

Franklin-Simpson Educational Excellence Foundation, Inc.

GRANT APPLICATION COVER PAGE

Application must be typed. If you experience difficulty completing, please contact email fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com. Completed applications should be submitted via email to fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com in PDF form. Application deadlines are outlined below.

Applicant Name & Position: Dyan Wilhite, FCS Education (Early Childhood Education Career Pathway)

School/Organization Involved: Franklin-Simpson High School-Early Childhood Education

Amount Requested: \$12,794.00

Purpose of Funding: The purpose of this funding would be to provide real world applications and experiences for my Child Services I/II students in the field of Early Childhood Education. The simulation provides students with professional work experience as a child care worker through exercises such as “clocking in and out of work,” proper diaper changing techniques, safe sleep practices, handling breathing emergencies, professional reports for parents, and specially designed curriculum and instruction for child care workers.

Targeted Grade Levels: PreK-K 1-3 4-5 6-8 9-12 Other: _____

Number of Students/Persons Affected by Grant: approximately 24-30 students per year

Academic Area: Reading Language Arts Social Studies Math
Science Fine arts Community Other: CTE Education

Brief Summary of Project (2 - 3 Sentences): The Child Care Experience™ Program (CCE) is a complete simulation involving hardware, software, and curriculum that are ideal for early childhood education capstone projects as well as creating real-life childcare skills practice opportunities. It offers the most realistic childcare simulation possible. With this program, each student participates in an in-class simulation during which they manage the care of multiple infants simultaneously.

Address of School/Organization: 400 South College Franklin, KY 42134

Contact Person: Dyan Wilhite

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Grant Cycle Submitted: Feb. April Sept. Nov.

Required Signatures

Simpson County Schools:

Principal/Supervisor *Dyan Willite* Date 9/5/24

Superintendent _____ Date _____

Community Organizations:

Grant Preparer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Board Representative _____ Title _____ Date _____

Franklin-Simpson Educational Excellence Foundation
Grant Application
Family and Consumer Sciences
Early Childhood Education Pathway
Reality Works: Child Care Experience Program

Submitted by: Dyan Wilhite
FCS Educator, Franklin-Simpson High School

NARRATIVE

Request Details: Our mission at Franklin-Simpson High school is to provide students with learning experiences that ensure they are “life ready.” Specifically, we focus on preparing students for post secondary success, whether that be college or career readiness. Within the Early Childhood Education pathway, there are many career options. While many of our ECE students are college bound, a significant number are not. As an Early Childhood education teacher, my focus is to prepare all students for a post secondary option that is most suitable for their diverse personal needs and interests.

Career and technical education programs at Franklin-Simpson High School provide training and educational opportunities for approximately 80% of our student population. While many CTE programs have opportunities for real world experiences and hands-on learning, the Early Childhood Education program, as it currently exists, does not. With Kentucky child care regulations, students under the age of 18 are not allowed to seek employment or assist in Early Childhood Education facilities. This regulation eliminates the opportunity for co-op experiences for the majority of my students. While my Early Childhood Education students master the knowledge base to successfully enter the workforce, through receiving professional industry certifications (the Commonwealth Child Care Credential, Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma training, Early Child Care Orientation Training and non-certified CPR training) they are missing a large component of career readiness through the inability to participate in real-world experiences.

Over the last 6 years, the ECE students at Franklin-Simpson High School have participated in job shadowing opportunities at Franklin Elementary. Through working with preschool and kindergarten teachers, many students have discovered a passion for working with children; and thus, decided to pursue a degree in Early Childhood Education. While this stands as a testament to the importance of our ECE program at FSHS, the experience does not serve as a valuable learning opportunity for students who strive to seek entry level child care positions after graduation.

Additionally, a highly effective Early Childhood professional is knowledgeable in working with children ages birth to 5. Thus, an Early Childhood Education program without an effective child care component, is failing to provide students with professional practice necessary to be post secondary ready.

However, with the implementation of the Child Care Experience simulator, students would be able to bring the child care component of the ECE pathway to the classroom. Through the integration of the Child Care Experience, I will be able to teach students essential skills in early childhood development. Through this hands-on simulation, students will also have a safe and controlled environment to practice social interactions, problem solve and collaborate with peers, and practice professional behavior management techniques. Specifically, while participating in

the child care simulation, students would be able to determine the needs of 8 babies simultaneously. Through practicing daily child care activities such as feeding, burping, rocking, changing, soothing, rescue breathing/CPR, maintaining infant records, and logging child care, students will have the opportunity to engage in professional practices that they do not currently receive while in the ECE program at FSHS.

In addition to invaluable professional training, the Child Care Experience includes diverse instructional materials for both the students and teacher. It is equipped to track child abuse, monitor successful, attempted, or missed care, and assist in recording student notes in professional journals. Furthermore, the software integrates professional writing opportunities through displaying child care specific scenarios that students are prompted to answer throughout the simulation experience.

Timeline: The Child Care Experience simulation would serve as a continuation of program instruction and curriculum within my Child Services I course. Specifically, it would serve as an advanced level, 12 week project for my junior/senior level students. Implementation of the project simulator would take place after student industry certifications and training are completed.

Goal: As mentioned above, the overall goal for this learning opportunity is to provide my students with professional-based experiences necessary for workplace readiness. Ultimately, my hope is to provide my students with opportunities that will set them apart from other professionals; and will, in turn, provide more Early Childhood Education programs and opportunities for the Franklin-Simpson community.

Additionally, through implementation of The Child Care Experience, I hope to increase student interest in the Early Childhood Education field. Research implies that quality early childhood education lays the foundation for successful educational careers and reduces the achievement gaps among students of diverse needs and populations. Today, there is a shortage of both public school and early childhood education professionals. Through increased exposure to ECE related experiences, students will increase career exploration in the field.

Evaluation: Success of both the simulation and ECE program is determined by the number of occupants/students in the classroom. An increase in hands-on experiences and student interest can be evaluated by an influx of "seat time." Moreover, evaluation of program success can be determined by academic achievement and improvement. This can be identified by the number of students who are considered ECE program completers, as well as those who pass the End of Program Assessment in the Early Childhood Education pathway.

Budget: The Early Childhood Education program serves approximately 180 students each year. The average Child Services I class size is approximately 24 students. The Child Care Experience simulator (see attached quote) includes 8 Real Care Baby simulators and accessories specific to the Child Care Experience simulation. The total cost for the child care package is \$12,794.00. In Kentucky, the staff to infant ratio for all public child care facilities is 1

adult to 5 infants (with a max of 10 infants and 2 adult caregivers). With a class of 24 students, it will take approximately 12 weeks (one trimester) for all students to appropriately engage in the simulated experience. This simulation will be utilized for many years. Currently, my program has a set of 14 Real Care Babies (that expose students to one-on-one basic level care and parenting experiences) that are approximately 14 years old. Thus, the longevity of the product and student usage directly reflects the long term benefits of the expense.

Application Summary: The goal of the FSEEF is to supplement existing educational opportunities to ensure effective learning. The implementation of the Child Care Experience simulator would directly correlate with both the mission of the FSEEF and FSHS. While valuable curriculum and other professional learning experiences are available to ECE students, the purchase of the Child Care Experience would enhance student learning opportunities by providing them with a more holistic approach to learning. While being able to job shadow and assist in a child care facility would be ideal for students, it is not a realistic/attainable opportunity at this time. With the careful consideration and financial assistance from the FSEEF, the ECE students at Franklin-Simpson High School would receive a memorable, innovative learning experience that would serve as a stepping stone to post secondary success.



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Quote

163920

9/5/2024

Expires: 11/4/2024

Prepared For

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 400 S College St
 Franklin KY 42134-2212
 United States

Ship To

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READY TO PLACE ORDER?

- Email PO and copy of quote to orders@realityworks.com or call 800-830-1416 for payment options.
- Include Accounts Payable email address on PO

QUESTIONS?

Contact Dan Cramer
dan.cramer@realityworks.com
 (800) 830-1416 x1132

Sole Source Info:

<https://www.realityworks.com/resources/sole-source-product-list>

Item #	Description	Price	Quantity	Extended
11510101	Child Care Experience (8-Baby Package)	\$11,999.00	1	\$11,999.00
	Child Care Experience Storage		2	
	CCE Starter Kit & CCE Accessory Pack		1	
	Child Care Experience Baby 3-month (LIGHT)		2	
	Child Care Experience Baby 3-month (DRK)		2	
	Child Care Experience Baby 9-month (LIGHT)		2	
	Child Care Experience Baby 9-month (MED)		2	

Subtotal	\$11,999.00
Shipping and Handling	\$795.00
Tax	\$0.00
Total	\$12,794.00
Terms	Net 30