



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 3116

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The funding will be used to establish a nonpartisan, objective Election Law Program at FSU Law School to provide students, scholars, policymakers, and election officials throughout the state with objective, evidence-based analysis of election-related legal and policy issues.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,000,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	1,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.



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Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

☐ Planning ☐ Design ☐ Construction

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	The director will oversee all aspects of the election law program and be primarily responsible for disseminating research results to the legislature, election officials, and other academics. The director will engage in non-partisan, objective election-related research, identify programs to conduct, and ensure funds are spent in the most effective manner possible.	60,000
Other Salary and Benefits	These costs include a Program Assistant to coordinate the program, handle its administrative aspects, arrange logistics for workshops, meetings, and conferences: and publicly disseminate reports and other work product.	70,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Operational salary costs include an Election Law Research Librarian to perform specialized research and provide support for affiliated faculty and officials; Technical Coordinator to digitize materials, run the program's website, and assist in the development of publications; Empirical Researcher to provide quantitative analysis, supplements for affiliated faculty, and distinguished visitor.	510,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	These expenses include a public Distinguished Lecture, collaboration workshops at FSU Law School for election officials from throughout the state; facilitating an on-site public hearing by a federal or state agency; printing & distributing reports and other work product; funding travel for hearings, testimony, and presentations; and accessing databases, empirical data & other resources.	265,000



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Funding for student research assistance for election law projects, scholarships for students focusing on election law, research grants to fund students' summer research projects in election law, and fellowships to subsidize work at the Secretary of State's offices, Florida Elections Commission, or FEC/USEAC.	95,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

14. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?

The Election Law program will serve students, election officials, and voters.

b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

The Election Law Program will rely on objective, nonpartisan, evidence-based analysis to develop ways of protecting the integrity of the electoral system, ensure adequate access to all eligible voters, and reinforcing public confidence in electoral outcomes and the accuracy of the electoral process.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

The election law program will provide an academic and scientific analysis of election law, and election operation best practices with at least three positive results. The program, because of the non-partisan and academic approach will help prevent misunderstandings by the general public. The program would study and endorse various processes (equipment, ballot design, anti-fraud measures) used by election officials and thus those various processes would have an indicium of legitimacy.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

The Election Law program will serve students, election officials, and voters.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

The Election Law Program will track the number of students who take affiliated courses and participate in collaborative workshops; the number of articles, reports, studies, and other work product materials produced; and attendance at distinguished lectures and other events. The program will rely on feedback from legislators, election administrators, and other officials concerning its publications, workshops, and other offerings. The program will track its impact through measures such as opportunities to testify before county, state, or federal legislators; opportunities to assist state or county election administrators; presentations to the FSASE, NASS, USEAC, or other election-related entities; and reports submitted to such bodies.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for the contract?

Reversion of funds.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

16. Recipient Contact Information



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a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

- ☐ For Profit Entity
- ☐ Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- ☐ Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- ☐ Local Entity
- ☒ University or College
- ☐ Other (please specify)

d. First Name **Last Name**

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number