



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1157

**1. Title of Project:** Online Adult High School Program in Florida Public Libraries

**2. Senate Sponsor:** Kelli Stargel

**3. Date of Submission:** 01/25/2019

**4. Project/Program Description:**

Smart Horizons Career Online Education (SHCOE), Florida-based, AdvancED/SACS/NCA/NWAC accredited online school district, partners with public libraries across Florida to offer a career-based, adult high school diploma program designed to prepare adults for transition into the workplace. The program employs a prerequisite screening model to enroll only those students with a high probability of success. SHCOE sponsors several such programs across the US.

**5. State Agency to receive requested funds :** Department of State

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

| Type of Funding                    | Amount           |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Operations                         | 2,000,000        |
| Fixed Capital Outlay               |                  |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested</b> | <b>2,000,000</b> |

**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)       | 2,000,000        | 100.00%       |
| Federal  | 0                | 0.00%         |
| State (excluding the amount of this request)         | 0                | 0.00%         |
| Local  | 0                | 0.00%         |
| Other  | 0                | 0.00%         |
| <b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b> | <b>2,000,000</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

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

| Fiscal Year<br>(yyyy-yy) | Amount    |              | Specific<br>Appropriation # | Vetoed |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------|
|                          | Recurring | NonRecurring |                             |        |
| 2018-19                  | 750,000   |              | 2196                        | No     |

**9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes**

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. \$2,000,000

**10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**



# The Florida Senate

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### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

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| Spending Category  | Description   | Amount           |
|--|---|------------------|
| <b>Administrative Costs:</b>   |   |                  |
| Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits                    |   |                  |
| Other Salary and Benefits  |   |                  |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other                                |   |                  |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study                                  |   |                  |
| <b>Operational Costs:</b>  |   |                  |
| Salary and Benefits  |   |                  |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other                                |   |                  |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study                                  | 1,826 high school scholarships for adult high school dropouts | 2,000,000        |
| <b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>                    |   |                  |
| Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering                      |   |                  |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b> |   | <b>2,000,000</b> |

**11. Program Performance:**

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

The specific purpose of the program will be to serve individuals within Florida’s adult drop out population that are considered unemployed or underemployed. The intent of the program is to improve their employment and earning prospects by providing them with the opportunity to obtain high school and career credentials through Florida Public Libraries.

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

The activities and services provided will consist of the following: a customized portal, 92 semester courses (academic and career training), transcript analysis, academic coaches (certified teachers), learning management system, student services support, issuance of high school diplomas, and workforce certificates.

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

The direct services will be as follows: a customized portal, 92 semester courses (academic and career training), transcript analysis, academic coaches (certified teachers), learning management system, student services support, issuance of high school diplomas, and workforce certificates

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

\$2,000,000 will provide approximately 1,826 scholarships for adult students through public libraries who need a high school diploma.

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

In addition to the adult dropouts, the Florida taxpayers will benefit. The typical lifetime cost of each high school dropout to taxpayers is approximately \$292,000. Approximately 60 percent of Florida’s prison inmates, and nationally 50 percent of persons on death row, are high school dropouts. A high school diploma and a



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career certificate will reduce the probability of going to prison, open opportunities for post-secondary education, and assist them in joining the ranks of taxpaying citizens. Program performance is currently being reported to the Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services on a monthly basis. This data includes the number of credits earned towards high school graduation by each student; and the number of high school diplomas and career certificates awarded to students who complete the program.

**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?**

The vendor's online program must be available from 7:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. The program must be available 95 percent of each month, as verified by an independent monitoring company and reported monthly. Financial Consequence: Financial consequences in the amount of \$5,000 will be imposed for each month that the vendor's program availability (as reported by the independent monitoring company) drops below 95 percent; and \$10,000 each month that availability drops below 90 percent.

**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:** Howard Liebman
- b. **Organization:** Smart Horizons Career Online Education
- c. **E-mail Address:** hliebman@shcoe.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (305)962-6489 Ext. N/A

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Smart Horizons Career Online Education
- b. **County:** Broward
- 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:** Howard Liebman
- e. **E-mail Address:** hliebman@shcoe.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (305)962-6489 Ext. N/A

**15. Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** Chip Case



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1157

- b. Firm Name:** Capital Advocates
- c. E-mail Address:** chip@capadvocates.com
- d. Phone Number:** (850)544-2222 Ext. N/A