



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2852

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This project for an Honors College facility adjacent to the new 520-bed Honors Residence Hall (opening 2025) will supply program space for an Honors Living and Learning Community to promote student success. The building will include classrooms, offices, labs, and study spaces, including support for Honors signature programs with partners like MedNexus and ArtsUNF, lab support for AI and innovation projects, meeting rooms, and multi-media, mixed-use conference rooms and maker spaces.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	14,836,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>14,836,000</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)	14,836,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>14,836,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.

**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)?** No

**c. What is the estimated start date of construction?** 7/1/2026

**d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?** 12/31/2027

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

E&G operating funds.

**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.**

UNF/State of Florida will own facility.

**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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Design, Construction, FF&E	14,836,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>14,836,000</b>

**13. Program Performance**

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

The funds will support the construction of the academic facility to complement the new Honors Residence Hall and complete the planned Honors Living and Learning community. Integrated living and learning facilities promote student success by increasing retention, degree progress, professional development, and career readiness.

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

Classrooms, offices, labs, study, and meeting spaces, including space for Honors signature programs with partners like Blackstone Launchpad, MedNexus, and ArtsUNF, lab support for AI and innovation projects, meeting rooms for student groups and university and community partners (e.g. Honors Student Union and Career Services), and multi-media, mixed-use conference rooms and maker spaces.



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

Students will have access to essential classroom, study, program, and event space and updated systems to enhance learning and student success at UNF. The facility will provide direct services to Honors students, UNF students and programs, and Honors community partners, focusing on students' professional development and recruitment for the workforce.

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

The facility serves several target populations, specifically the 900+ Hicks Honors College students; second, numerous UNF students, faculty, and staff who participate in Honors affiliated programs; and third, community partners, including employers, non-profit organizations, and citizens who participate annually in Honors sponsored events and signature programs.

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

Improvements in student academic and career services for these students will have a direct and quantifiable impact on measures such as academic progress rate and career success. These measures are already key accountability measures by which UNF is evaluated by the Board of Governors. We report them at least annually through our Accountability Plan, and they are part of the Performance Funding Metrics by which all of the SUS is measured.

**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?**

This contract will be subject to a GMP. As such, any cost overruns and/or delays will be the responsibility of the contractor(s) and outlined in the contract. We have had success with this model on previous projects.

**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
- 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.*