



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1648

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Auditory Oral Intervention for Children with Hearing Loss Program will provide hearing screenings and evaluations as well as listening and spoken language services to children birth to three, with hearing loss, in multiple counties throughout the State of Florida including underserved/rural areas.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

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)	1,500,000	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 2024-2025	1,500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	1,500,000	458	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

Unfortunately, there isn't any source of financial support that can be used in lieu of state funding. Traditionally, we have attracted matching funds from private donors.

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

No

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
 N/A

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	Project head will oversee grant activities throughout Florida with collaborative partners, as well as, providing direct services. A significant portion of this individual's time and commensurate portion of salary will be assigned to this program.	42,500
Other Salary and Benefits	Staff will compile data, coordinate services for families, schedule appointments, and assist with reports and enrollment	15,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Supplies required include office services for families, schedule appointments, and assist with reports and enrollment.	5,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Consultants and contracted staff are required to compile and review outcome data.	5,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	The program will require early intervention faculty, OAE screeners, and therapists (including speech-language pathologists, teachers of the deaf, and audiologists with listening and spoken language expertise to provide direct services to infants, toddlers, and their families.	1,402,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	To provide services to children in rural areas, funding is required for providers to travel to perform services, meet with families, and meet with other providers who are working with the families. Supplies can only be used once per child for identification of hearing loss. We travel the entire State of Florida to identify children with hearing loss and provide services.	30,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000



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14. Program Performance

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

The goal of the program is to expand access to audiology services and screenings in rural and under-served areas, and to provide local access to high-quality auditory-oral early intervention services for children who are deaf ages birth to three who reside in the State of Florida to facilitate the development of foundational listening and spoken language skills so that every child with hearing loss has the opportunity to learn, listen, and talk.

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

Activities and services that will be provided for eligible children will include hearing screenings, evaluations, auditory-verbal and LSLS therapy, parent-infant and toddler groups, and tele-therapy, as well as parent/professional training and mentoring about listening and spoken language development and technology such as cochlear implants and hearing aids.

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

Direct services will be provided by audiologists, hearing screeners SLP's and highly qualified Listening and Spoken Language Specialists to children with hearing loss ages birth to three in individual and small group listening and spoken language sessions, toddler groups, tele-therapy sessions, hearing screenings, evaluations, and parent/professional training and coaching sessions.

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

Up to 5000 children who are deaf or hard of hearing ages birth to three whose families want an auditory oral approach to learning.

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

The program will provide families of infants and toddlers with hearing loss access to auditory oral intervention programs. Services will be offered throughout Florida, including rural and under-served areas, so that these children will have the opportunity to begin to learn listening and spoken language skills as soon as their hearing loss is identified. Formal evaluations will be used to document progress IFSP goals and progress in auditory, speech, and language development. Parent surveys will be used to evaluate the overall program. Key components of the program are the mentoring and training of professionals working with children with hearing loss as well as parent coaching so that the parents will become the primary facilitators of their child's auditory, speech, and language development.

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?

We anticipate meeting/exceeding all deliverables and performance measures provided 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



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- 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