



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1387

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

American Legion Boys State is among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instruction for U.S. high school students. It is a participatory program in which students become part of the operation of local, county and state government. The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors a separate but similar program for young women called Girls State. At both programs, participants learn the rights, privileges and responsibilities of franchised citizens. The training is objective and centers on the structure of city, county and state governments. Operated by students elected to various offices, Boys State and Girls State activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, law-enforcement presentations, assemblies, bands, choruses and recreational programs.

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	200,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>200,000</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)	200,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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	200,000	147	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.**



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The American Legion, Department of Florida, Inc. is comprised of ~ 280 Legion Posts throughout the state of Florida. Participating Legion Posts raise money to send students from their respective areas and donate monies to offset the costs of the program. The continual cost increases of food housing and rental of Tucker Center as well as volunteer reimbursement for staff creates a financial gap in this extremely crucial program.

## 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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Housing for students attending Boys State and Girls State.	200,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<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>200,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



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The funds will be used to house over 500 boys and 300 girls during Boys State and Girls State programs put on by The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary. This will allow the students to attend these programs, which are considered to be one of Florida's premiere citizenship programs for rising seniors.

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

The requested funds will pay for student housing during Boys State and Girls State.

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

Housing at Florida State University during Boys State and Girls State programs.

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

Approximately 800 high school students will benefit from participating in the programs.

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

Florida American Legion Boys State and Florida American Legion Auxiliary Girls State are a unique summertime leadership/government program that does not emphasize classroom lectures and textbook learning. Instead, it focuses on participation and personal experience in a model state, complete with governing bodies and elected public officials. Mirrors structure and operation of a State. The measure has traditionally been to follow up with students and families involved with overwhelming support.

**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?**

Boys State and Girls State programs are primarily funded through donations to the program through American Legion Posts. This pays for transportation and food expenses as well as program supplies and travel reimbursement to the many volunteer counselors and staff supporting the program. The suggested penalties for not receiving this funding would be the inability for the American Legion to support student housing for these students.

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):**

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.*