



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1188

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The purpose of the funding is to continue strengthening the statewide ecosystem fueling therapeutic innovation and biotech development and to cultivate thematic centers of excellence poised to address grand challenges in health research facing people in Florida and beyond. Plans envision growing the institute's faculty roster of principal investigators, expanding and updating its core scientific services, and building up its emerging centers of excellence.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	15,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	15,000,000

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)	15,000,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	15,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2024-25	0	7,500,000	152	No

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

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

None

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1188

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	Special category: 1. Strengthening the statewide ecosystem (\$4,200,000); 2. Cultivating Thematic Centers of Excellence (\$10,800,000).	15,000,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
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)		15,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

The purpose of the funding is to continue strengthening the statewide ecosystem fueling therapeutic innovation and biotech development and to cultivate thematic centers of excellence poised to address grand challenges in health research facing people in Florida and beyond. Plans envision growing the institute's faculty roster of principal investigators, expanding and updating its core scientific services, and building up its emerging centers of excellence.

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

Funds will support cutting-edge medical research and the expansion of the biotech ecosystem in Florida.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1188

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

Wertheim UF Scripps Institute laboratories apply expertise in chemical biology, structural biology, microbiology, immunology, neuroscience, and molecular medicine to advance drug discovery. The Institute has identified strategic opportunities to augment faculty expertise, broaden fellowship opportunities, jumpstart scientific innovation, enhance/expand SUS access to exceptional core facilities.

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

Thousands of target populations, including elderly, persons with poor mental and/or physical health, disabled persons, high school students and college students. Also, Florida-based companies aimed at accelerating development of innovative medicines.

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

Impactful research on extending and improving the lives of Floridians; new innovative medicines; increased research through the Natural Products Discovery Center to benefit Florida's agricultural industry; increased capacity for undergraduate, graduate, and post doc research as well as training the next generation of researchers based in Florida; and job partnerships and growth in the bio-tech industry.

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?

Return funding if deliverables not met.

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#:

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)?



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1188

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



The Florida Senate Local Funding Initiative Request Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1188

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