



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1956

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

To study and develop artificial intelligence(AI) infrastructure and technology initiatives, ensuring students are prepared for the rapidly evolving digital economy and the development of AI focused academic programs and research opportunities; invest in cutting edge technology infrastructure and smart classrooms; implement advanced cybersecurity measures to protect sensitive university data and develop cybersecurity training programs for students and faculty; upgrade network security and monitoring systems to prevent cyber attacks.

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

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	350,000

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)	350,000	67%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	175,000	33%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	525,000	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?** Yes

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**

Local and Federal grants and/or donor contributions



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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	Classroom integration and enhancements technology Smart classrooms equipping classrooms with the necessary technology for AI and cybersecurity systems-Integrating AI tools within the classroom	350,000
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)		350,000

13. Program Performance

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

The initiative aims to develop AI-focused academic programs and research opportunities, invest in advanced technology infrastructure and smart classrooms and collaborate with industry leaders for hands-on learning. It will integrate AI-driven tools to improve learning and efficiency, establish advanced cybersecurity measures to protect sensitive data, and create training programs for students and faculty, while upgrading network security and monitoring systems.

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



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The activities will educate new talent and support talent development with expertise in digital security and to provide technical proficiency and analytical problem solving techniques that protect organizational critical systems and infrastructure. The program will also focus on advancing research and development to enable cybersecurity to be linked to social enterprise and economic development.

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

Revitalize outdated academic environments to meet contemporary industry standards. Upgrade laboratory facilities with advanced state of the art technology, expand capacity for STEM-related academic programs and research initiatives, and enhance FMU's capability to attract and retain top tier faculty and students in STEM fields.

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

The target population to be served is jobless persons, economically disadvantaged persons, at risk youth, homeless, developmentally disabled, high school students and University and college students. The target population to be served is at least 800.

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

Provide access to certification and credentials to improve employment and economic opportunities in the community in AI and in Cybersecurity. The method for measuring will be the number of participants graduating with workforce development certificates and placed employment.

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?

Return the unused funds

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

c. E-mail Address



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d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.