



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1458

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools (FSCPS) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) that raises funds to further enhance the superior performance of students and teachers in Seminole County Public Schools.

The Foundation operates a free teacher supply store called Tools 4 Seminole Schools. Teachers can "shop" for free school supplies to equip their classrooms and give to students in need. In addition, the program distributes 3,500 backpacks filled with supplies each August to students on Free/Reduced Lunch. The majority of supplies in the store are donated by local businesses, churches, and civic groups. This legislative appropriation would be used to purchase a high roof cargo van and equip it with a pallet lift and shelving. The van would be used for supply donations pickups and as a mobile store for high need schools.

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	75,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	75,000

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)	75,000	80%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	18,426	20%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	93,426	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		

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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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		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	High Roof Cargo Van (\$56,000); Pallet Lift (\$12,500); Shelving installation and vehicle wrap (\$6,500)	75,000
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)		75,000

13. Program Performance

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



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Purchasing the cargo van will help us provide more school supplies to students in need. It will allow the Foundation to travel to organizations to pick up donations, where previously we have had to decline some larger donations simply due to the inability to transfer them to our school store. It will achieve the goal of supporting more students because we will be able to fill the cargo van with school supplies and visit higher need schools and schools outside the Sanford location of our free store, making shopping access easier. Currently about half of all students in Seminole County are on Free/Reduced lunch so many are not able to afford the school supplies needed to be successful with their education. Through our annual survey, we learned that the majority of SCPS teachers report spending at least \$250 of their own money on classroom supplies for their students; and 26% spend more than \$500.

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

Foundation staff will use the cargo van to pick up donated supplies each Thursday, and other days as needed. Foundation staff will visit higher need schools with a pop up supply store throughout the school year. The cargo van will also be used to support outreach at community events.

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

Grades Pre-K through 12 students will receive free school supplies to help them be successful in the classroom. The supplies include everything from pencils, paper, crayons, books, and scissors to specialized STEM supplies, and hygiene items for the over 2,000 students in Seminole County experiencing homelessness. The Foundation distributes an average of \$1.8 million in free school supplies to students each year, and this appropriation will help us serve more students.

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

During the 2023-2024 School Year, the Foundation hosted 2,723 shops and distributed \$1,736,779 in school supplies supporting over 15,000 students through 696 unique SCPS educators teachers, which is a 34% increase from the previous year. Those educators represented 65 unique schools and special centers. With this appropriation and the ability to increase shopping opportunities, we anticipate reaching even more students and teachers than ever.

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

There are two expected benefits of this project: first, student achievement will improve as students are equipped for success and second, teacher satisfaction and retention will increase as teachers will not have to spend their own personal funds on school supplies. The Foundation has a scanning system to track the value of school supplies distributed to teachers and students. The total value of supplies distributed will be tracked. In addition, the Foundation will track the number of teachers who receive supplies for their classrooms, and how many high need students receive backpacks with supplies. Finally, the Foundation has an annual survey to teachers about the program and its impact on their teaching quality and job satisfaction.

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?

In the event of a failure to meet designated deliverables and/or performance measures the Department of Education may enact additional reporting requirements or the organization returning all unused funds to the State.

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?



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- 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)
- Local Entity



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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.