



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1054

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The JAMS Youth Program/What A Leader Training and Competition is an innovative initiative designed to inspire and engage students in the region of Northeast Florida. This competition and training allows students to learn and take part in real-world activities enriched with challenges that cultivate essential leadership skills. A diverse range of categories include an emphasis on public policy, urban development, entrepreneurship, media, arts, and technology that allows for intersecting discussions of creative and critical thought.

JAMS is a community-based, after-school, and summer-intensive organization that has provided youth arts education and leadership programming for nearly a decade. The mission of JAMS is to empower the creative leaders of tomorrow using arts education as the conduit for improving learning skills and self-confidence.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	300,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	300,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	300,000	23%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	619,287	48%
Other	375,000	29%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	1,294,287	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

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

9. Is future-year 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.

Additional dollars can be fundraised.



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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

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?

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

11. 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.

12. 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	Contracted services	300,000
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
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)		300,000

13. Program Performance

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

The purpose is to improve youth development in five core areas: confidence, critical thinking, communication, professionalism, and relationship development. With this emphasis, youth participants in underserved communities will be equipped with interpersonal and emotional intelligence needed to thrive in school, post-secondary education, trade, and professional spaces. The end goal is to build an ecosystem of future leaders that closes the opportunity gap within public, civil, and private sectors worldwide.

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



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Educational Workshops, youth-led projects, professional cohort, and programming to include weekly sessions, community engagement with community partners, and mentorship support services to ensure sustainability. Annual W.A.L. regional competition offered to middle & high school youth. W.A.L. Climb to success toolbox to amplify curriculum knowledge and retention.

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

Educational Workshops, youth-led projects, professional cohort, and programming to include weekly sessions, community engagement with community partners, and mentorship support services to ensure sustainability. Annual W.A.L. regional competition offered to middle & high school youth. W.A.L. Climb to success toolbox to amplify curriculum knowledge and retention.

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

JAMS/ What A Leader Training & Competition Program aims to empower and engage 500 - 1000 youth annually. Target population of the project consists of youth 12-18 from diverse socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds to include youth from underserved communities, youth from marginalized communities, and youth who can benefit from mentorship and experiential learning spaces.

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

Increase in self-awareness/self-confidence through meaningful engagement, healthy inquisitive behavior to improve problem-solving ability, proficiency in character traits, physical and emotional intelligence that enhances workforce appointment, and expansion of building and maintaining social capital. Outcomes measured by online module training for course completion and milestone badges, data and survey assessment administered by staff, instructors, and community liaisons for program performance.

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?

Standard penalties are adequate.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:



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b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

18. 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 Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name



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b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.