



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** Literacy Achievement for Incarcerated Youth and Adults

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Jeff Brandes

3. **Date of Submission:** 01/29/2018

4. **Project/Program Description:**

In one year, this pilot program will increase the literacy rate of incarcerated youth and adults by three years and three grade levels. The goal for this USF St Petersburg program is to help increase the number of incarcerated individuals who have the literacy skills and strategies needed to succeed once they are released. This pilot program can offer prisoners, who qualify, an opportunity to earn a diploma, possibly a GED or comparable from USFSP.

5. **State Agency Contacted?** No

a. If yes, which state agency?

b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested?
Department of Corrections

6. **Amount of Non-recurring Requested for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Amount Requested for Operations	Amount Requested for Fixed Capital Outlay	Total Amount of Requested State Funds
375,000		375,000

7. **Type, amount and percent of matching funds available for this project for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Type	Amount	Percent
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
TOTAL	0	0.0 %

8. **Total Project Cost for fiscal year 2018-19 (including the Total Amount of Requested State Funds):** 375,000

9. **Previous Year Funding Details:**

a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No

b. In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional)

c. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

d. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed?

e. Complete the following Worksheet.

FY:	Input Prior FY Appropriation for this project for FY 2017-18 (If appropriated in FY 2017-18 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)		
Column:	A	B	C
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds *	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds *	Total Funds Appropriated (Column A + Column B)
Input Amounts:			

10. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

Yes

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year.

Yes, we will need continued operating costs to sustain the program, such as materials, supplies, and personnel.

11. Program Performance:

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

The goal is to increase the literacy rate of incarcerated people by at least three (3) grade levels in one year. The anticipated goal will highlight benefits from such a program and become a national model for increasing literacy for the incarcerated.

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

This program offers specific literacy strategies and skills to increase reading achievement levels by a target of three years through a variety of instructional strategies and techniques. In addition, specific training will be included that deals with toxic stress and strategies to deal with emotions.

c. How will the funds be expended?

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Lead Project Director Salary	100,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits	Faculty Salary/Academic Year	120,000



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

	Buy Out (2 FT/4 PT)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel to Prison Sites, Training and Supplies	74,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Mental Health/Social Service Counselors/Social Work Consultants	80,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
TOTAL		374,000

d. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

Incarcerated individuals' literacy strategies and skills will increase, and participants will be able to function better as a member of society. This education can lead to a GED, diploma or comparable from USFSP. This could have a significant economic and community impact as many individuals will remain in the surrounding areas after their release.

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

Current incarcerated individuals. The goal of this program is to reach several hundred inmates. In the first year of the pilot a selected group would begin the literacy program and each year more inmates would be added. An estimated 50 prisoners would participate in the pilot cohort the first year.

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

Florida houses the third largest number of prisoners in the country and nearly 80 percent of prisoners read below a ninth grade literacy level, and most will eventually be released. Research has shown that prisoners who participate in prison based education have higher post-release earnings and higher employment rates, while reducing recidivism. Effective education programs increase prisoners' literacy rates, artistic development and techniques to deal with emotions and toxic stress. Prisoners who earn a diploma return to prison custody at almost half the rate of those prisoners who did not earn a degree. Literacy skills in incarcerated programs with



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

meaningful contexts recognize that different cultural backgrounds and learning needs of prisoners are important to programs' success and prisoners' participation. Incarcerated individuals need education programs that teach them to read effectively but also provide them with the necessary reinforcement that promotes a positive transition to

- g. **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 in the contract?**

Return funds to the state.

12. **The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.**

N/A

13. **Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Helen Levine
- b. **Organization:** University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- c. **Email:** hlevine@usfsp.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (813)230-6017

14. **Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- b. **County:** Pinellas
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - ☐ For Profit
 - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - ☐ Local Entity
 - ☒ University or College
 - ☐ Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** Helen Levine
- e. **E-mail Address:** hlevine@usfsp.edu
- f. **Phone Number:** (813)230-6017

15. **If there is a registered lobbyist, fill out the lobbyist information below.**

- a. **Name:** Helen Levine
- b. **Firm:** University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- c. **Email:** hlevine@usfsp.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (813)230-6017