



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2845

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

4. Project/Program Description

Funds will help create the DePaul Dyslexia Literacy Center, where teachers from around Florida can learn the Orton-Gillingham method, a multi-sensory and data-driven approach to teaching the dyslexic brain. All kids can learn with this method; dyslexic kids can ONLY learn with this method. 20% of the population is dyslexic. In Duval County, there are 30,000 dyslexic students without resources. 80% of incarcerated people have a reading disorder. This systemic issue affects all Florida districts. The Center will provide Orton-Gillingham training to area and regional teachers and graduate students in education. Professional development workshops and seminars will occur throughout the year. Trainings will be overseen by an Orton-Gillingham Fellow and be offered in-person and virtually. The courses will meet certification standards for all Orton-Gillingham Levels.

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	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	23%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	1,630,000	77%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	2,130,000	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?

08/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

08/01/2026

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

Funding streams will be private donations, grants and rent collected from the DePaul School of Northeast Florida.

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.

Owners of the facility and funding recipients are the same 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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction Fees	500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

13. Program Performance

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

Funds will help create the DePaul Dyslexia Literacy Center, where teachers from around Florida can learn the Orton-Gillingham method, a multi-sensory and data-driven approach to teaching the dyslexic brain. All kids can learn with this method; dyslexic kids can ONLY learn with this method. 20% of the population is dyslexic. In Duval County, there are 30,000 dyslexic students without resources. 80% of incarcerated people have a reading disorder. This systemic issue affects all Florida districts.



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

The Center will provide Orton-Gillingham training to area and regional teachers and graduate students in education. Professional development workshops and seminars will occur throughout the year. Trainings will be overseen by an Orton-Gillingham Fellow and be offered in-person and virtually. The courses will meet certification standards for all Orton-Gillingham Levels.

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

The DePaul Dyslexia Literacy Center will be a resource for all Florida teachers who seek Orton-Gillingham training (in person or virtually), for dyslexic adults throughout the State who seek reading remediation, and for the training of reading interventionists who work with incarcerated individuals.

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

More than 800 Jobless persons, economically disadvantaged persons, At-risk youth, Homeless, Preschool students, Grade school students, High school students, University/College students, Currently or formerly incarcerated persons, expected to be served.

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

This project is expected to improve the quality of education by improving dyslexia-specific interventions in all elementary classrooms, the burden on the special education programs and response-to-intervention programs will be alleviated significantly. If the dyslexic children are taught the way they need to learn, they will not require special intervention or pull-out services, thus opening spaces in those programs for kids who need the services more. The state can study and quantify the number of students who no longer require special intervention within a response-to-intervention program. Project is expected to create specific immediate job opportunities, measured by state unemployment rate reports. Project is expected to increase or improve economic activity, broadly, the city can measure overall economic growth. On a more individualized scale, the city can measure per capita income, median household income, poverty rates, unemployment rates, and labor force participation rates.

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?

If deliverables and performance measures are not being met, the contracting agency could consider financial penalties during the invoicing process or, if appropriate, reallocation of funding.

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
- No



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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)

d. First Name Last Name



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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.