



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1263

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Request for appropriations for Health Science programs. Webber has determined a need for Nursing and Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) programs in southeast Polk County. The institution has launched both programs and is requesting appropriations of \$500,000 to build out our health science building. The existing structure will be transformed into state-of-the-art nursing and OTA labs. The current request is 50% of the cost. Webber International will match the funds if granted.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	500,000
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	500,000	50%
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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Webber received federal assistance during the pandemic:
HEERF funding 1 million that was allocated to the students.
PPP- 2 million that help support the operation of the institution during the pandemic.

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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

3/1/2023

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

8/31/2023

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 university is a 501(c) non profit organization (59-2139553) that is governed by the Board of Trustees. The full allocation of funds will be used for construction and build out of the health science building.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Webber is converting an existing structure, the former library into a classroom/laboratory for its Bachelor in Nursing and OTA programs. The existing structure is 6,995 square feet. The plan is to construct four (4) programmatic labs and three (3) classrooms. The project budget for the project is 1.1 million dollars. Webber is seeking \$500,000 in state appropriations to assist with the renovations of the existing building.	500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

14. Program Performance

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



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The purpose of renovating the former library building on campus is to provide state of the art classrooms and laboratories to support our Nursing and Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) programs. On a local scale, Webber's Health Science programs will serve the community's need for qualified trained nurses and OTAs. Webber's goal is to provide access to healthcare education in Southeast Polk County that would otherwise be limited to residents in the area.

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

On a local scale, Webber's Health Science program will serve the community in need of qualified trained nurses and OTA. We will provide access to healthcare education in Southeast Polk County that would otherwise be limited to residents in the area.

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

Webber has been approved to admit up to 36 nursing students and 24 OTA students per cohort per semester, producing 72 nursing graduates and 48 OTA graduates per year. The funding of this project will provide the institution the ability to provide citizens in the region an opportunity to access quality education to further close the gap on critical workforce needs.

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

University/College students will be the intended population. The project will serve between 100-200 students a year.

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

The project will provide a learning environment for healthcare practitioners that is currently not present in Southeast Polk County. The classrooms and labs will provide students an opportunity to master patient care skills that will prepare them for their industry exams and access to gainful employment.

The facility will allow the institution to provide economic self sufficiency to 120 individuals a year. The institution plans on graduating 72 nurses and 48 OTA per year.

Outcomes will be measured through: a) Program graduation rates; b) Licensure exam pass rates; and c) Graduate employment rates.

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?

If project is not completed, funds will be returned.

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