



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2159

1. Title of Project: Edward Waters College - Online Degree Program

2. Senate Sponsor: Audrey Gibson

3. Date of Submission: 02/15/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

To support the launch of online degree program offerings Edward Waters College is requesting \$1,000,000. This will come as a joint ask from the private HBCU's in Florida for a combined total of \$3,000,000 to create online learning at each institution.

Edward Waters College (EWC) is committed to sustaining the principles of academic excellence, scholarship, research, and community service by exemplifying integrity and accountability in scholarly and human service pursuits. With increased competition and students' demand for new technologies, EWC will require further investment in infrastructure and training in order for Edward Waters College to compete among colleges offering online baccalaureate degree programs, as well as to enhance best practices in college-wide online instruction.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Education

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

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

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,000,000	90.9%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	100,000	9.1%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	1,100,000	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? No



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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Director of Online Learning	80,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Administrative Assistant/Coordinator	30,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Administration and Finance \$180,000 Student Affairs \$55,000 College Support (overhead -2.2%) \$43,890	278,890
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	Faculty compensation-\$75,000	75,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Annual Cost of Newly Developed Courses \$187,500 Computers, Ipads, projectors, training software, desks, SPSS20 for data analysis \$62,985;EWC Faculty PD/Training \$50,000;Hardware \$20,000; 24/7 technical support \$25,000	345,485
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Teaching and Communications assistants \$140,625 Mobile device solution \$50,000	190,625
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

11. Program Performance:

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

The rationale for enhancing the online program is germane to the College’s mission to prepare students holistically to advance in a global society through the provision of intellectually stimulating programs and an environment which emphasizes high moral and spiritual values. In the Fall of 2017, the college surveyed its almost 1,000 students assessing their interest in taking online courses at EWC. Findings show, a large number of those responding (75%) indicated great interest in taking online courses across all programs.

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

Funding will be used for the enhancement of the online learning environment infrastructure and faculty professional development in the areas of instructional design and best practices in online student engagement. Examples under consideration with this request include 24/7 technical and academic support services, mobile device access to the learning management system, and expanded instructional assessment tools. Likewise, a formalized system of professional development for faculty working in the online environment will ensure the college has the resources to train instructors on how to best teach online learners.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?



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The opportunity to obtain a baccalaureate degree via online learning. Examples under consideration with this request include 24/7 technical and academic support services, mobile device access to the learning management system, and expanded instructional assessment tools.

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

Edward Waters College seeks to offer classes designed to fit the needs of a diverse population of students, this format of instructional courses will allow students to continue working while prioritizing higher education. In the Fall of 2017, the college surveyed its almost 1,000 students assessing their interest in taking online courses at EWC. Findings show, a large number of those responding (75%) indicated great interest in taking online courses across all programs.

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

By enhancing EWC's online presence and offerings via online delivery— learner support and faculty training will directly impact student recruitment, enrollment, retention, and graduation rates in online programs. Ultimately, with ongoing guidance and support— EWC will increase student success, including on-time completion of their degrees, making them marketable in high-demand fields.

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 in the contract?

Reduce amount of funding.

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

n/a

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** DeShanna Brown
- b. **Organization:** Edward Waters College
- c. **E-mail Address:** dbrown@ewc.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (904)470-8251

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Edward Waters College
- b. **County:** Duval
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)



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- d. **Contact Name:** DeShanna Brown
- e. **E-mail Address:** dbrown@ewc.edu
- f. **Phone Number:** (904)470-8251

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Mario Bailey
- b. **Firm Name:** Becker & Poliakoff
- c. **E-mail Address:** mbailey@beckerlawyers.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (954)364-6094