



Bernardo Vasquez Agent, Lic. # OF45943
460 3rd Ave, Suite A Chula Vista, CA 91910
Phone 619-425-6560 Fax 619-425-4277
bernardovasquez.com

Dear Principal,

My name is Bernardo Vasquez and I am a State Farm Agent in Chula Vista. I went to Silver Wing Elementary, and Montgomery Jr. and Sr. High Schools. I live in Chula Vista, and have children in both the Chula Vista Elementary and Sweetwater Union High School Districts. I have been very active in my children's school as a volunteer.

I was the CVESD District Advisory Board Chair for the 2008-2009 school year, and am currently on the SUHSD Proposition O Bond Oversight Committee. I am also very active in our community through numerous service groups and organizations.

As a parent of children in the school districts and as a business owner in our community, I have a vested interest in the education of our children. As a principal in one of the schools in our community, you lead the charge in giving our children the opportunity of a lifetime – an education that will allow them to be successful as adults.

In this packet you will find information about State Farm Insurance grants – State Farm Youth Advisory Board Grants and the State Farm es Para Mi campaign. These grants to public schools and 501©(3) nonprofit organizations provide an opportunity for funding programs at your school. The packet includes a link for each of the grant opportunities with more information, including step by step instructions on how to apply.

Please take a moment to review the packet, and consider applying for one or more of the grants. I would love to assist you and your school in any way I can. Please let me know if you have any questions, or if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Bernardo Vasquez
State Farm Agent

View in En Español

State Farm es Para Mí™ (State Farm is For Me) is a Public Affairs campaign which helps to empower Latinos to become full participants in American life through increased civic engagement. Working with key national and local Hispanic partnerships, the campaign focuses on citizenship, voter registration and education.



Education

Helping students achieve their greatest potential is of high importance to State Farm.

Education Grants

Apply Now

Through our participating agents, the State Farm es Para Mí campaign is offering a total of 93 \$1,000 grants to public schools and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations who are tackling education issues that concern all of us. To participate, your school or organization has to submit an electronic application with a video showing what you are doing to help students stay in school and graduate ([Education Grant Rules and Regulations](#)). All electronic applications and videos must be submitted by October 1, 2009, by 12:00 a.m., Pacific Time.

Education Resources

To ensure students have access to higher education, State Farm has sponsored an educational directory with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI). The directory contains important information on scholarships, fellowships and internships available for Latino high school and college students.

Citizenship

Citizenship information, in conjunction with the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund, is made available to legal permanent residents of the United States who want to know more about what steps are needed to become a U.S. citizen.

Find an Agent

Free bilingual information on the citizenship process and voter registration, educational scholarships, and financial aid are available through participating State Farm es Para Mí, agents across the country. For more information ([home pa-para-mi](#)).

For more information on the State Farm es Para Mí Grants, please visit www.statefarm.com/esparami, or call State Farm Agent Bernardo Vasquez at 619-425-6560.

State Farm® Youth Advisory Board



\$5 million in Service-Learning Grants Now Available **Available Until October 2, 2009**

Apply Now

Applicants may request any amount from \$25,000 to \$100,000 based on a required budget which outlines project expenses. Request for Proposals (RFP) must be submitted online at www.statefarmyab.com.

Who is eligible?

All non-profit, tax-exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code are eligible as well as Canadian charitable organizations, educational institutions, and governmental entities.

What are the issues grants can address?

Grants are available for programs focusing on natural and societal disaster preparedness, driver safety, accessing higher education/closing the achievement gap, financial education, and environmental responsibility.

About The Youth Advisory Board

Thirty students, ages 17-20, from across the United States and Canada comprise the State Farm® Youth Advisory Board. They are charged with helping State Farm design and implement a \$5 million-a-year signature service-learning initiative to address issues important to State Farm and communities across the United States and Canada.

The board is made up of a diverse group of students. They were selected from more than 600 applications and were chosen based on their strengths as reflected in their application and through telephone interviews with finalists. Each member will commit about 15 hours a month to the board and participate in four face-to-face meetings during their year of service.

One board member and one associate board member will represent each of State Farm's 13 zones across the United States and Canada. The Youth Advisory Board also includes a Corporate representative and three at-large members nominated by State Farm's national service-learning partners – Youth Service America (YSA), the National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC), and the National Service-Learning Partnership (NSLP).

Students chosen presented a clear understanding of service-learning and its value to communities. They were highly motivated, exemplary team players, school and community leaders, passionate, compassionate, innovative, committed and enthusiastic.

Members of this distinguished youth board play a critical leadership role in creating and overseeing the initiative that will address five community issues chosen by the board. The 2009-2010 State Farm Youth Advisory Board chose financial education, access to higher education/closing the achievement gap, natural and societal disaster preparedness, teen driver safety and environmental responsibility to address through a competitive grant process. The board issued their Requests for Proposals on August 1, 2009 and will announce grant winners in February, 2010.

For more detailed information on the grants available and the application process, visit www.statefarmyab.com or call State Farm Agent Bernardo Vasquez at 619-425-6560.

2009-2010 Youth Advisory Board Issue Areas

Drivers' Safety

Traffic crashes are the number one cause of death among children and young adults. In 2008 alone, there were 37,261 driving fatalities in the United States. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that "25 percent of all deaths due to injuries are the result of road traffic injuries". The leading causes of traffic and traffic-related deaths include impaired driving, improper or lack of seat belt use, speeding, fatigue, and distractions such as music and cell phones. To read more about some past grants that the Youth Advisory Board has funded: [click here](#)



Access to Higher Education / Closing the Achievement Gap

Every 26 seconds a child drops out of school. You could fill up Wrigley Field or Fenway Park with a capacity crowd each Saturday with the students that have dropped out that week. Research shows that most will never come back to get a diploma. Jobs that require post-secondary education make up more than 2/3 of new jobs. The dropout rate is a silent national crisis that needs to be stopped in its tracks. To read more about some past grants that the Youth Advisory Board has funded: [click here](#)



Financial Literacy

For the average young adult in North America, opening a checking or savings account, applying for a credit card, or taking out a school loan requires little effort or understanding of the responsibility that they will incur. Past the age of 18, youth navigate a high-risk fiscal environment on a daily basis, yet are equipped with inadequate skills and knowledge to make the financial decisions that will affect them for decades. The roots of financial illiteracy run deeper than easy access to credit cards, beginning instead at an early age within the home. Less than a third of all parents express confidence in their abilities to discuss basic financial skills with their children and practices like insufficient retirement savings and the average debt load of \$8,565.27 carried by households set poor examples for youth. Few schools address financial education content as part of a required curriculum. To read more about some past grants that the Youth Advisory Board has funded: [click here](#)



Natural & Societal Disaster Preparedness

Disaster preparedness encompasses school shootings such as at Columbine and Virginia Tech, hurricanes such as Katrina and Rita, and increasing nutritional imbalances. As these diverse yet equally exigent disasters unfold, the State Farm Youth Advisory Board has come to realize that disaster preparedness encompasses a broad variety of challenges and threats, from natural disasters to public health and safety issues like nutritional imbalances, physical exercise, bullying, physical & substance abuse, psychological disorders & suicide, sexually transmitted diseases and diversity & acceptance. To read more about some past grants that the Youth Advisory Board has funded: [click here](#)



Environmental Responsibility

Over the past decades, nations, corporations, and populations have started to recognize that in order to maintain our quality of life, we must take care of the planet that sustains it. State Farm's Environmental Responsibility issue area is dedicated to addressing this ever-growing ecological concern. Environmental Responsibility is an expansive topic with unlimited opportunity because all environmental matters are ultimately interconnected. From global climate change and environmental education to wildlife conservation and land preservation, this issue area seeks to fund projects that improve environmentally responsible behavior in local communities across the United States and Canada. To read more about some past grants that the Youth Advisory Board has funded: [click here](#)



Learn More!

The Youth Advisory Board hopes that applying for this grant is an educational experience that helps bring youth and adults together to solve. We encourage you to learn more about the issue areas that we fund and think about the impact they may have in your local community. A great place to start is by reading our supplemental grant information, which you can find at www.statefarmyab.com.