



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1674

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

To support the launch of online degree program offerings Edward Waters College (EWC) is requesting \$1,500,000. 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. The estimated cost for a "fee for service" online provider, based on the needs we have at EWC which includes, added staffing, upgraded IT infrastructure, marketing, training for faculty, instructional design staff, etc., would cost a minimum of \$1.5 million to start.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted? Yes No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="1,500,000"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="000"/>
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="1500000"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="100.0"/> %
Matching Funds		
Federal	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Local	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Other	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	1,500,000	100 %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>

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

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



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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		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	(Start Up Year One) The estimated cost for a "fee for service" online provider, based on the needs we have at EWC which includes, added staffing, upgraded IT infrastructure, marketing, training for faculty, instructional design staff, etc., would cost a minimum of \$1.5 million to start. This will ensure a high-quality online program and services that would enable us to be competitive with other schools that offer online degrees.	1,500,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000



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11. Program Performance

- a. What specific purpose or goal 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 activities and services 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 direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

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.



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12. **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.**

n/a

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

- a. First Name Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.

14. **Recipient Contact Information**

- 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

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.