To stimulate the development of innovative school inclusion, the company of BM Consulting LLC will offer a limited number of Summer Reading Book Grants to local schools interested in developing and making their school library more inclusive and diverse for the 2024-2025 academic year by inspiring reading. Schools interested in applying for Summer Reading Book Grants must complete and submit the Summer Reading Book Grant application via the online application link no later than **April 30, 2024**.

- Applications will be reviewed by the owner and community partners at its Spring 2024 meeting.
- Schools will be notified of the funding status of their application by **May 30th**. Grants to Schools who are selected will be issued for the Summer of 2023-2024 Program Year.
- The funds are not to be used for food nor awarded as individual/combined financial aid to an
 individual or group. Schools are encouraged to use prominent display areas, whenever possible.
 If resource personnel or consultants are required, Schools are encouraged to identify
 professionals whose time can be donated to the school's program to inventory books each
 school year.
- Schools may receive a Summer Reading Book Grant for multiple school designations in one year (i.e. Pre-K /HS).
- Schools are only eligible to receive one (1) Summer Reading Book Grant per year per location.
- Recipients are encouraged purchase books written by African American or minority authors.
- Recipients are required to place the BM Consulting LLC Diverse Books Initiative logo inside each book.

Listed below are eligible category areas that Schools eligible to apply for:

Pre-K programs

Offering a one-day or multi session reading workshop series using summer reading books geared towards parents, youth, adults, and others interested in improving reading levels of students.

Recommended focus:

- Books related to summer reading list and/or diversity and inclusion.
- Reviewing and providing reading sessions in a group setting with students.
- Providing contact information and resource links to books purchased if requested by parents.
- Guest author speakers (if possible).

Elementary Schools

Hosting a workshop series with an emphasis on "summer reading list" can offer "special or targeted groups" readings and/or community services that focuses on serving and providing resources to those with the greatest hardship.

- Disadvantaged students
- Students with disabilities
- Students who speak a different language

Offer workshops/speakers focusing on diverse populations to help students and parents prepare and understand the importance of access. (Optional) Teach students and parents how to locate books by African American or minority authors.

Middle Schools

Workshop sessions may be developed to focus specifically on inclusion, and access. With the changing employment landscape, assisting students in understanding underrepresentation is essential to the labor market.

(Optional) Offering workshops on diversity, equity, inclusion, and access can be beneficial to students and parents.

High Schools

Workshop sessions may be developed to focus specifically on inclusion, and access. With the changing employment landscape, assisting underrepresented students in understanding the long-term effects of early reading is significant to society.

(Optional) Create a book club to discuss books by summer reading list authors or African American and minority authors. Provide reading guides to aid in conversation.

(Optional) Take students to a book fest, writing expo, writing workshop etc.

Trio programs and civic programs serving disadvantage, low-income, or disabled students

Workshop sessions may be developed to focus specifically on inclusion, and access in the workforce. With the changing employment landscape, assisting underrepresented workers in understanding the long-term effects of reading is critical to the labor market and society.

(Optional) Providing books club with books written by former TRiO participants and/or African American or minority authors.

In addition to providing assistance in the areas previously mentioned, identified below is other information available and accessible through the Department of Labor's toolkit.

Eligible Counties include Counties of Barbour, Bullock, Crenshaw, and Pike

Click <u>HERE</u> to access the Department of Labor's Toolkit.

Click **<u>HERE</u>** to access the Scholarship Finder.

Please return the Summer Reading Book Grant applications on or before **April 30, 2024**, by clicking the link <u>HERE</u>.

Note: Schools and TRiO programs can apply every year. Please submit any Summer Reading Book Grant application questions to

bmconsulting749@gmail.com

Alabama | (334) 625-1340 <u>www.bmcllc.org</u>

To unsubscribe, please <u>click here</u>.

*A \$500 grant will be awarded to 1 Pre-K program, 1 Elementary school, 1 Middle school, and 1 High School library.

The grant award amount can be increased to provide books to all students in the class if purchase exceeds \$500.