



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1794

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The Mission of the Miami-Dade Military Museum is to preserve and present the rich military heritage of Florida to educate and inspire future Americans. Fifty years of Florida's military heritage in one building! We are listed by the National Register of Historic Places with National Significance and aspire to National Landmark status. The project/programs descriptions are: 1. Support the Florida Veterans Oral History Project of the Fl. Dept. of State. We will provide office space, Veterans for the Oral History Program, and extensive expertise. Veterans Oral Histories of our heroes will be recorded and distributed free to all FLA classrooms. 2. Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation: Both outside wooden east and west Fire Escape stairs from the 2nd Floor of our 80-year-old historic military building are badly deteriorated. There are rotten holes in the stairs. This is a Life-Safety Hazard. They must be replaced, preferably with metal stairs for a permanent solution.

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	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	250,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>500,000</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)	500,000	50%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	500,000	50%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**  Yes
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2024-25	0	250,000	3260A	No

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?

07/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

10/01/2025

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.

The Miami-Dade Military Museum, a 501(c)(3) chartered in the State of Florida is the owner of the historic building that houses the museum.

### 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	One Ph.D.-Level educator with extensive teaching experience as the Resident Military Historian at Florida International University, who is also a former Navy Officer and trained and experienced at conducting Oral Histories.	50,000
Other Salary and Benefits	One Project Leader who is a distinguished now-retired Miami-Dade Public School System educator who was Teacher of the Year. This educator is also a former Air Force Officer and is trained and experienced at conducting Oral Histories.	45,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Trained staff members, skilled Educator/Docents serving as lecturers and tour guides to both the High School students who are our focus, as well as the many visitors from across the US, and drop-ins from the International community, heritage tourists who come to learn about America. Our Veterans themselves regard the Veterans Oral History Project with the deepest respect.	150,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Video cameras, microphones, lighting and other equipment to produce world class Oral History DVDs for the State of Florida, US Library of Congress and student classroom presentations, as well as personal copies for the military Veterans and their loved ones themselves.	5,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0



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**Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:**

Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	Both the outside wooden east and west Fire Escape stairs from the 2nd Floor of our 80-year old historic military building are badly deteriorated. There are rotten holes in the stairs. This is a Life-Safety Hazard. They must be replaced, preferably with metal stairs for a permanent solution.	250,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>500,000</b>

**13. Program Performance**

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

Project #1 will be the Oral History of our great Florida Veterans, whose stories will be shared free with classrooms across Florida. Project #2 will improve Life-Safety by replacing our Fire Escape Stairs with permanent metal stairs. We are committed to providing a museum safe for all visitors, especially the disabled, who too frequently are Veterans.

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

Project #1. We will provide offices, gather the Oral Histories of Florida's Veterans, and create them, with DVDs going to the US Library of Congress, the State of Florida and its school districts.  
Project #2. We will build permanent outdoor Fire Escape Stairs of metal, in keeping with all codes, permits, inspections and approvals that will last for ages.

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

Recording a Veterans Oral History Program, especially for those Veterans who suffer PTSD, has proven to be therapeutic. A sense of closure and reconciliation by former soldiers is vitally important. Feedback from Veteran participants in the Oral History Program to both the Military Museum and the FL Dept. of State will insure that the program is achieving maximum benefit.

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

Miami-Dade County alone has 70,000 Veterans. Florida has 1.5 million Veterans. Florida hosts 21 major military bases, including Southern Command, Central Command, Special Operations Command, Mayport (4th Fleet HQ), NAS Key West, Eglin AFB, Patrick Space Force Base. Thousands of students in the JROTC here are learning and being inspiring by true stories of our military heroes. We host very popular Remembrances including D-Day, 9-11 Day and Pearl Harbor Day, as well as national Days of Observance such as MLK Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July and Veterans Day. These patriotic events are Free and open to the public. We have been honored by such officials as Lt. Gov. Jenette Nunez and our American Secretary of State, Honorable Marco Rubio, as well as soldiers, military commanders and many elected officials.

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

Being able to share videos of our own Florida military heroes can only enrich our common cultural experience and directly impact draw to the Museum, as well as to our immediate neighbors: Zoo Miami and the Gold Coast Railroad Museum. Heritage Tourism is an increasingly important aspect of the attraction of Florida to national and international travelers. Our Museum Building is nationally recognized as historic. We hope to work together to recognize our own FL Veterans themselves.

**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 return the funding to the State if it is determined that we did not meet performance measures.

**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)



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- 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:**

**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**



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- 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**

**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.*