



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2857

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

4. Project/Program Description

Funding will help with construction of a flagship center. The building will hold a Head Start Center conveniently located near the children and families we serve. The building will also serve as a place to hold professional development and training offered to our staff and over 140 other providers through our CoachJax program, a central kitchen bringing the food services in house for our programs in Duval and surrounding counties, and a location for administrative offices.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
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	83%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	200,000	17%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	1,200,000	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.**

The remaining funds needed would come through a capital campaign initiated by the Board, and a potential local grant.

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?

ECS4kids receives funds through early learning coalitions (60%), Head Start grants (30%), private contributions (8%), local government grants (1%) and the child care food program (1%). Ongoing operations and maintenance of the project, including the Head start programming located inside the building, would come from a combination of these funding sources.

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.

ECS4kids, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit provider, would own the facility.

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	The initial state investment will go towards engineering costs, the purchase of land, clearing and demo costs as needed, the hiring of a construction company, permitting and purchase of materials to begin construction.	1,000,000
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?

Funding will help with construction of a flagship center. The building will hold a Head Start Center conveniently located near the children and families we serve. The building will also serve as a place to hold professional development and training offered to our staff and over 140 other providers through our CoachJax program, a central kitchen bringing the food services in house for our programs in Duval and surrounding counties, and a location for administrative offices.



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

Funds will be used to support architectural planning, land purchase and clearing/demo, and hiring of a construction company, permitting and purchase of materials.

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

Once the building is complete, 75 children and their families will receive high quality early learning through our Head Start Center each year, and 700 ECS4kids staff plus an additional 140+ providers we work with will be able to utilize the training space to receive ongoing training and professional development, strengthening the quality of early learning services for children in northeast FL.

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

51-100 individuals in the target populations of, economically disadvantaged persons, developmentally disabled, At-risk youth, and Preschool 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?

Project is expected to improve mental health, which will be measured by the number of mental and behavioral health specialists available to each Center.
 Project is expected to improve the quality of education, which will be measured by the number of learning gains made by our Head Start students and the number of professional development hours/courses provided to early learning educators.
 Project is expected to create specific immediate job opportunities, which will be measured by contracts with engineering and construction companies.
 Project is expected to reduce systems dependency/involvement, which will be measured by the number of parents gainfully employed, and the number of parents engaged in family activities offered at ECS4kids.

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?

ECS4kids will work with the Department of Education on deliverables and performance measures, and will report to the Department throughout the building process. Any penalties for failing to meet deliverables will be included in the contract with the Department.

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



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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

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.



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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.