



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3021

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

A customized childcare program designed specifically for law enforcement is critical to improving recruitment and retention, ensuring officers can stay focused on protecting the community. Law enforcement plays a vital role in public safety and economic development by preventing crime, fostering security, and engaging in community policing. However, staffing shortages lead to longer response times, reduced patrols, and diminished public trust—making communities more vulnerable. By offering tailored childcare solutions that accommodate officers' demanding schedules, this project directly addresses the recruiting and retention crisis, strengthening law enforcement's ability to serve, enhancing public safety, and supporting economic growth.

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	1,800,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,200,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,000,000

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)	3,000,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	3,000,000	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 Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3021

Our project will actively seek private funding to sustain long-term success, but state funding is essential to establish proof of concept. Without state support, we cannot implement the program, limiting our ability to demonstrate its impact on recruitment, retention, and public safety. State investment ensures a strong foundation, allowing us to attract private donors and expand childcare access for officers.

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?

10/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

03/01/2026

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

Ongoing operations will be funded through municipal budgets, as our mission is to prove the program's effectiveness and work with agencies and local governments to make it a permanent line item. This is a one-time state funding request to establish the project, demonstrate measurable impact on recruitment, retention, and public safety, and ensure municipalities take responsibility for long-term funding.

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.

The National Law Enforcement Foundation will serve as the conduit responsible for implementing and managing the childcare program. The foundation will receive and administer the funding on behalf of law enforcement officers, ensuring its proper allocation. The City of Tallahassee will provide the facility location, while the National Law Enforcement Foundation will oversee operations, staffing, and program execution.

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	Childcare staff including 41 teachers, Director and support staff working 7 days a week including all holidays 17 hours a day.	1,500,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Program supplies such as food, art supplies, music supplies, communication devices and computers including retractable safe rooms in each classroom.	300,000



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3021

Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Tenant improvement to existing structure per state requirements of a childcare center, playground equipment and architectural design of the center.	1,200,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

The Tallahassee Law Enforcement Childcare Center is a strategic solution to the law enforcement recruiting and retention crisis, directly addressing the childcare challenges that force many officers to leave the profession. By providing reliable, flexible care, officers can work overtime, respond to callouts, extend shifts, and attend court when needed. This initiative will enhance career advancement, attract top recruits, and improve retention—especially for single-parent officers—ensuring a stable, committed police force.

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

The Tallahassee Law Enforcement Childcare Center will provide customized childcare and early childhood education specifically designed to support law enforcement families. Services will include extended hours to accommodate overtime, callouts, and unpredictable schedules, affordable tuition through public-private partnerships, and high-quality education programs to ensure children meet developmental milestones while officers focus on their duties.

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

The appropriation project will provide critical childcare services that enable law enforcement officers to effectively serve and protect citizens. Without peace officers, there is no peace—their presence is essential for public safety, crime prevention, and emergency response. By ensuring officers have reliable, flexible childcare, they can remain fully staffed, focused, and ready to uphold their duty to protect the community. This will reduce crime, improve response times, and strengthen community trust, creating a safer environment where businesses can thrive, attracting investment, boosting economic development, and fostering long-term prosperity.

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

This project serves law enforcement families by providing high-quality childcare and educational programs tailored to their unique needs. The primary target population includes children ages 0-5 years for early childhood education and care, as well as school-aged children through after-school and summer programs. By accommodating the demanding schedules of officers, the center ensures that their children receive consistent, structured, and nurturing care while they focus on protecting the community. The program is expected to serve approximately 53 families per day, based on an average of 1.5 children per family, ensuring that officers have the support they need to remain in their careers and continue safeguarding public safety.

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

The Tallahassee Law Enforcement Childcare Center will reduce officer stress, improve retention, and enhance public safety by providing customized childcare. 85% of parents will report reduced stress (measured by the Parenting Stress Index), and 90% of children will maintain or improve developmental skills. The program will increase recruitment, reduce turnover costs, and strengthen economic growth. Success will be tracked through stress surveys, retention data, and crime trends, proving the impact of childcare on law enforcement stability and public safety.

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?

The agency may require quarterly progress reports and impose financial penalties for failure to achieve key metrics, such as officer retention rates, childcare enrollment targets, and measurable public safety improvements. Additional oversight measures, such as third-party audits and performance evaluations, may also be implemented to ensure compliance and accountability. Suggested penalties may include funding reductions, contract termination, or performance-based reimbursements if deliverables are not met.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3021

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:

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3021

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

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.