



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1783

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

Warner University understands the need for modernized teaching techniques to enable the agricultural industry to maximize sustainability. To address the changing demands of the agriculture industry, Warner University has devised a program to better equip those entering the field with the appropriate training to build successful and sustainable businesses. The addition of an outdoor classroom and livestock pens will provide hands-on integrative learning to deliver enriched and practical training for future agribusiness leaders. Funding will be used to provide for the installation/construction of a specialized livestock pen and the Engineering Design/Planning of a future dedicated outdoor classroom facility.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	385,000
Total State Funds Requested	385,000

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)	385,000	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	385,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** 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?** 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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

August 1, 2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

July 1, 2026

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

The property will be owned and maintained within the University's existing in-house maintenance and operations processes.

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.

Warner University

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	Livestock Pens - \$35,000 (*roof/structure \$15,000 + concrete slab \$10,000 + Hydraulic squeeze chute \$10,000 = \$35,000) Planning and design of ~3750 square foot outdoor classroom/demonstration facility = \$350,000 / Totaling \$385,000	385,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		385,000

13. Program Performance

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

The addition of an outdoor classroom and livestock pens will provide hands-on integrative learning to deliver enriched and practical training for future agribusiness leaders. Funding requested will be used for (1) Engineering/Design of a new outdoor classroom and (2) construction of a livestock pen.



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

The addition of hands-on interactive agricultural studies will allow students to experience and learn practical ways to build and operate a sustainable agribusiness that will provide a stronger economy and food supply for our state.

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

As students become better prepared to own and operate agricultural industries, the Florida agriculture industry will become an even more important factor in Florida's economy. The need for food and fiber to be grown in the state of Florida to help feed a growing population is vital to Florida's strength as a state.

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

Students entering or currently interested in the agriculture industry. The target population would be the students that are graduating high school or a 2-year state college program and are seeking a Bachelor's in agricultural studies or agricultural business. The total number of individuals that are being served would include all incoming students and current students. Annually that would be approximately 75 students.

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

Future farmers and agribusiness owners will be taught best practices to increase productivity and provide for sustainability. As the agriculture industry improves, food costs should decrease. Curriculum will reflect best practices, and graded coursework will be maintained.

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?

Penalties will be determined by the Department of Education.

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#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:



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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

b. Firm Name



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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.