

# Co-SER Guide

## ATTENTION EDUCATORS

The Project Fibonacci® Foundation is advocating for schools to nominate several students to attend the 2025 STEAM Leadership Conference. Teachers may be eligible for Professional Development credit through full or partial-day registration during the conference week. Also, the LifeSTREAM & ESTEAMed Speakers Series offer additional Professional Development opportunities for educators throughout the year.

Schools, colleges, and universities are encouraged to partially or fully cover their student nominee's tuition for the 2025 Project Fibonacci® STEAM Leadership Conference.

BOCES Co-Sers are available to all NYS schools, excluding the "Big Five" districts (NYC, Yonkers, Buffalo, Rochester & Syracuse). There are two Co-Sers which may cover student costs to attend the STEAM Leadership Conference, Innovation Camps, LifeSTREAM events, etc.

- Arts in Education (Arts) - Funds students participating in arts learning events (visual arts, music, dance, performances, etc.)
- Exploratory Enrichment (EE) - Funds students participating in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics learning events.

If a district has not pre-funded these particular Co-Sers or has exhausted them, they may transfer money into them from another part of their BOCES budget. Typically, a BOCES facility will have an individual who manages districts' "Arts" and "EE" Co-Ser usage, often located within a curriculum or professional development office.

Because the STEAM Leadership Conference falls into a district's new fiscal year, BOCES typically allows half the tuition to be paid out of the current budget year's Co-Sers to cover "down payments" which are due before June 30th. Final payments are typically executed July 1st, when the new budget period is opened.



# Co-SER QUICK GUIDE

EXPLORATORY ENRICHMENT (EE) CO-SER

- 1 TEACHER CHECK-IN**

Teacher checks with school district on participation in Co-SER with local BOCES.
- 2 REQUEST SUBMISSION**

Teacher submits request to BOCES for EE Co-SER. Each BOCES has their own Co-SER form.
- 3 BOCES REVIEW**

BOCES reviews and approves request. BOCES notifies teacher and the Project Fibonacci Foundation.
- 4 PAYOUT & PARTICIPATION**

BOCES pays Project Fibonacci though Co-SER fund. Student participates in Project Fibonacci conference.



# EXPLORATORY ENRICHMENT (EE) Co-SER

Schools can support their students to attend the Project Fibonacci® STEAM Youth Leadership Conference by using the Exploratory Enrichment Co-SER (through your local BOCES). BOCES Co-SERs aim to enhance the educational experience for students by providing specialized services beyond what individual districts can offer.

\*Schools set aside monies within their budget for Co-SERs. This varies from school to school\*

\* Each BOCES has their own Co-SER form.\*

## Here are the key steps involved:

1

### IDENTIFY EDUCATIONAL NEEDS:

- Teachers and school districts identify specific educational needs or enrichment opportunities for students.
- These needs could include specialized programs, workshops, or services beyond the regular curriculum.

2

### CONTACT BOCES

- Teachers or district administrators reach out to their local BOCES (Boards of Cooperative Educational Services).
- They express their interest in accessing EE Co-SERs and discuss the specific requirements.

3

### EXPLORE AVAILABLE SERVICES

- BOCES provides information about the available EE Co-SERs.
- Teachers review the options and select the services that align with their students' needs.

4

### SUBMIT A REQUEST

- Teachers formally submit a request to BOCES for the desired EE Co-SERs.
- The request includes details such as the type of service, grade levels, and preferred scheduling.

### APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION

5

- BOCES reviews the request and ensures it aligns with their guidelines and available resources.
- Once approved, BOCES coordinates the implementation of the requested services.

### PARTICIPATE IN CO-SER ACTIVITIES

6

- Teachers and students participate in the EE Co-SERs.
- These activities could include cultural field trips, art/music lessons, performances, or other enrichment experiences.

# 100%

2024 STEAM Scholars had their tuition fully paid for by their schools & through sponsorship organizations

# 27

Schools sent their students to attend the conference

# 19

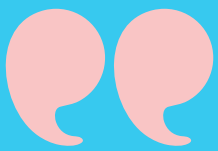
Businesses, schools, & local organizations contributed toward tuition funding

# 33%

2024 Scholars were returning STEAM Scholars

**"This week has been one of the best weeks I've had in a long time."**

**-2024 STEAM SCHOLAR**



THE CONFERENCE THIS YEAR HAS BEEN A JOY TO ATTEND. THE WORKSHOPS WERE ENJOYABLE AND FASCINATING AS ALWAYS, THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS ENGAGING, AND THE CONNECTION & SKILL BUILDING IRREPLACEABLE. IF POSSIBLE, I WOULD LOVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH MY TEAM MEMBERS AGAIN NEXT YEAR, AS I BELIEVE I STILL HAVE SO MUCH MORE TO LEARN FROM THEM. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE."

**-2024 STEAM SCHOLAR**



 [PROJECTFIBONACCI.ORG](https://PROJECTFIBONACCI.ORG)

 [INFO@PROJECTFIBONACCI.ORG](mailto:INFO@PROJECTFIBONACCI.ORG)

 PO BOX 424  
ROME, NY 13442-0424