



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2772

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Path to College, a Palm Beach County-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, requests funding to deploy a comprehensive STEM education program that will cultivate STEM skills among low-income high school students, helping them achieve their dreams of pursuing a higher education and empowering them to pursue lucrative careers upon graduation. The program will combine direct, skills-focused support with individual mentoring and guidance to ensure students have the resources they need to stay on track in school and achieve their career goals. Ultimately, this project will cultivate a robust talent pipeline in Palm Beach County, harnessing the inherent talents of students while helping them pursue careers that will ultimately give their families a path out of generational poverty.

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	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	250,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

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)	1,000,000	36%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,791,040	64%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	2,791,040	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		
2023-24	0	500,000		No

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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

January 2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

August 2025

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

The organization has received a \$1 million dollar endowment pledge to support operations of this building. In addition, we will continue raise money from private philanthropy, events, and grant making.

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.

Path to College

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	STEM project supplies, transportation, student stipend/student workers, Program Insurance and Legal, and meals.	300,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Software development, IT/AI training, student tracking portal and software. TECH consultant for student tracking portal and software. Curriculum development and publishing, printing. Curriculum consultation and staff training.	450,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Building security, painting, lighting, flooring, addition of bathrooms to increase occupancy, low voltage wiring	250,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

13. Program Performance

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



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This program will empower Path to College to deploy a comprehensive college prep and workforce development initiative designed to prepare low-income youth in Palm Beach County to pursue lucrative, emerging careers in STEM fields. Through an interconnected system of STEM education, math tutoring, and personal leadership development programming, Path to College will give a population of up to 3,000 students access to programming that will help them thrive in high school while setting them up for success in a post-secondary setting.

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

These funds will enable Path to College to provide underserved youth with the college prep and workforce development in Palm Beach County by providing STEM Pathways incorporating education, math instruction, and personal development support. Through internships in STEM fields, workshops, hands-on career experiences, and individual mentoring support, this program will prepare the youth of the community for college and success in emerging careers.

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

This appropriation project builds on 2023-24 state funding to provide direct academic support to low-income high school students in Palm Beach County. Specific services include individual mentoring support for students, hands-on career exploration workshops, tutoring, financial literacy education, internship matching, alumni coaching for high school graduates, project-based math and science camps, and a range of other immersive experiences to build future career skills in students.

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

This project will serve up to 3,000 low-income students in Palm Beach County. All students will attend Title 1 schools and/or demonstrate a need for services by documenting their family's financial position.

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

Benefits and outcomes of this project include improved access to high-quality education, improved economic standing for those served, access to job opportunities, enhanced economic self-sufficiency, mental and physical health, access to enriching cultural experiences, and a reduced risk of substance abuse. Path to College has a rigorous program evaluation in place that is built on regular surveys, touchpoints, and internal KPIs, and these will be leveraged to ensure ongoing success in achieving program goals.

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?

Not meeting contractual deliverables may not warrant future funding. As an example of our track record, Path to College has obtained the highest rating from Guidestar and the Nonprofits First excellence in nonprofit management and has 5-8 year relationships with well-established funding partners.

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?

- 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.