
Orange County, Florida
University of Central Florida Board of Trustees
AND
University of Central Florida Foundation, Incorporated

FY 2026 GRANT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 1 day of October, 2025, by and among Orange County, a charter county and political subdivision of the State of Florida, hereinafter referred to as the "County," University of Central Florida Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the "UCF", and University of Central Florida Foundation, Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as "Foundation."

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Foundation has applied to the County for a donation of funds for the operations of UCF; and

WHEREAS, the County has determined that there is a public interest for such activities/programs in order to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) careers in Central Florida through education programs, events and other activities inspiring Orange County's community youth to pursue high wage job opportunities. The County looks to UCF to conduct outreach and STEM club development, provide economic development opportunities, and commit to develop the future workforce from local youth via hosting STEM events and programs. To that end, the County has appropriated funds to be donated to UCF, through its direct support organization, Foundation, for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to enter into an agreement with UCF and Foundation whereby Foundation will receive said funds of the County in accordance with the terms and conditions herein set forth; and

WHEREAS, UCF has available the necessary qualified and trained personnel, facilities, materials and supplies to perform its obligations as set forth in this Agreement;

THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

Section 1. County's Obligation.

1.1 The County has appropriated for the period commencing October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026, a sum not to exceed Seventy-Two Thousand Four Hundred and Seven and 00/100 Dollars (\$72,407.00) to be administered and disbursed by Foundation solely for the purposes set forth in Exhibit "A". The County's contribution of up to \$72,407.00 to Foundation shall be made in installments: (1) up to \$49,225 shall be paid within 30 days of the County's receipt of an invoice upon completion of specified tasks, and (2) the remaining balance shall be paid within 30 days of the County's satisfactory receipt of a final performance report of UCF's activities/programs/services and expenditure of budget as described in Exhibit "A." All invoices will be paid to reimburse expenses associated with the completion of specific tasks within the specified billing period.

1.2 No funds paid under this Agreement shall be expended for any lobbyist, as such term is defined in Section 2-351 of the Orange County Code, to engage in any lobbying activities designed to influence decisions or other foreseeable actions of the Board of County Commissioners or the governing body of any other municipality located within Orange County. Furthermore, UCF and Foundation agree that they shall not undertake, or cause to be undertaken, or participate in, any lobbying before the state legislature to advocate for or influence legislative decision making inconsistent with legislative priorities adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, without the prior written consent of the Board or the County Administrator.

1.3 No funds paid under this Agreement shall be expended for payment of any liability, claims, demands, damages, expenses, fees, fines, penalties, proceedings, actions and cost of actions, including attorney's fees or attorneys on appeal of proceedings or judgments of any kind and nature.

Section 2. UCF's Obligation.

2.1 Representation of UCF. UCF represents that it will use its best efforts to develop and promote STEM careers and education opportunities in Central Florida consistent with the scope and responsibilities set forth in Exhibit "A." To the extent feasible, UCF shall partner with Orange County to develop and promote said careers and education opportunities.

2.2 UCF as Independent Contractor. The parties expressly acknowledge that the UCF and the Foundation are acting as Independent Contractors, and nothing in this Agreement is intended or shall be construed to establish an agency, partnership or joint venture relationship between the parties.

2.3 Policies. UCF, in performing its obligations under this Agreement, shall abide by Orange County's information technology policy, artificial intelligence policy, and whistleblower policy. UCF also shall comply with applicable accessibility and nondiscrimination policies in federal and state statutes and Chapter 22, Orange County Code, and shall not unlawfully discriminate against any worker, employee, applicant or member of the public because of race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, color, age, disability or national origin.

2.4 Accounting. Foundation will utilize such accounting procedures and practices in maintenance of the records of receipts and disbursements of the funds contributed by the County in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Any funds not spent or

encumbered by September 30, 2026 for the designated purpose set forth in Exhibit "A" shall be returned to the County.

2.5 Reporting. Foundation or UCF, as applicable, agree to submit reports to the County's Office of Innovation and Emerging Technologies according to the terms described in Exhibit "B". This final report, as described in Exhibit "B", shall demonstrate to the County the scope and reach of the UCF services that were funded during the term of this Agreement, and will determine compliance for future funding. The final report is due to the Orange County Office of Innovation & Emerging Technologies on or before November 15, 2026. Failure to comply with the County's request for submission of such reports shall constitute grounds for termination of this Agreement and may result in the ineligibility of UCF to receive future contributions from the County.

2.6 Non-Profit Status. UCF and Foundation agree to maintain their non-profit status in the State of Florida throughout the term of this Agreement. If the UCF or Foundation should, during the term of this Agreement, lose their non-profit status, they shall immediately notify the County in writing, and the County reserves the right to terminate this Agreement immediately.

2.7 Right to Inspect and Audit Accounts. During the term of this Agreement, Foundation, with respect to the receipt and expenditure of funds provided under this Agreement, shall permit County staff and the Orange County Comptroller and his staff to inspect and audit the Foundation's books and accounts at any time during normal working hours, provided that reasonable notice is given to Foundation prior to any such inspection. Any costs incurred by Foundation as a result of a County audit shall be the sole responsibility of and shall be borne by the Foundation. In addition, should the Foundation provide any or all of the County's funds to sub-recipients, then, and in that event, Foundation shall include in written agreements with such sub-recipients a requirement that records of the sub-recipient be open to inspection and audit by the County or the County's designee.

2.8 Maintenance of Records; Audit. For a period ending five (5) years after the expiration or termination of this Agreement, Foundation shall make all records and documents relating to this Agreement available for inspection and copying by the County or any agent designated by the County.

2.9 Assignment. Neither Foundation nor UCF may assign their rights hereunder, without the prior written consent of the County. Failure to comply with this section may result in immediate termination of this Agreement.

2.10 Indemnification and Insurance. Foundation and UCF agree to indemnify and save harmless the County from and against any and all liability, claims, demands, damages, expenses, fees, fines, penalties, suits, proceedings, actions and cost of actions, including reasonable attorney's fees, attorneys on appeal of any kind and nature arising or growing out of or in any way connected with the performance of this Agreement itself, unless caused entirely by the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of County.

Section 3. Term and Termination.

3.1 Term and Termination. The term of this Agreement shall begin on October 1, 2025 and shall continue until September 30, 2026. However, this Agreement can be terminated by any party at any time, with or without cause, upon no less than fifteen (15) days notice in writing to the other party. Said notice shall be delivered by certified mail or in person to the business address of the party upon whom such notice is served.

Section 4. Miscellaneous.

4.1 Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties. Any representations or statements heretofore made with respect to such subject matter, whether verbal or written, are merged herein. No other agreement, whether verbal or written, with regard to the subject matter hereof, shall be deemed to exist.

4.2 Waivers. Performance of this Agreement by either party, after notice of default of any of the terms, covenants or conditions, shall not be deemed a waiver of any right to terminate this Agreement for any subsequent default, and no waiver of such default shall be construed or act as a waiver of any subsequent default.

4.3 No Third Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement does not create, and shall not be construed as creating, any rights enforceable by any person or entity other than the parties to the Agreement.

4.4 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida. Venue for any litigation occurring as a result of this Agreement shall be held in the Ninth Circuit Courts in and for Orange County, Florida, and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Florida. The parties expressly agree that each party shall bear the cost of its own attorney and legal fees in connection with any dispute arising out of this Agreement, or the breach, enforcement, or interpretation of this Agreement, regardless of whether such dispute results in mediation, arbitration, litigation, all or none of the above, and regardless of whether such attorney and legal fees are incurred at trial, retrial, on appeal, at hearings or rehearings, or in administrative, bankruptcy, or reorganization proceedings. THE PARTIES HERETO WAIVE A TRIAL BY JURY OF ANY AND ALL ISSUES ARISING IN ANY ACTION OR PROCEEDING BETWEEN THEM OR THEIR SUCCESSORS UNDER OR CONNECTED WITH THIS AGREEMENT OR ANY OF ITS PROVISIONS AND ANY NEGOTIATIONS IN CONNECTION HEREWITH.

4.5 Severability. It is agreed by and between the parties that if any covenant, condition or provision contained in this agreement is held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of any other covenants, conditions or provisions herein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement on the dates set below.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Board of County Commissioners

By: _____

Jerry L. Demings
Orange County Mayor

Date: _____

ATTEST: Phil Diamond, CPA, County Comptroller
As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

By: _____

Deputy Clerk

Date: _____

University of Central Florida Foundation, Incorporated

By: Rodney M. Grabowski

Rodney M. Grabowski, CFRE, Senior Vice President
for University Advancement and Partnerships and
CEO, UCF Foundation, Inc.

Date: 10/7/25

University of Central Florida Board of Trustees

By: Michael Georgiopoulos

Michael Georgiopoulos
Dean, College of Engineering and Computer Science

Date: 10/7/25

EXHIBIT A

University of Central Florida

ACTIVITY FOR WHICH FUNDING IS REQUESTED

Funding not to exceed Seventy-Two Thousand Four Hundred and Seven and 00/100 Dollars (\$72,407.00) for FY26 will be used to support UCF's operations, which consist of experienced, highly skilled program and event managers within K-12 and collegiate STEM education. Funds under this contract will not be used for food and drink at events.

UCF Proposed Budget – Total: \$72,407.00

FY 26 Budget Categories	Amount	Allowable Expenses
Task #1 - K-12 Teacher Workshop, preparing for SECME/STEM Design Competition	\$3,000	Teacher support, supplies, parking, site rental
Task #2 - STEM Day	\$30,000	School transportation, program supplies, parking services, equipment rental
Task #3 - STEM Ambassadors	\$7,000	Transportation for school visits, project supplies,
Task #4 - K-12 STEM Camps	\$20,000	Part-time support, counselors, student participation fees/scholarship, supplies
Task #5 - SECME/STEM Design Competition	\$12,407	First-time teacher support, supplies, competition day transportation for schools, equipment/space rentals

Task #1 – K-12 Teacher Workshop: UCF will partner with local school districts or student-serving informal education programs to integrate STEM professional development for educators, engineering and technology competitions at the local and national level, college-readiness and mentoring for students, along with parent education. UCF will work to increase the pool of students prepared for – and interested in – college and careers in STEM. UCF will host competition training for each of the school sponsors which are made up primarily of teachers.

Deliverables include:

- a. Market to schools in Orange County zip codes to increase school participation.
- b. Host competition design/build training for new teachers (20) with continued education for returning teachers/schools (additional 10).
 - a. Reserve and rent space for training.
 - b. Provide design/build materials for training.
 - c. Schedule staff to coordinate and support event.
 - d. Print materials for training.

Task #2 - STEM Day: UCF will engage K-12 students in exploration in the exciting fields of STEM through demonstrations, activities, speakers, and exhibits on the UCF campus. STEM Day occurs twice a year and is a free program for teachers and their students.

Deliverables include:

- a. Host up to 1,200 K-12 students at each event.
 - a. Reserve and rent space for activities.
 - b. Provide activities/demo materials for presenters.
 - c. Provide volunteer staff with event t-shirt.
 - d. Contract with Parking Services for bus drop off/pick-ups and parking passes for individual attendees.
- b. Recruit new schools and informal education groups (i.e., non-profit clubs and after school programs) to attend.
- c. Provide transportation to attend STEM Day for Orange County students as needed.
- d. Offer at least 50 interactive, hands-on, engaging STEM activities at each STEM Day with which students can interact.
- e. Provide materials for K-12 student awareness regarding their potential to attend college or receive further education, and on the various STEM disciplines and career opportunities available.

Task #3 - STEM Ambassadors: STEM Ambassadors are current undergraduate and graduate students at UCF who function as liaisons between UCF science, technology, engineering and math programs and the greater Central Florida community. As a STEM Ambassador, UCF students have the opportunity to represent UCF at local K-12 schools and on-campus events to talk about their STEM majors, studies, goals, and UCF in general.

Deliverables include:

- a. Recruit and select 20-25 college students in STEM degrees to serve as ambassadors.
- b. Provide training on communication and leadership skills to prepare ambassadors to represent UCF.
- c. Participate in at least 50 events throughout the academic year independent of semester-long mentoring program.
- d. Provide activity supplies and travel reimbursement for events.
- e. Engage in a semester-long mentorship with a selected school in Orange County.

Task #4 - STEM Camps: UCF will offer STEM summer camps to help create a pipeline for the future STEM workforce. UCF will engage students in extended programs with hands-on education activities designed to introduce or immerse students into the different STEM fields.

Deliverables include:

- a. Offer up to nine UCF STEM Camps of a duration of one to three weeks over the twelve-week summer term.
- b. Market to middle and high school students.
- c. Provide camps as day programs recruiting from the local population.
 - i. Target marketing to Orange County schools.
 - ii. Recruit 250 participants across all programs.
- d. Provide scholarships for high-need applicants.
- e. Purchase supplies for each camp.
- f. Recruit and train 15 counselor/mentors (undergraduate students) annually.

Task #5 – Mission: STEM Design Competition: UCF will offer an annual regional STEM design competition with a goal to increase the pipeline for the future STEM workforce. UCF will engage K-12 teachers and students with hands-on education experiences designed to introduce or immerse students into the STEM fields.

Deliverables include:

- g. Market event to recruit K-12 teams throughout the central Florida region to engage in the Mission: STEM Design Competition with a goal to increase school and informal education group participation from Orange County schools .
- h. Support first-time school/informal education groups.
 - i. Teacher/coach support
 - ii. Supply budget
 - iii. Partial support of student attendees
- i. Host 300+ (goal: 600) K-12 students at the regional competition.
 - i. Provide transportation to attend the regional competition for Orange County students as needed.
 - ii. Purchase supplies for competition events.
 - iii. Printing pre- and day-of materials along with event signage.
 - iv. Reserve and rent space for competitions and check-in.
- j. Purchase medals, ribbons and trophies for presentation to winning teams/schools.

Additional Sponsorship Expectations

1. UCF commits to showing the County’s STEM Careers promotional videos at least once during the event.
2. If appropriate and available, County staff should be prioritized in the itinerary to present the video and/or speak at major events.
3. UCF will hold one or more one day STEM events at the Orange County Innovation Center, if logistically feasible.

4. UCF staff will meet with Orange County staff at least six times during the year to coordinate alignment with impact metrics, especially ensuring all County Commission Districts have student representation and/or access to the events/programs.
5. UCF will comply with all applicable federal executive orders and will include a nondiscrimination disclaimer on their website that programs and services are open to all with no restrictions on participation or funding based on race, ethnicity, or gender.

NO FUNDS PAID UNDER THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE EXPENDED FOR PAYMENT OF ANY LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, DAMAGES, EXPENSES, FEES, FINES, PENALTIES, PROCEEDINGS, ACTIONS OR COST OF ACTIONS, INCLUDING ATTORNEY'S FEES OR ATTORNEYS ON APPEAL OF ANY PROCEEDINGS OR JUDGMENTS OF ANY KIND AND NATURE.

EXHIBIT B

The following report shall be submitted to the Office of Innovation and Emerging Technologies as indicated:

- 1) The invoice shall document the activities of the invoice period and the demographic data. The invoice shall also document the planned activities for the next invoice.
- 2) Within 45 days of the end of the year or prior, UCF shall provide the County with a copy of its final performance and financial report of the agency's activities/programs/services and impact metrics.

	Report Due (no later than)	Final Payment Due to UCF
Draft	August 30	
Final	November 15	Within 30 days of receipt of report

The following information needs to be included in each invoice for payment, the draft and final report, as it pertains to the agency's activities/programs/services supporting Orange County and other regional students, or students sought for recruitment to local STEM career opportunities. The report deliverables in Exhibit B of Impact Metrics shall be in a matrix comparison to all Orange County zip codes.

SECTION A: Event/Program Information

- A 1 – 2 paragraph summary describing each event or program, including theme, location, participating agencies and co-sponsors, activities, and any new services or features
- A list of STEM-based skills, as well as other skills, each event or program provided to participants
- A copy of the agenda or itinerary for each event or program
- Brief description of any winning teams/participants in any competitive program/event, including where the participants are from (preferably zip codes), their age, and collegiate/job aspirations
- Rankings/performance statistics of Orange County-based teams and/or participants in any competitive event/program
- Proof of Orange County logo and other sponsorship benefits/placement (i.e. copies of collateral and/or screenshots/photos)
- Confirmation that the Orange County STEM Career video was shown during the event, including how it was presented and on what day and timeframe of the itinerary, including photos/video
- Social media analytics for content engagement and video views (by County, if possible)

SECTION B: Impact Metrics

Impact Metrics of Workshops and Camps

- Description of each event, including Orange County area or school in which they were held
- Total number of participants
- Total number of Orange County student and/or resident participants
- Percentage of Orange County student/resident participants new to the event this year
- Number of Orange County residents who mentor, coach, and/or volunteer at the event or any aspect of preparing for the event
- Number of STEM-career based Orange County residents who mentor, coach, and/or volunteer at the event or any aspect of preparing for the event
- Percentage of former UCF participants engaged with any aspect of the event
- A non-identifiable count by zip code of all registered precollegiate participants in Orange County and nearby FL areas
- A non-identifiable count of participants in FL outside of local area, by team county, out of state, by state, and international participants, city and nation

Impact Metrics of Professional Development

- Description of each event, including Orange County area or school in which they were held
- Total number of participants
- Total number of Orange County teacher participants
- Percentage of Orange County teacher participants new to the event this year
- Number of OCPS staff who mentor, coach, and/or volunteer at the event or any aspect of preparing for the event

Impact Metrics of Competition Team Support

- Description of each team, including Orange County area or school in which they are based
- Description of each team activity, including Orange County area or school in which they were held
- Total number of teams participating in team activities, including events, training, and mentoring
- Total number of Orange County student and/or resident participants at team activities, including events, training, and mentoring
- Percentage of Orange County student/resident participants new to the event this year
- Number of Orange County residents who mentor, coach, and/or volunteer at the event or any aspect of preparing for the event

- Number of STEM-career based Orange County residents who mentor, coach, and/or volunteer at the event or any aspect of preparing for the event
- Percentage of UCF participants engaged with any aspect of the event, including preparation of teams prior to the event
- A non-identifiable count by zip code of all registered precollegiate participants in Orange County and nearby FL areas

2) Within 30 days of its release, UCF shall provide the County with a copy of its annual financial report, external audit reports, and any performance or statistical data requested by Orange County.

Reports and Communications to the COUNTY:

Orange County Office of Innovation & Emerging Technologies
 ATTN: Chief Innovation and Emerging Technology Officer
 201 S. Rosalind Avenue, 5th Floor
 Orlando, Florida 32801
 Phone: (407) 836-5493
 Fax: (407) 836-7399

Reports and Communications to the UCF:

University of Central Florida
 ATTN: Garrett Preisser, Executive Director of Development
 UCF Foundation, Inc.
 12424 Research Parkway, Ste. 250
 Orlando FL 32826
 Phone: 407-823-1570