



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2226

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The request will support the development of unique space to serve as a special needs shelter when needed and an Autism Specialty Nonprofit Private School year round. The school, Thrive Academy has been piloted as a micro school in the 2022 school year. Thrive Academy will serve high school students with Autism and provide wrap around specialized education, vocational training, and clinical support. The funding will support the acquisition, renovation, and operations for Thrive Academy.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	3,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	5,000,000

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)	5,000,000	83%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	1,000,000	17%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	6,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? No

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?

No



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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

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	Educators, clinicians and administrative staff to operate school and vocational programming year round. Funding will be to start up until other funding sources begin.	1,500,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Acquisition, construction, renovation and hardening. Hardening of building once acquired (preparing building to withstand a Category 5 hurricane). Additional modifications to meet the unique sensory needs of individuals with autism	3,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		5,000,000

14. Program Performance

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



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The purpose of the funds are to support the development of unique space to serve as a special needs shelter when needed and an Autism Specialty Nonprofit Private School year round. The school, Thrive Academy has been piloted as a micro school in the 2022 school year. Thrive Academy will serve high school students with Autism and provide wrap around specialized education, vocational training, and clinical support. Further, funds will be used to harden the structure to meet hurricane standards.

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

The project will provide education, vocational skills training, and clinical services to high school students on the Autism Spectrum. Students will also be provided opportunities to practice the skills learned through social engagements and community activities. The property will serve as a special needs shelter and distribution site when needed serving ASD individuals of all ages & their families

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

Direct services will include education services for high school special education students, vocational training, vocational placement support, applied behavior analysis, occupational therapy, and speech therapy services. Further, the funding will allow for protection of the public during emergencies as a shelter.

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

Individuals with Autism are the target population.
Up to 200 individuals are expected to be served.

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

The benefits of the project are to provide high school students with Autism a comprehensive education and the training to secure gainful employment. Further the outcome will be a hurricane safe structure. Outcomes will be measured by students graduated and employment secured 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?

Recoupment of funds for failing to meet deliverables.

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