



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2183

1. **Title of Project:** Florida Education Fund McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Program

2. **Senate Sponsor:** David Simmons

3. **Date of Submission:** 02/19/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The program was created by the Florida Legislature (Sec. 1009.70, F.S.) in 1984 to increase the number of African American students attending Florida graduate schools to earn a Ph.D. In 2010 the Florida Legislature added Hispanic students. With the Ph.D. degree, participants can qualify for faculty positions at Florida Universities, colleges, governmental agencies and private sector corporations. The program provides fellowships to help graduates pay for tuition, fees, and living expenses. The program also provides professional developmental activities to enhance the student's ability to complete their Ph.D. programs and secure employment. Currently, 417 Ph.D. students are attending Florida's 8 public and private major research universities.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	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)	500,000	100.00%
Federal		0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)		0.00%
Local		0.00%
Other		0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	500,000	100.0%

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19	3,000,000		76	No

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

a. **If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year.** 500,000



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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Direct Student Academic, Financial and Support Services. Funding will be used to increase the number of fellowships offered and increase student stipends, pay tuition, fees, and the cost of their research projects, conference presentations, and professional development workshops.	500,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

11. Program Performance:

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

Recruit highly qualified African American and Hispanic American students to attend Florida universities' Ph.D. graduate programs. The goals are to diversify the professoriate and provide well-trained, highly qualified professionals for work in corporations and government jobs, especially in STEM fields.

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

1. Recruit and retain highly qualified applicants for Florida Ph.D. programs. 2. To enhance graduation rates, the program will provide professional development activities for our graduate students. a. New Fellows Orientation b. Annual Fellows Meeting c. Mid-Year Research & Writing Conference d. Summer Research & Writing Institute e. Professional Editorial Services for publishing articles, writing book chapters, grant proposals, and dissertations. 3. The program will provide job placement assistance and promote collaboration on research, publication and grant writing projects. 4. Provide grant writing workshops.

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

As the fellowship recipients matriculate through their graduate programs, they serve as Research and Graduate assistants for their universities. The Research Assistants help university professors and administrator secure grants from government and corporations. Graduate students also develop and teach courses for their universities; manage research and course labs, provide professional consultation services to some of Florida's public schools, and tutor and develop educational programming for FEF's academic enrichment programs for



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precollege students. Upon graduating from their Ph.D. programs, most of the graduates will teach full time at Florida's universities and colleges or secure employment in Florida governmental agencies and private corporations. Some of the graduates may also secure post-doctorate positions at Florida and other universities and begin their faculty research, teaching and/or administrative position after completing their post-doctoral appointments.

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

Under represented African Americans, Hispanics and women. We are expected to serve up to 450 graduates.

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

While attending graduate school, students will serve as graduate research assistants, lecturers, grant writers, instructors, lab technician and administrators, tutors and professional consultants. After earning their PhDs., they will become university professors and administrators and work in private industries, or governmental agencies, including US military. They will also provide tutorial services to undergraduate and precollege students. FEF submits annual reports to DOE, documenting student performance and service to the state of Florida.

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?

None.

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.

NA

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Lawrence Morehouse
- b. **Organization:** Florida Education Fund
- c. **E-mail Address:** fefpres@gte.net
- d. **Phone Number:** (813)272-2772

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Florida Education Fund(FEF), 201 East Kennedy Blvd Suite 1
- b. **County:** Hillsborough
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)



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- d. **Contact Name:** Lawrence Morehouse
- e. **E-mail Address:** fefprez@gte.net
- f. **Phone Number:** (407)272-2772

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Reginald Garcia
- b. **Firm Name:** Reginald R. Garcia, P.A.
- c. **E-mail Address:** reggiegarcialaw@icloud.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)933-7150