



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2690

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Motivational Edge's EmpowerED Program is a dynamic and transformative out-of-school program designed to equip high-risk youth with the essential skills and experiences they need to excel in the real world. Through a unique blend of engaging arts, music, mentorship, and life skills initiatives, EmpowerED creates an inspiring and enriching learning environment where teens can grow, learn, and thrive.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	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)	500,000	56%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	200,000	22%
Other	200,000	22%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	900,000	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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We received PPP and ERC funding, which were directly invested into our direct service teams.

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	CEO - (20% of salary) is responsible for the supervision and management of this project, the organization as a whole and executing the mission and strategic plan.	18,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Regional Manager 25%of salary	14,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	Travel	2,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	CPA to manage these funds and perform separate program audit	3,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Campus Coordinator and Administrator	77,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	The purchase of two 15 passenger vans to take students to and from programming, job interviews, school, doctor visits, etc. Mileage, tolls, gas, etc. pertaining to travel for direct service staff. Classrooms and music studio maintenance and upkeep, academic supplies, self-care kits for teenagers, etc.	145,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Most team members providing direct services are 1099 contractors. e.g. Academic tutors, mentors, teaching artists and life coaches. These funds will be invested directly into the staff providing the vital services.	240,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
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 specific goal of this project is to continue to have The Motivational Edge be an engaging hub for over 200 youth during the afternoon, evening and weekend hours, which are peak times for drug and criminal activity. We will continue to engage, educate and empower high risk youth, as we have been doing since 2008.

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

Wraparound services, including transportation will be provided to students in grade 2 up to 23 years old, 7 days per week. The activities include rigorous academics, various forms of therapeutic arts paired with behavioral specialists, and sports and wellness initiatives. Students are tracked via a custom Salesforce system that was created by The Motivational Edge.

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

The following services and programs will be offered to each participant:
Academic assistance, counseling, music programs, visual arts programs, dance and performing arts, sports and wellness, coding, web design, photo/video, job training and other support services aimed at strengthening students and or families.

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

Youth with a history in the juvenile justice system, the lowest 25% performing in school, and youth in foster care are our prime target population.

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

80% Youth will show an increase in academic achievement. This will be measured by an in-house assessment, ongoing surveys, and academic report cards monitored weekly and at the end of each grading period to track cumulative gains.

100% of youth will be exposed to career, college, vocational, and/or entrepreneurial opportunities via hands on learning and off-site experiences. This will be measured by a pre assessments including surveys or interests and abilities, with ongoing monitoring prior to a post assessment being conducted.

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?

Withholding of payments is fully understandable if our agency fails to meet the performance measures. The Motivational Edge will internally audit and reflect on all aspects of the program to maintain fidelity.

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)



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- 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