



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1004

1. **Title of Project:** Earn to Learn
2. **Senate Sponsor:** Kathleen Passidomo
3. **Date of Submission:** 01/03/2019
4. **Project/Program Description:**

Earn to Learn FL™ helps low to moderate income students earn higher education with little or no student debt. We match students' savings of \$500 with \$4,000 in grants, which is renewable each year until graduation. This simple formula combines student savings with financial aid, mentoring, and financial literacy. Qualifying students may receive some other financial aid, but a gap remains between financial aid and cost of attendance, making it difficult for students to start or complete their education. Once earned, funds from their \$4,500 Earn to Learn FL™ account are transferred as needed to their college to cover tuition, books, academic fees, housing and meal plans. This bridges the gap to ensure students graduate on time, ready to start working in their field of study, and with little or no student debt.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Department of Education
State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	2,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	2,500,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,500,000	45.25%
Federal		0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)		0.00%
Local	2,500,000	45.25%
Other	525,000	9.50%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	5,525,000	100.0%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2016-17		201,680	111	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** No



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1004

10. 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 Salary and Benefits - 5 years	195,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Program Coordinator Salary and Benefits - 5 years Office Manager Salary and Benefits - 5 years	120,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Earn to Learn FL Funds to University Student Accounts	2,125,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Data Manager/Analyst - 5 years	60,000
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,500,000

11. Program Performance:

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

The goal is to further demonstrate Earn to Learn FL™ as an innovative approach to student success through the effective use of shared responsibility financial aid. The state appropriation of \$2.5million and FGCU match of \$2.5million will be further leveraged with over \$530,000 saved by participating students from their personal earned income. The funding will create over 1000 slots for at least 265 First Time in College students to save \$500 from their earning to be matched by a \$4,000 Earn to Learn FL grant to their FGCU student account for their education.

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

The Earn to Learn FL™ Living Learning Community at Florida Gulf Coast University cohort students will be identified and selected Fall Semester 2019 and Spring Semester 2020 to participate in the Earn to Learn FL™ Living Learning Community at Florida Gulf Coast University beginning Summer Semester 2020. They will be eligible based on the following criteria: • Completed their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with an Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) of \$12,000 or less • Been accepted by FGCU's Summer Bridge as a First Time In College (FTIC) student and/or the FGCU Honor's College • Saved \$500 from their earnings in an Earn to Learn FL™ bank account • Agreed to renew Earn to Learn FL™ (save another \$500 from on campus work study or other employment to be re-matched with \$4,000) at least annually to complete their 4-year degree • Successfully completed financial literacy training • Agreed to live on campus in the Earn to Learn Living Learning Community

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1004

Earn to Learn FL students will receive matching funds to leverage their savings for education, success coaching, renewal opportunities based on continued eligibility, and financial literacy training.

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

Target includes: Economically disadvantaged persons, High school students, and University students. At least 265 students over a 5 year demonstration project period will be served.

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

Earn to Learn FL is based on a groundbreaking approach to helping low-moderate income students graduate from college with little or no debt. Earn to Learn FL will demonstrate an improved graduation, retention, and persistence rate for FGCU students. Earn to Learn FL combines mandatory student savings with financial aid grants, financial literacy training, and success coaching. The result: students become investors in their own future, breaking the cycle of poverty, and improving their earning potential. Earn to Learn FL program management tracks student data from application to graduate to measure persistence, retention, completion and student debt load. Required financial literacy training successful completion is documented.

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 in the contract?

Standard penalties are adequate.

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:** Brenda Tate
- b. **Organization:** Southwest Florida Women's Foundation, Inc.
- c. **E-mail Address:** brenda@fundwomenfl.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (239)281-2233

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Southwest Florida Women's Foundation, Inc.
- b. **County:** Lee
- 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:** Brenda Tate



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1004

e. **E-mail Address:** brenda@fundwomenfl.org

f. **Phone Number:** (239)281-2233

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. **Name:** Diana Ferguson

b. **Firm Name:** Rutledge-Ecena

c. **E-mail Address:** dferguson@rutledge-ecenia.com

d. **Phone Number:** (850)459-3453