



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1491

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Galileo School for Gifted Learning, a successful charter school system in Seminole County, Florida will soon be breaking ground on the Galileo Early Learning Center, a high quality, subsidized daycare option to support their 165 staff members. The Galileo Early Learning Center will serve infants to children up to 4 years of age with a solid Galileo educational platform that has led to the charter system being A-rated, a certified VPK-8 High Performing Charter School, a FDOE School of Excellence and one of Seminole County's leading schools. The daycare will promote teacher retention by providing both a subsidized and exemplary educational option for Galileo Faculty and Staff.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	500,000
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	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	500,000	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		500,000	80	Yes

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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

06/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/01/2026

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

General Tuition paid by the community for the daycare services will be used for all funding efforts beyond the initial capital costs associated with building the Galileo Early Learning Center. VPK funding from the State of Florida will supplement the tuition paid by Galileo Families.

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.

The Galileo School Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit corporation operated by a volunteer board of directors and the Galileo CEO, Michelle Nunez. The Galileo Board of Directors will work in partnership with the CEO to manage all funding, building and the implementation of The Galileo Early Learning Center.

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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	State funding in the form of capital outlay will support The Galileo School Foundation, Inc. in the construction of a 3.6 million dollar, 10,000 square foot building that will house an exemplary early learning center for the 165 member Galileo Staff. The early learning center will provide a fantastic daycare option with 25% reduced tuition for working teachers and staff.	500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

13. Program Performance



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

The United States is dealing with a nationwide teacher shortage. Many child-bearing teachers choose to stay home after bearing children due to the rising cost of daycare. With the creation of the Galileo Early Learning Center, Galileo Staff will have access to an exemplary early learning educational model, onsite at their school, at a subsidized employee rate of tuition. Galileo teachers will be excited to have their children attend the Galileo Early Learning Center and be more likely to maintain their careers serving the local community.

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

These funds will be used to provide quality daycare options at a subsidized rate for Galileo Teachers and Staff, which will improve teacher retention.

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

The Galileo School Community serves nearly 1400 students in Seminole County, Florida. This project will improve the likelihood that quality teachers will remain in their positions educating these students because their own children will be afforded a wonderful education through the creation of the Galileo Early Learning Center at a subsidized rate of tuition.

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

It is estimated that 26 Galileo Staff Members would take advantage of using the Galileo Early Learning Center annually. Those 26 staff members directly impact our 1400 students served across both of the Galileo Campuses by providing an increase in staff retention annually. Over the five year period of this project, thousands of Galileo students and families will be affected positively by the Galileo Early Learning Center.

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

Employee retention will be improved by 20% through the implementation of this program as it is currently estimated that one in five of the Galileo Teachers and Staff have a child in the age range of the Galileo Early Learning Center. It is anticipated that this subsidized, quality educational option will be widely attractive to staff members. This benefit will be tracked annually through the Galileo School Success Report.

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?

Galileo will strive to create a quality early learning environment that mirrors the success of the two current charter schools. Failing to provide a quality early learning environment that would not be an attractive option for staff would not produce the intended teacher retention outcomes, which in turn would effect the opportunity that the Galileo Community has to receive a desirable high quality education in grades kindergarten through eighth grade.

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



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- 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
- University or College
- Other (please specify)



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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.