

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR THE GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT ("GED") AND ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES ("ESOL") CLASSES FOR MIAMI BEACH RESIDENTS ENROLLED AT MIAMI BEACH ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER FOR THE 2021 SCHOOL YEAR, AND EACH SUBSEQUENT SCHOOL YEAR, SUBJECT TO FUNDING APPROVAL DURING THE CITY'S BUDGETARY PROCESS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$11,700 PER SCHOOL YEAR; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS OR AGREEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Adult and Community Education Center, through Miami-Dade County Public Schools, offers English for Speakers of Other Languages ("ESOL") classes as well as General Education Development ("GED") classes to Miami Beach residents; and

WHEREAS, the ESOL course is designed to provide English language and literacy instruction for English language learner adults whose first language is other than English and who are non-literate or semi-literate in their home language, in order to increase their ability to communicate in English; and

WHEREAS, The GED course of instruction prepares students for academic and personal success through obtaining the necessary skills required to pass the official GED test and earn a State of Florida High School Diploma; and

WHEREAS, the current fee to enroll in either a GED or ESOL course at Miami Beach Adult and Community Education Center through Miami-Dade County Public Schools is \$30; and

WHEREAS, in the Fall 2019 semester, 390 Miami Beach residents were enrolled into ESOL and GED; and

WHEREAS, in summer 2019, the enrollment for the GED and ESOL classes was equally robust with 223 Miami Beach residents availing themselves of these educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, however, following the COVID-19 pandemic and its adverse impact to Miami Beach's vulnerable residents, the enrollment in Summer 2020 dropped 69% when compared to the enrollment during Summer 2019 term; and

WHEREAS, the hospitality industry in Miami Beach suffered one of the worst adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that our workforce remains on Miami Beach, as they are the backbone of our hospitality industry, removing obstacles to their ability to attain and improve basic skills like English proficiency and high school graduation equivalency, is critical; and

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2020, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2020-31324, accepting the recommendation of the City Administration to fund the enrollment fee

for up to 390 Miami Beach residents to take ESOL and GED classes for Fall 2020 at a cost not to exceed \$11,700; and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2020, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2020-31482, accepting the recommendation of the City Administration to extend the term of the initial Agreement to March 22, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Fall and Winter 2020 Miami Beach resident enrollment resulted in 77 enrolled with approximately \$9,390 of funds remaining, which funds City Administration will be allocating to the Fall 2021 semester for eligible Miami Beach residents; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that with continued funding and with the expected return of in-person classes, more Miami Beach residents will take advantage of this scholarship opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby authorize funding for the General Education Development ("GED") and English for Speakers of Other Languages ("ESOL") classes for Miami Beach residents enrolled at Miami Beach Adult and Community Education Center for the 2021 school year, and each subsequent school year, subject to funding approval during the City's budgetary process, in an amount not to exceed \$11,700 per school year; and further authorize the City Manager to execute any and all documents or agreements in connection with the program.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of July, 2021.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Michael Gongora)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

City Attorney

7-12-21

Date