for Students from Preschool and Other Early Childhood Settings into Kindergarten and from Kindergarten into the Early Grades (K–3).

**Total number local educational agencies (LEAs) to be served by the project: 5**

**Total number of schools to be served by the project: 40**

**Total estimated number of students to be served by the project: 108,000**

**Brief description of proposed project, including project activities:** The Center for Community Schools and Toni Jennings Exceptional Education Institute at the University of Central Florida, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Florida International University, and University of South Florida, are partnering to provide technical assistance to grow the number of community school sites statewide and scale up efforts to positively impact high needs districts across Florida. Unlimited Potential Community Schools (UPCS) will grow services to impact up to 40 community schools, comprised of both enhancement and newly added schools, across the state of Florida. The aims of the project UPCS will be to: (1) enhance access to and coordination of community based activities and services for students and families; (2) enhance the resources partner universities provide to districts and schools to support initiative implementation, (3), enhance enrollment and participation in initiative pipeline activities and services, (4) increase positive development experiences and learning opportunities of youth development and skill development outcomes, (5) enhance the capacity of initiative coordinators to support implementation of the community school strategy, (6) improve the sustainability of new pipeline services being provided in UCPS schools. (7) improve teacher retention by enhancing support provided through university partners and improving overall school climate, (8) improve student kindergarten readiness and academic achievement, and (9) improve student behavior and attendance.

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**Summary of project objectives and expected outcomes:** The proposed project will improve outcomes for Florida students in high needs districts (HND) by scaling up pipeline services and the number of university partnership community schools across the state of the project UPCS by: (1) enhance access to and coordination of community based activities and services for students and families; (2) enhance the resources partner universities provide to districts and schools to support initiative implementation, (3), enhance enrollment and participation in initiative pipeline activities and services, (4) increase positive development experiences and learning opportunities of youth development and skill development outcomes, (5) enhance the capacity of initiative coordinators to support implementation of the community school strategy, (6) improve the sustainability of new pipeline services being provided in UCPS schools. (7) improve teacher retention by enhancing support provided through university partners and improving overall school climate, (8) improve student kindergarten readiness and academic achievement, and (9) improve student behavior and attendance. The expected outcomes include meeting the objectives and impacting over 108,000 students and families through the implementation of 40 enhanced or new full-service community schools.

**Proposed location(s) of implementation (e.g., city, town, county, State(s)):** UPCS will directly impact more than 100,000 students and families across 5 LEA partners who represent the 1st, 3rd, and 4th largest school districts across the state. Each of the university partners were strategically selected for their history of collaboration with their LEAs to implement full-service community schools and their geographical location providing robust coverage by including the Central, North, South, and Central West Regions of the state. While the state of Florida has 69 school districts that serve approximately 2,800,000 students, the LEAs selected through UPCS serve almost 30% of those students.

**List all LEAs that will be partnering with this project, including rural designation under the Small Rural School Achievement (SRSA) program or the Rural and Low-Income School (RLIS) program if applicable:** Hillsborough County Public Schools, Orange County Public Schools, Leon County Public Schools, Florida A&M University Developmental Research School, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

**List all non-LEA organizations partnering with this project:** University of Central Florida (UCF), Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU), the University of South Florida (USF), and Florida International University (FIU), Florida Department of Education