



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2848

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Achievers for Life (AFL) dropout initiative has been in Duval County since 2007, serving more than 8,723 students. AFL takes a unique approach to serving students, starting in middle school, through mentoring, family support, case management and academic enrichment to increase the graduation rate Duval County Public Schools. The specific goal of this funding request is to fund direct service hires for nine Achievement Advocates across the ten DCPS middle schools served by AFL.

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	400,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	400,000

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)	400,000	17%
Matching Funds		
Federal	500,000	22%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	750,000	33%
Other	650,000	28%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	2,300,000	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		

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.

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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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	Salaries for nine Achievement Advocates.	400,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
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)		400,000

13. Program Performance

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

Achievers for Life (AFL) dropout initiative has been in Duval County since 2007, serving more than 8,723 students. AFL takes a unique approach to serving students, starting in middle school, through mentoring, family support, case management and academic enrichment to increase the graduation rate Duval County Public Schools. The specific goal of this funding request is to fund direct service hires for nine Achievement Advocates across the ten DCPS middle schools served by AFL.

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



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The program is supported by Achievement Advocates (AAs) who make a multi-year commitment to the program. In addition to their work with students and school personnel, advocates work with the student's families to identify each student's strengths and address obstacles that prevent the student from succeeding in school. Parent engagement is a crucial component to the success of the child.

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

Advocates provide case management services to families and students helping them to increase their stability and focus on school. By providing the wrap around services, from tutoring to connecting parents with self-sufficiency services, students will be engaged and successful graduates of DCPS, leading to a more successful life.

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

More than 800 Economically disadvantaged persons, At-risk youth, and Grade school students are 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?

The project is expected to improve mental health, AFL aims to increase family engagement activities, to help parents become partners to the school and to their child's education, and to reduce any non-academic barriers to student success, by allowing students to focus on being students. To measure this AFL will continue to track and monitor student success indicators, student improvement, and parent involvement in engagement activities to quantify the program's impact. The project is expected to improve the quality of education. The purpose of AFL is to assist Duval County Public Schools to increase the graduation rate which was 57% for AA students and 66% of all students in the fall of 2007 and now stands at 85% for AA students and 91% for all students today. This funding request will continue and improve upon these statistics. To measure success, AFL will continue to monitor and track student graduation rates, family engagement, student GPA, student proficiency in Math and Language.

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?

Reversion of 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#:



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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

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name



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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.