



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2039

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

4. Project/Program Description

Creation of innovative science curriculum and individualized learning for students in Pinellas County Schools middle schools through the lens of technologically-enabled innovation. Science supplies and technology that support new STEM science curriculum like robotics, genomics, efficient energy storage and blockchain technology. Teacher retention incentives allow for a teacher training program that equips educators with the information necessary to understand, embrace, and teach with innovation.

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

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	475,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	475,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	475,000	83%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	100,000	17%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	575,000	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?** No

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

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

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

No



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

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List 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.

13. 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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Classroom supplies and technology including drones, robots and robotic supplies, 3D printers, multimeters, stomp rockets, computers, cyber acoustics, VR headset, Fitbits	325,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Teacher and students supports to include experts to provide highly specialized instruction, continuing education innovation conference, mentorship support, and teacher retention stipends	150,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		475,000

14. Program Performance

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



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

The Innovation Foundation (IF) builds curricula that gives students opportunities to experiment, explore and succeed. These curricula include classroom supplies and instructional support, and put students on a path to embracing emerging technologies that will be essential in tomorrow's workforce and the future of our world.

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

IF's educational team has developed curricula to prepare students to be lifelong learners capable of participating in an ever-changing world. While IF's curriculum aligns with state standards, it expands and deepens the student experience by using a relevant and hands-on approach that always begins with problem first thinking.

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

Approximately 10,000 middle school students, at-risk youth and economically disadvantage persons

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

Using technology, the IF curriculum uses a problem-first approach to learning. Students encounter and master science and innovation principles in the context of creating solutions to problems they define and frame with their peers. The IF curriculum is designed to provide students the experience of success across multiple domains using multiple competencies. Students will learn to shed their fear of failure and develop a new mindset that embraces opportunities for innovation and expansive thinking. Improving teacher retention can directly benefit school systems and students. If fewer teachers were replaced, then, instead of financing recruitment and training, school districts could spend money on improving the quality and consistency of the program. Teacher training programs equip educators with the information necessary to understand, embrace, and teach innovation at the pace of change. We implement teacher retention incentives by investing time and effort in new ways to teach science

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?

Should the organization not meet the agreed upon deliverables, a pay back process will be established.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)



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- 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

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number