



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2206

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This initiative will support the critical shortage of diverse nurses and nurse educators in the State of Florida by 1) providing additional faculty positions for admission of additional diverse students in FIU undergraduate nursing programs, and 2) increasing the number of diverse Nurse Educators qualified to teach in nursing programs in the State of Florida. Florida is projected to have a shortage of 60,000 nurses by 2035, and providers are experiencing significant shortages due to the pandemic due to early retirements, transition to travel nursing at higher salaries, and attrition. The nursing shortage is compounded by and rooted in the shortage of nursing faculty, limiting the number of students admitted by FIU and accredited Florida nursing schools. This initiative will educate and train new diverse registered nurses and Nurse Educators to serve as clinical educators in health care institutions and faculty in nursing schools.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	3,467,288
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	3,467,288

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	3,467,288	87%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	532,712	13%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	4,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.



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The College is pursuing additional private sector funds from a committed longstanding partner to supplement the total budget of the Nurse Educator Initiative. Currently, FIU does not have budgetary resources for the faculty positions for Undergraduate Nursing programs past the initial one year.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Florida International University received \$240M in CARES Act funds, which were utilized to according to the provisions of the Cares Act. Students enrolled in FIU received CARES Act funds to support emergency needs such as food, housing assistance and transportation funds. These funds were provided directly to students through their student financial account after a lengthy application and review process to determine need.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	This amount is needed to hire additional 12-month faculty positions to teach in the graduate level Nurse Educator program and to increase enrollment in the undergraduate level nursing programs, which are currently limited access.	1,649,896
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Out of the \$1.8M in non-personnel expenses, \$1.625M or 89% of this amount is earmarked for student scholarships in order to attract, recruit and enroll the brightest students. From the remaining 11% or \$192K, \$179K is earmarked for student recruitment and preceptor recruitment with \$13K line itemed for operating expenses.	1,817,392
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,467,288

12. Program Performance

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

Nursing Schools in the State of Florida are limited in the number of nursing students that can be admitted to Associate Degree and Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs due to the limited number of RNs prepared to teach nursing. This severely limits the number of students that can be prepared as registered nurses (RNs) and is a major driving force behind the nursing shortage. The Initiative will support 1) A Nurse Educator Program that will admit and train Nurse Educators to teach in Nursing schools in Florida and serve as clinical supervisors in hospitals; and 2) will provide additional faculty to support the increase in number of admitted students in Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at FIU and thereby the number of registered nurses in the region to support the hospital shortages.

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



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NWCNHS will hire diverse faculty for the Undergraduate Nursing Program and Nurse Educator Program who will teach and train diverse nursing students who mirror the South Florida population of medically under-served patients. Funds will provide faculty salaries, funds for recruitment of diverse students for both programs, recruitment of clinical preceptors, scholarships to enhance recruitment, success, retention and successful graduation and employment of diverse working registered nurses and advanced practice nurses who desire to teach, and students who desire to become registered nurses to provide competent bedside care. The College focuses on developing healthcare providers that provide high quality, culturally-competent care in partnership with the diverse society they serve—a society with ethnically, racially, socially, and culturally diverse individuals, families, communities, and populations.

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

Diverse graduates of the undergraduate nursing program will be employed by hospitals and other providers to deliver care to medically under-served patients which will aid in reducing the critical nursing shortages in the region. Graduates of the Nurse Educator program will be prepared to serve as faculty in nursing schools across the State of Florida for a minimum of five years and/or clinical nurse educators in health care institutions who will supervise and train new nurses to insure the highest quality of care is provided at the bedside.

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

Students enrolled in NWCNHS represent the ethnically diverse population of patients in the South Florida region and U.S., with 84% minorities of whom many are bilingual. New faculty recruited to teach in the College will match the existing highly diverse faculty with 60% from minority backgrounds. The College will partner with Miami-Dade College and additional diverse community colleges with working registered nurses who desire to earn their baccalaureate and master's degrees in nursing and become nursing faculty who will teach in nursing schools throughout the State of Florida. Ultimately, thousands of diverse and medically under-served patients in hospitals across the South Florida region will be served through additional highly skilled culturally competent nurses who will provide care at the bedside.

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

Given the State of Florida is projecting a shortage of 60,000 nurses by 2035, this initiative will reduce the nursing shortage by 1) increasing the number of nurse educators who will teach in state nursing schools and 2) increasing the number of diverse students directly admitted to baccalaureate nursing programs at FIU. Additional benefits include providing educational advancement and economic opportunity for diverse working registered nurses to become nurse educators with minimal student loan debt; advancing employment and educational opportunity for community college nursing graduates to become master's prepared nurse educators; supplying the region's health care institutions with new nurses while reducing recruitment cost, and improving quality of patient care and outcomes with nurse educator supervision of new nurses.

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 the contract?

The Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences would return the funds if we do not utilize purpose/program stated.

13. 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.

Not Applicable.



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14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

15. 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

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number