



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2429

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Hillsborough County Public Schools will invite parents and caregivers to Get on the Bus for Kindergarten Readiness. A variety of resources will be provided to families of children ages birth to 5 to put children on the path for academic, attendance, behavioral, and social-emotional success. Services will be provided on a converted bus that is equipped with the necessary resources to health screenings and immunizations, developmental screenings, caregiver information to advance the development of their children across a variety of domains (e.g., social emotional, language, literacy, science, mathematics, etc.) along with their own knowledge (e.g., GED), and registration opportunities for high-quality early learning programming. This initiative is designed to remove all potential barriers that families, especially those in low socioeconomic areas, may face in accessing available early learning opportunities for their children.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? Yes No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="815,080"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="000"/>
Total State Funds Requested	815,080

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="815080"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="100.0"/> %
Matching Funds		
Federal	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Local	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Other	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	815,080	100 %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

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

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



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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		<input type="text"/>
Other Salary and Benefits		<input type="text"/>
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		<input type="text"/>
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		<input type="text"/>
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Full-time Coordinator time and effort to implement and monitor initiative (Year 1 = \$110,000 (Salary and Benefits); Bus driver operating vehicle on school sites and throughout targeted communities (Year 1 = \$15,000)	125,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Bus and associated maintenance, retrofitted and wrapped for multiple readiness activities (\$518,080); Educational and health materials and resources to distribute to Pre-K students and families to prepare them for Kindergarten (\$5,000/month x 12months); Marketing materials to encourage participation in program (\$1,000/month x 12 months)	590,080
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	External evaluator to collect data, evaluate program effectiveness, and recommend course corrections as well as write reports (\$100,000/yr)	100,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		<input type="text"/>
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		815,080



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11. Program Performance

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

Despite substantial research indicating that parents in low-income communities value their children's education (Brown & Brandon, 2007; Mendez, 2010), many families have difficulty accessing resources. Family engagement is likely to be maximized when tangible benefits (e.g., home education resources) and intangible benefits (e.g., environments that welcome families) outweigh the costs of participation (e.g., time and effort) (Halgunseth, 2009). This project creates a pathway/continuum that increases access to and availability of services, supports, and educational opportunities to assist with the transition to and readiness for kindergarten.

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

A visually appealing, converted bus will serve children, ages birth to 5, and their families. It will provide access to resources, and health and wellness programming. Programming will help families to engage their child in developmentally appropriate learning experiences, understand how to enroll their child in a high-quality early learning program or access an early childhood provider, and advance their own education (e.g., information on GED). Screenings will be available to allow for early identification of immediate needs and lead to improved outcomes for children through early intervention. They will also have access to resources and activities to promote engagement and learning at home. Providing this mobile service will eliminate barriers to accessing programming, increase enrollment in early learning programs appropriate for each child, provide early identification and interventions (as needed), and increase the number of children who enter kindergarten ready to learn.

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

Caregivers and their children will be provided access to experts in early childhood health and education who will help them determine their child's unique needs (e.g. health and developmental screenings), connect them to community services to address those needs, and assist them in enrolling their child in appropriate early learning programming. They will also be given resources, materials, and an action plan to promote continued learning after stepping off the bus.

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

The project will target parents, guardians, children ages birth to five, and community members. An emphasis will be placed on at-risk, vulnerable populations in our community, to include those situated in low socioeconomic areas. More than 800 individuals are expected to be served.

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

The project will lead to an increase in the percentage of HCPS students who score at or above proficient on a kindergarten readiness assessment. A program evaluation in Year 1 will include the following: demographic information for participants; number of participants associated with each service; pre- and post- participant surveys regarding types of services accessed, satisfaction, and identification of emerging and ongoing needs; number of children registered for kindergarten; kindergarten readiness assessment results; and focus groups with the staff and partners supporting this initiative. The data will be used in ongoing problem solving, problem analysis, and purposeful decision making to guide changes to best meet the needs of the stakeholders accessing the services and partnering with the school district. As preliminary data are collected, university partners will assist in development of the methodology in Year 2 to allow for a more in depth analysis.

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?

No additional penalties.



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12. **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.**

N/A

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

- a. First Name Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.

14. **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)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (please specify)
- d. First Name Last Name
- e. E-mail Address
- f. Phone Number

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.