



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2514

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

4. Project/Program Description

Learning through Listening provides public school students with print disabilities accessible, human-narrated versions of textbooks and literature used in Florida schools as well as professional training to educators on the implementation of the program, including courses such as: how to bring the science of reading-based literacy practices into the classroom and designing and implementing explicit word recognition practices. Program also includes virtual spotlight on dyslexia conference that is open to all public school educators. Additional funds will support expanded program that in 2020 served 101,032 students and 28,924 educators in over 2,800 schools.

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	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

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)	750,000	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 2023-2024	750,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	593,044	105	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.
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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.

Learning Ally received a PPP loan in the amount of \$2,082,100, which was used for payroll.

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)?

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		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	Statewide access to the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution and statewide access to Learning Ally's Professional Learning Community for Florida educators and parents to include 10 asynchronous professional learning course development; spotlight on dyslexia virtual professional learning conference which may be accessed by all Florida public school educators.	750,000
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)		750,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Additional funds will provide continued support and expansion of a program that, since FY 14-15, has grown from 5,400 students in 780 schools to 101,032 students and 28,924 educators in over 2,800 schools. Additional funding supports professional development for Florida educators.

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

The Professional Learning courses are aligned to Brain-Based Literacy Practices, key literacy goals of the Florida DOE, and personalized to the district/school educator cohorts. Here are some examples of key areas of focus: how to bring the science of reading-based literacy practices into the classroom, designing and implementing explicit word recognition practices.

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

Learning Ally will partner with Florida Department of Education districts, schools, and educators to provide professional learning services grounded in agency, collaboration, and instructional outcomes.

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

The target population is Florida students who benefit from accessible instructional materials and professional development opportunities for educators. Learning Ally anticipates serving 101,032 students and 28,924 educators in over 2,800 schools.

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

This program will provide accessible instructional materials to individuals with disabilities and professional development opportunities for educators. Outcome will be measured through educators survey and usage metrics will track overall growth of program utilization and academic success.

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 existing contract addresses penalties that would carry forward into any new agreement.

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)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity



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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