The mission of the Providence After School Alliance (PASA) is to expand and improve quality after-school, summer, and other expanded learning opportunities for the youth of Providence by organizing a sustainable public/private system that contributes to student success and serves as a national model.

PASA is currently seeking community based organizations with a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) focus to facilitate a five-week hands-on learning summer experience for middle school youth. **Please note that all camp activities are pending funding.**

**About the AfterZone Summer STEM Camp:**

The AfterZone Summer STEM Camp aims to engage youth in relevant and experiential learning in order to achieve the following outcomes for youth:

* Improve problem solving, perseverance, and collaboration skills
* Mitigate summer learning loss and accelerate year-round learning
* Experience engaging STEM instruction and exploration
* Form positive relationships with adults

**The Summer STEM Camp 2017 will be moving to a five day model, Monday – Friday, where the Community Educator will be present all five (5) days.** Dates for Summer STEM Camp 2017 will be: July 3 through August 4, Monday through Friday from 9:00AM – 1:00 PM (excluding July 4). The weekly structure will consist of two off-site field experience days and three school site days.

PASA’s AfterZone Summer STEM Camp is characterized by a collaborative educational approach. Youth participate in STEM programming designed and co-facilitated by STEM teams. Each AfterZone summer STEM team will consist of a Community-Based Educator and a School Day Educator (certified RI Teacher) who collaboratively plan and deliver direct instruction to youth. These STEM teams will work together to develop a standards aligned curriculum for a cohort of up to 28 youth, using the content focus of the community-based partner as a guiding theme for their group. Both the Community-Based Educator and the School Day Educator are required to be present during all 5 days of camp. School Day Educators will be hired by PASA, and the STEM teams will be determined via mutual selection ranking.

Both educators have interdependent roles within the STEM teams. The Community-Based Educator understands the program content at a deep level and is responsible for preparing the School Day Educator with the knowledge and skills relevant to their curriculum. The School Day Educator, experienced in differentiated learning and content standards, partners with the Community-Based Educator in creating standards aligned, quality learning experiences for youth that connect offsite field experiences and school site days. All adult educators are expected to provide a safe and supportive atmosphere that incorporates inquiry, camp culture, teamwork, youth leadership, and fun.

**About the RFP Process:**

PASA will contract with 8 STEM-based community organizations to provide programming for a maximum of 224 Providence Middle School students (grades 6-8) citywide. In order to be eligible for funding, all STEM-based **community organizations must** **hire their Community-Based Educator/s in time to attend a mandatory training on May 13, 2017. Offsite space(s)** must also be secured by this time.

The RFP Review will be held March 24, 2017.

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee consisting of PASA’s AfterZone and quality staff. They will be looking for the following:

* *Ability to affect Summer STEM Camp youth outcomes (outlined on page 1)*
* *Ability to create and facilitate curriculum with embedded Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards*
* *Ability to demonstrate a connection in learning between school site and offsite field experiences*
* *Commitment to outlined timeline for planning and implementation*
* *Educators experienced with urban middle school youth*
* *Educators that possess knowledge in STEM and experiential learning relevant to their organization*
* *Desire to collaborate*
* *Ability to provide an engaging program to youth*

Organizations accepted for the 2017 AfterZone Summer STEM Camp will receive a $7,175 program grant, pending PASA’s funding for summer activities. The grant will be divided between supplies and staffing time. $2,600 will be allocated for supplies with the understanding that the **funding for all program supplies needs to cover** the full STEM educator team for **both school site and offsite field experience days.** A draft supplies budget will be due upon submission of the program curriculum. Staff will be compensated for their time at an hourly rate of $30, totaling $4,575 for up to 31.5 of pre-summer training and planning hours as well as 24 days of AfterZone Summer STEM Camp. For more information regarding staff hours, please view Program Responsibilities below.

**Program Responsibilities:**

Organizations who apply for a program with the AfterZone Summer STEM Camp are committing their staff to participate fully in the requirements below. All STEM-based **community organizations must** **hire their Community-Based Educator in time to attend the May 13th training** **to be eligible for funding.**

Selected organizations must commit to:

1. Sending their Community Based Educator for training and planning:
* 31.5 hours of training and pre-summer planning that include:
	+ 8 hours of professional development on Saturday, May 13 (6.5 hours for returning AfterZone Summer STEM Camp staff)
	+ 8 hours of camp-wide learning and planning time, divided into four 2-hour meetings in May and June
	+ 15.5 hours of STEM team pre-summer planning
		- Community-Based Educators are responsible for arranging a minimum of 1 pre-planning meetings at their community site with their School Day Educator.
* Three hours of citywide planning/debrief sessions during the summer, dates and times to be determined.
1. **Community Based Educator’s presence for all 5 days of the AfterZone Summer STEM Camp (Mon-Fri):**
* Dates for AfterZone Summer STEM Camp are July 3 – August 4, Monday – Friday (closed on July 4).
* STEM programming runs from 9:30am – 1pm, Monday – Friday; the weekly structure will consist of two offsite field experience days and three school site days.
* All educators are required to arrive at 8:30am at the school site to check-in with their teams and remain until 1:00pm
* An additional two hours of time should be scheduled by STEM teams throughout each week for planning and debrief purposes. While the schedule is flexible, the Community Based Educator must be available for these additional two hours per week.
* Community Based Educators are required to ride the bus with their cohort between the school and offsite locations.
1. **Participating in a collaborative planning and teaching process within STEM teams**
* Community Based Educators are often the educators with the strongest background in subject matter, but they need to commit to planning **collaboratively** with their educator team. PASA is looking for Community Based Educators who can both ‘step up’ to helping their team of educators **work together** to design a curriculum around their program’s subject matter and ‘step back’ to allow all educators to be an equal part of an educator team.
* Community Based Educators should feel comfortable with all aspects of the content proposed in the RFP. Community organizations should not depend on other members of the educator team to compensate for gaps in the Community Based Educator’s knowledge of topics that were proposed.
* Community organizations are responsible for working with the School Day Educator to purchase all of the supplies needed for **both onsite and offsite** days using grant funds.
* Community Based Educators and School Day Educators are responsible for ensuring that each offsite day is content rich and rigorous and that there is a natural flow between the classroom curriculum and offsite days.
1. **Participating in and supporting PASA’s quality and evaluation efforts.**
* All programs should be aware that they may have to support PASA in administering surveys to youth about their experiences, and that educators will also need to complete surveys in order to assess youth progress over the course of the program. This will not entail an additional time commitment.
* All programs should expect to be observed by both PASA staff and outside validated observers.
1. **Providing an engaging learning experience for youth**
* All programs will be onsite at the school for three days a week and off site for two days. PASA is looking for programs that will provide a variety of offsite locations to give youth the opportunity to get out into their community and to participate in hands-on learning experiences that enrich and connect to the content of the program. While teams may have an offsite location that they return to multiple times throughout the summer—such as a garden, worksite, or community partner’s educational facility—community partners should think of the off-site days as an opportunity to expand the youths’ horizons and enrich the learning happening throughout the summer through varied locations and experiences.
* PASA believes that a critical component of the AfterZone Summer STEM Camp is that young people have the opportunity to develop the essential skills that we refer to as the Graduate Profile: problem solving, perseverance, communication, teamwork, and engagement in learning. Programs should be prepared to integrate development of these social and emotional skills with the development of STEM skills. PASA seeks partners that can contribute to developing hands-on curriculum for both on site and off site days that allows campers to dive into learning in a way that is experiential and youth driven.
* All programs must be based around a STEM-related content theme that provides opportunity for student exploration, learning and growth. PASA believes that these youth outcomes are best achieved through active participation in purposeful activities that present relevant and rich STEM content learning, opportunities for choice and leadership, and ongoing reflection. Rather than alternating ‘fun’ activities and ‘learning’ activities, RFPs should demonstrate that the community partner is already beginning to think about how to create an engaging program that addresses both social-emotional learning and standards-based, grade appropriate STEM learning.

***Deadline for final Proposals:***

 ***March 17, 2017***

*All accepted applicants will be notified of their application status by: April 7, 2017*

For questions about the application process please contact:

Ann Durham

Director of Quality Initiatives

Phone: 401-490-9599 ext. 107

Email: adurham@mypasa.org

Interested organizations can also attend an informational session with PASA staff where they can ask questions about the program and receive support in completing the RFP. Sessions will be offered at PASA (81 Carpenter St, Providence) on as requested. Please contact Ann Durham to schedule a time to meet.

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| --- | --- |
| **Organization Name:** | **Senior Executive Name & E-Mail** (for contracting purposes)**:** |
| **Organization Address:** | **Primary Contact (*name and title*):**  |
| **Organizational 501c3 or EIN:** | **Primary Contact E- Mail:** |
| **Organization Phone :** | **Primary Contact Cell Phone:** |
|  |  |
| **Program Name:** |
|  |
| **Please give a detailed description of your proposed program (including your program specific content and specific learning goals):** |
| **Please provide a brief, 2-3 sentence program description to be used for student recruitment in the AfterZone Summer STEM Camp brochure to describe the program to youth and external audiences (keep in mind that this language should be youth-centered and should attract youth to your program):** |
| **Some programs will enroll youth in 6-7th grade; while other programs will enroll youth in 7th-8th grade. (No programs will serve youth in all three grades.) When considering your program design, please check the statement below that is most relatable (Please only check one):**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  My proposed program would *only* be a good fit for 6-7th Grade |  |  My proposed program can be adapted to either, but my first choice is 6-7th Grade. |
|  My proposed program would *only* be a good fit for 7-8th Grade |  |  My proposed program can be adapted to either, but my first choice is 7-8th Grade. |

**Additional Comments:** |
| **Please list contact information below for all staff potentially leading program (Name/Title, Cell phone, Email, Work Phone). Please attach resumes for the community based educator who will be directly leading programming. If your organization will need to hire a staff member to lead this program, please detail your hiring plans below:** |
| **Does the staff listed above have previous experience working in the AfterZone or working with urban middle school youth? Please describe briefly below if not specified in resumes:** |
| **Please detail the Community Educator’s experience with the proposed curriculum.** |
| **PASA has collected both program quality data and direct feedback from youth supporting the importance of a diversity of offsite locations. This variety is a key factor in youth engagement and program satisfaction. PASA is looking for programs that incorporate a variety of sites that are connected to the learning on school site days, as well as engaging and interesting to youth.****Please describe which locations you plan to use as part of the summer program and how they would enhance the program and the experience for youth. If you are a returning program, please specify any identified locations that would be new to the experience this year.** **Please note, any water related field trips will be approved by PASA on a case by case basis. In addition to the approval process, community organizations will be required to provide appropriate proof of insurance for water based field trips.** **Potential Location(s):** |

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|  **In order to ensure that we meet the AfterZone Summer STEM Camp youth outcomes (please see page one for full list) we seek out partners who provide youth with standards aligned, hands-on, inquiry learning programs that are grounded in real world experiences, guided by youth, and supported by high quality practice.** **Program observations and youth surveys from the previous AfterZone Summer STEM Camps indicate that all programs possess the opportunity for improvement in the areas of youth leadership and rigorous STEM practices.****Please describe examples of activities your organization will utilize to promote youth leadership while ensuring all youth are accurately learning core STEM content elements.** |
| **Please attach an example of a lesson plan that could be implemented as part of your proposed program.** **The lesson plan should include:*** Full day plan for an on-site day
* Full day plan for an off-site field exploration day
* A correlation between on-site and off-site learning content
* Alignment to Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards
* Alignment to the following STEM practices and graduate profile skills:
	+ Youth ask scientific question or define problems on their own (Graduate Profile Skills: problem solving, communication, engaged in one’s learning)
	+ Youth make sense of problem and persevere in solving them (Graduate Profile Skills : problem solving, perseverance)
	+ Youth obtain, evaluate, and communicate data/information (Graduate Profile Skills : problem solving, communication, perseverance)
	+ Youth construct viable arguments utilizing evidence and are to express their arguments via writing and speaking (Graduate Profile Skills : problem solving, communication, engaged in one’s learning)
	+ Youth are able to critique the reasoning of others utilizing evidence (Graduate Profile Skills: problem solving, communication)
 |

Please email your completed proposal & attached lesson plans to:

Ann Durham

Director of Quality Initiatives

Email: adurham@mypasa.org

Phone: 401-490-9599 ext. 107

***Deadline for final Proposals: March 17,2017***

*All accepted applicants will be notified of their application status by: April 7, 2017.*