



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1345

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The Female Development World Organization (FDWO) seeks \$750,000 in state funding to combat two escalating threats: human trafficking and cybercrime. In 2023, Florida reported 41,061 cybercrime complaints, with \$874.7M in losses (FBI IC3), and human trafficking's economic impact at \$9B (FSU). This funding will position Florida as a leader in cybersecurity education, addressing 1.8M unfilled statewide jobs, combating human trafficking (ranked 3rd), and attracting tech companies. FDWO proposes an intensive 8-week Human Trafficking and Cybersecurity Certificate Program to create awareness among our youths and develop a skilled workforce capable of safeguarding Florida's communities, protecting critical systems, and combating exploitation in the digital age.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**  Yes  No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>750,000</b>

**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)	750,000	96%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	35,000	4%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>785,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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		

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?**  Yes  No
- 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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## 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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Executive Director - responsible for oversight and project execution.	125,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Administrative Support (1 x \$40,000) - handles reports, surveys and assessments	40,000
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel Costs (Executive Director, Program Director, Trainer & Lead Instructor) - \$20,000 Educational and marketing campaign - \$15,000	35,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Program Director (1 x\$90,000) (school/college liaison/head community outreach), Lead Instructors (2 x\$75,000, Program registrar (1 x\$40,000), Program instructors (6 x\$45,000)	550,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>750,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



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The requested funds will make Florida a leader in cybersecurity and human trafficking education, while creating a talent pipeline to attract tech companies and drive economic growth. Cybersecurity skills are vital for combating human trafficking, where Florida ranks third nationally. Traffickers exploit cybercrimes like identity theft and online recruitment. A cyber-trained workforce will disrupt these activities, ensuring Florida remains competitive, safeguards its communities, and tackles social and economic challenges effectively. This dual-purpose strategy strengthens the state's future security and economic resilience.

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

The program will equip Florida's youth with skills in cybersecurity and human trafficking prevention through an 8-week certificate program for 6th-12th graders. The curriculum covers cyber safety, cybersecurity basics, and human trafficking awareness, including recognizing trafficking tactics, cyberbullying, and emotional resilience. Guest speakers from cybersecurity and public safety sectors will provide real-world insights. High-achieving juniors and seniors can access dual enrollment at community colleges, while weekly progress reviews ensure personalized support. This experiential learning approach fosters a cyber-aware generation ready to navigate digital challenges and combat emerging threats effectively.

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

This project provides critical education for Florida's youth (grades 6–12) and families, focusing on human trafficking awareness, cyber safety, and cyberbullying prevention. It promotes responsible digital citizenship and protects against online predators and traffickers. Additionally, it addresses the national cybersecurity workforce shortage, with 1.8 million unfilled positions, by preparing students for careers in this vital field. By tackling safety and workforce challenges, the initiative positions Florida as a leader in cybersecurity education, safeguarding communities and developing a new generation of cyber-savvy professionals ready to combat digital threats and protect the state's future.

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

The target audience is Florida students in 6th grade - 12th grade. Target populations include economically disadvantaged, at-risk youth, grade school students, high school students, current or formerly incarcerated persons, drug offenders (in criminal justice), and victims of crime.

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

This project aims to improve mental health, enrich education, protect the public, and foster economic growth while creating jobs and reducing crime. It builds emotional resilience by addressing cyberbullying and teaching digital safety, empowering students with skills for success and protection against online threats. Graduates will gain pathways to cybersecurity careers, addressing workforce shortages and boosting economic self-sufficiency. The program also diverts at-risk youth from crime, reducing Florida's ranking as third in human trafficking. Outcomes will be measured through databases, life skills assessments, activity logs, quizzes, and surveys to ensure accountability, track progress, and support continuous improvement.

**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?**

We will strive to meet all deliverable and performance measures, with a suggested penalty of full program shutdown, should we fail to meet as per the contract.

**14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?**  No

**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):**



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LFIR # 1345

**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)?**

- 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)



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LFIR # 1345

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