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## Step 1: Authorization

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**[Authorization](#)**

Please enter the name of your top paid staff. May be the executive director.

Robert E. Hebert

Please enter the job title of the top paid staff, i.e. Executive Director

County Judge

By entering your name in the signature field and checking the authorization box, you are certifying that all information in the proposal is true and correct.

Signature

*Robert E. Hebert* 6-28-16

I certify that the information in this proposal is true to the best of my knowledge.

I certify that the information in this proposal is true to the best of my knowledge

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## Organization Profile (Reference ID:44385)

Legal Name of the Organization\*   
 EIN\*   
 Mission Statement

Address1\*   
 Address2   
 City\*   
 State   
 ZIP\*   
 County   
 Country\*   
 Phone\*   
 Extension   
 Fax   
 Email\*   
 Website   No Website Available

Primary Contact

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## Step 2: Summary

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### Application Summary

#### Organization Background Information

##### **Organization Mission**

The mission of Fort Bend County Libraries is to bring people, information and ideas together to enrich lives, expand minds, and strengthen our diverse community.

##### How We Serve Our Community

Although we serve our community in many ways, we have identified three major areas of service that are most important to the accomplishment of our expressed mission.

##### We serve as a Reference Center...

- ...by continuing to develop partnerships with formal education providers
- ...by compiling and providing access to community information
- ...by serving as a gateway to additional information resources
- ...by offering resources, as well as assistance to, business in our community


##### We serve as an Independent Learning Center...

- ...by proactively and responsively providing high-demand resources
- ...by functioning as a hub of community and cultural activities
- ...by targeting populations with special needs for augmented service; e.g., literacy, tutoring, non-English materials, programming for older adults, etc.

##### We serve as the Preschoolers' Door to Learning...

- ...by enhancing preschool programs for children, parents and other caregivers
- ...by strengthening preschool collections of books, audiovisual materials, educational toys and story kits
- ...by further developing outreach to children at risk

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| <b>Total Annual Organization Budget</b> | \$15,538,012.00 |
|---|-----------------|

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Children Served By Organization</b>         | 163052  |
| <b>Best Buy Geographic Area</b>                | Community Grants ▼  |
| <b>Best Buy Store ID Number</b>                | 000199  |
| <b>Funding Referral</b>                        | Other nonprofit ▼   |
| <b>IRS 501(c)(3) tax</b>                       |  <a href="#">Fort Bend County Tax Exemption.pdf</a>  |
| <b><u>Proposal Information</u></b>             |   |
| <b>Program Title</b>                           | Python and Arduino &#8211; Coding for Teens   |
| <b>Requested Grant Amount</b>                  | \$7,215   |
| <b>Children Served By Program</b>              | 13922   |
| <b>Define Children Served</b>                  | Children, as defined by this program, are teens aged 13-15.   |
| <b>Geographic Area Served</b>                  | The east side of Fort Bend County, specifically the City of Stafford, the City of Sugar Land, and Missouri City covering a total of 67.79 square miles.   |
| <b>Program Start Date</b>                      | 01/03/2017  |
| <b>Program End Date</b>                        | 05/31/2017  |
| <b>Program Goals, Objectives, &amp; Impact</b> | The goals for this program are to spark teen interest in coding and programming, to give teens the skills and knowledge they need to create working programs, and to teach them the analytical reasoning skills necessary when creating programs. The program will accomplish these goals through two separate projects. One will be to learn the Python programming language to create a Hangman game. The second will be to learn the mBlock program provided by Makeblock to program an mBot robot to maneuver through a maze and accomplish a series of tasks. We hope to have a significant impact on the teens in the community with this program. Many teens in the area do not have access to coding programs or robots. By providing this program for free we hope that we can inspire them to pursue an education in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) field. |

**Program Description**

Fort Bend County has been recognized as one of the top growing counties in the nation with an ethnically diverse population. Some of the schools offer technology and coding classes, but not all do. We're hoping that the library can help close that gap with this project, by offering all teens on the east side of the county the opportunity to be exposed to coding and robotics.

**Implementation Plan**

Python - The coding will be done in PyCharm which offers free licenses to educational institutions. We chose to focus on Python for several reasons. First and foremost its clear syntax makes it an ideal first language. Secondly it also has a high level data structure that makes it easier for teens to understand. Finally it has a large number of existing libraries (collections of precompiled routines that a program can use) that allows it to tackle just about any programming task. We decided to focus on creating a game because it will allow the kids to become comfortable with the syntax and it will give them something tangible that they can accomplish. The game is simple enough that it should be completed in a one- or two-day programming camp.

mBlock - mBlock is an interesting program because it shows both a graphical programming language (based on Scratch 2.0) adjacent to the actual code sent to the Arduino on the robot (which is C/C++ based). You can code with just the blocks, just the Arduino side, or both. This also makes it easy to add on peripherals and program them with the Arduino side (i.e. a display screen on the front to change the robot's expression). This is a unique program because it lets the teens see what goes on in the background with Scratch. It also allows the teen to grow with the program. This project will involve having the teens design a course through which they will have to guide the robot. There will be a series of tasks that the robots have to do while navigating the maze, such as turn around, turn in a circle, make a noise, etc. Depending on the complexity of the maze and the tasks, this program could be completed in a two hour class or a week long programming camp.

Timeline - We expect to have the hardware required to run the programs within two months of receiving the grant. Staff will be trained and classes will begin in January of 2017.

**Sustainability**

The laptops that we will be using come with a five year service contract so they will last for at least five years. As long as Python remains a viable coding language, the program will sustain itself. If Python becomes outdated, a staff member will have to be trained on a new programming language which cost us only time. The robots should last us a minimum of three years before they become outdated. That will give us enough time to evaluate their effectiveness in teaching coding. If they are successful we will be able to fund additional programs through the library's budget.

**Measurement**

Benefits - This project will benefit the community by exposing teens in the community to coding. We hope this exposure will inspire them to pursue careers in a STEM field. Even if they don't, learning coding

improves problem solving skills which will be a benefit no matter what they choose to do with their life. Currently, we do not offer very many programs for teens, so this project will also let them know that they are valued members of the community and an important part of the library system. The Atlantic published a very good article on the economic benefits of teaching coding to teens.  
<http://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2015/05/the-economic-importance-of-teaching-coding-to-teens/393263/>. The point of the article is that no matter what language teens learn, the skills that they learn will apply to so much more than just coding and will have a significant impact on them and their future careers.

Impact Measurement and Evaluation – We will measure the impact of the project by looking at the number of teens that complete the various programs that we will offer. If we can attain a 75% completion rate, we will consider the program a success. Staff will be responsible for evaluating the work. If the evaluation reveals that the project was successful, we will look into expanding the project into different age groups.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Yes ▼

**Demographics**

**Population Served**

- African American/Black = 29%
- American Indian/Alaskan Native = 1%
- Asian/Pacific Islander = 25%
- Caucasian/White = 19%
- Latino/Latina/Hispanic = 24%
- Other = 2%

**Gender Served**

- Female = 48%
- Male = 52%

**Age Served**


13-15 years

**Program Type**

Education K-12 ▼

**Budget**

**Total Organization Budget**

 [FBCL Budget.JPG](#)

**Brief Narrative of Organization's Budget**

The total adopted budget for the 2016 fiscal year that started in October 2015 is \$15,538,012. Salaries and personnel costs are \$11,756,006. The operating costs are \$3,341,668. The information technology costs are \$221,941 and capital acquisitions amount to \$218,397.

**Total Program Budget**

 [Project Budget - Best Buy Form.xls](#)

**Brief Narrative of Program's Budget**

We are asking for a total of \$7215. Of that amount, \$6095 will be used to purchase 10 Dell Latitude 3470 laptops with 10 licenses for the following software: Microsoft Office, McAfee Antivirus, and Deep Freeze (a program that protects the computer from authorized changes to its operation). Another \$503 Will be spent on a Luxor 12-Outlet Narrow-Body Charging Cart. Six mBot v.1.1 Blue (Bluetooth Version) robots will cost \$570. And finally two books, Python Crash Course and Python for Kids will run \$47. All of this will total our requested amount of \$7215

**Budget Percentage**

Yes

**Other Funding Sources**

We are not seeking any additional funds from this project from any other organization.

Authorization

**Certify Proposal**

\*This field is required to submit

# Best Buy Foundation Grant Application

## PROJECT BUDGET

(You may reproduce this form on your computer)

This format is optional and can serve as a guide to budgeting. If you already prepare project budgets that original form. Feel free to attach a budget narrative explaining your numbers if necessary.

| INCOME                                  |        |
|---|--------|
| Source                                  | Amount |
| <b>Support</b>                          |        |
| Government grants                       | 0      |
| Foundations                             | 0      |
| Corporations                            | 0      |
| United Way or other federated campaigns | 0      |
| Individual contributions                | 0      |
| Fundraising events and products         | 0      |
| Membership income                       | 0      |
| In-kind support                         | 0      |
| Investment income                       | 0      |
| <b>Revenue</b>                          |        |
| Government Contracts                    | 0      |
| Earned Income                           | 0      |
| Other (specify)                         | 0      |
|   | 0      |
| <b>Total Income</b>                     | 0      |

| EXPENSES   |            |         |
|--|------------|---------|
| Item   | Amount     | \$FT/PT |
| Salaries and wages (breakdown by individual position and indicate full- or part-time.) | 0          |         |
|  | \$         |         |
|  | \$         |         |
|  | \$         |         |
|  | \$         |         |
| SUBTOTAL:  | 0          |         |
| Insurance, benefits and other related taxes  | 0          |         |
| Consultants and professional fees  | 0          |         |
| Travel   | 0          |         |
| Equipment  | \$7,215.00 |         |
| Supplies   | 0          |         |
| Printing and copying   | 0          |         |
| Telephone and fax  | 0          |         |
| Postage and delivery   | 0          |         |
| Rent and utilities   | 0          |         |
| In-kind expenses   | 0          |         |

# COUNTY LIBRARY

FUND: 100 General

ACCOUNTING UNIT: 100650100 County Library

## EXPENSE BUDGET

| CATEGORY                     | 2014 ACTUAL          | 2015 ADOPTED         | 2016 ADOPTED         |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Salaries and Personnel Costs | \$ 10,400,247        | \$ 11,238,115        | \$ 11,756,005        |
| Operating Costs              | \$ 2,996,406         | \$ 3,188,670         | \$ 3,341,668         |
| Information Technology Costs | \$ 111,207           | \$ 151,154           | \$ 221,941           |
| Capital Acquisitions         | \$ 87,817            | \$ 80,910            | \$ 218,397           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>\$ 13,635,624</b> | <b>\$ 14,679,093</b> | <b>\$ 15,538,011</b> |