



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2891

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

Funds will be used to renovate an existing building on the campus of NextStep Academy. Participants attending NextStep's two-year transition academy program will live in these renovated spaces to learn, practice, and apply the skills necessary to live independently. Additionally, the renovation of these buildings will provide greater access to more students from across the state to participate in this program.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	492,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>492,000</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	492,000	89%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	58,000	11%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>550,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	576,000	34A	No

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.**

Endeavor continues to initiate private donors through the foundation. Some funds will also be raised through tuition; however, tuition costs are kept at a low rate to provide greater access to students.

10. **Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**
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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

## 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
  N/A

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

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

October 2024

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

December 2024

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.

The local government will maintain ownership of the facility.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Funds will be used to renovate an existing building on the campus of NextStep Academy. Participants attending NextStep's two-year transition academy program will live in these renovated spaces to learn, practice, and apply the skills necessary to live independently. Additionally, the renovation of these buildings will provide greater access to more students from across the state to participate in this program.	492,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>492,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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



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

Direct instruction in Learn4Independence® coursework, direct instruction in independent living skills, and applied learning through the residential component of NextStep Academy. Independent living skills will be taught in the living environment of the participants. Immersed learning creates sustainability of the learned skills for adults with autism.

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

Direct instruction in both classroom and natural (applied) settings, help with creating and maintaining a healthy and safe living environment, help in setting targeted goals to live independently, and follow-up checks to measure long-term progress after completing the program.

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

The target population served by this project will be adults with autism who have aged out of the K-12 educational system but still need support for success. These individuals may be jobless, economically disadvantaged, developmentally disabled, and/or college students. The project will serve between 51-100 individuals.

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

Participants enrolled in NextStep's Transition Academy will complete the Learn4Independence® coursework (a 32-course curriculum focusing on employment/life skills). Each course has lessons in the areas of work, finances, safety, relationships, organization, nutrition, community, health, problem-solving, etiquette, transportation, and living independently. Participants enrolled in NextStep's Transition Academy will receive experience and support in an employment setting. Outcomes will be measured through participant mastery of the coursework modules and individualized goals related to employment and living independently. Outcomes will also be measured in the number of participants maintaining independent living after graduation.

**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?**

The agency will determine the penalties and include in the contract.

**15. Requester Contact Information**

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

**16. Recipient Contact Information**

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

**c. Organization Type**

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)



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- 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**