The Literacy Innovation for Education initiative (LIFE) is housed at the University of South Florida College of Education. Its purpose is twofold:

1) encourage and enable the use of innovative approaches and/or programs to improve the reading skills of K-12 struggling readers.

2) to rigorously evaluate the cost effectiveness of these innovations.

Any educator wishing to use an innovative method to help struggling readers should consider applying for a LIFE Initiative matching grant. In order to be considered for a grant, educators must provide $1 (one dollar) of the budget for each dollar requested in the grant application. (All grants are made on a 1:1 match)

Matching grants are typically between $1,000 - $3,000, however larger grants will be considered. A thorough evaluation of the fidelity and the effectiveness of the intervention will be completed within 90 days of the submission of post-test data by the school to the USF College of Education team.

Please see the LIFE Initiatives FAQs for more information.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Fill out the application completely.
2. Have your principal or program director sign the grant application form.
3. Make a copy for your records.
4. Return the completed application to:

   Susan Homan, Ph.D.
   Director, LIFE Initiative
   University of South Florida
   4202 Fowler Ave., EDU 162
   Tampa, FL 33620

   Tel: 813-974-1059
   Eml: homan@tempest.coedu.usf.edu
   Web: http://lifeinitiative.coedu.usf.edu/
I. **Contact information:**  
Please provide the following information so that we may contact you regarding your proposal.  **IMPORTANT: All applications must have the approval and signature of the school principal or program director.**

**SCHOOL/PROGRAM LOCATION:**

School/Program Name ____________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________

City ___________________ State _______ ZIP ________________

**GRANT APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

Last Name ___________________________ First Name __________________

Title __________________________________________________________

Telephone (__) _______ x________ Fax (__) _______ __________________

Email _________________________________________________________

II. **Proposed Project Information:**

1. Today’s date ____________________________

2. Project Title (please enter a descriptive title for your project or program)

3. Project Narrative

(Please provide us with a brief summary of your program or project. Be sure to include how LIFE Initiative funding will be used in the proposed program/project).

4. Expected Project Start Date: _______ Expected Project End Date: _______

5. Is your program targeting struggling readers? _________________

6. Student population targeted for this project:

   Age of students ___________ Grade level(s) of students _________

   # of students ________________ Estimated average instructional
   reading level ______________

7. What is the current primary instructional reading program for these students?

_______________________________________________________________

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8. What is the new program or approach that will be used in the project? How will it be implemented at your school or program site? __________________________

9. What pre and post intervention assessment will be used to determine the effect of the proposed project/program? (The USF LIFE Evaluation Team will be able to help complete this section, if needed).

10. Please state why you consider this approach to be an innovation.

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III. Financials:

(a) $ _______ Professional development
(b) $ _______ Instructional materials
(c) $ _______ Other (please specify) __________________________

(a+b+c) $ _______ Total cost of program

Amount applicant will provide: $ _____________

Matching grant amount requested from LIFE $ _____________

Grant Applicant:
Grant applicant signature
Date

Principal or Program Director:
(please circle correct title)
Signature indicates project approval
Date