



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3121

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Those in or having been foster care will receive personalized educational support and mentoring including literacy and subject-specific tutoring, educational testing, and degree/GED tracking. Less than 30% of foster youth complete a high school or equivalent degree. Similarly, less than 30% can read and comprehend on a level to get through the basics needed in adulthood.

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	450,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	450,000

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)	450,000	53%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	100,000	12%
Other	300,000	35%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	850,000	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	Project Head salary	25,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Administrative salary to support the continued connection with the foster youth. Staff time is needed to establish and maintain contact with case managers, guardians, etc.	25,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Insurance, Staff supplies and expenses to work directly with youth as well as the advocacy needed to keep foster youth in our programs.	25,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Certified teachers and reading specialists that work with foster youth on a regular basis. Their salaries are critical as they establish relationships with their assigned foster youth that build trust and lead to stronger outcomes (higher test scores, better compliance, etc).	175,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Software such as IXCL and other programs to supplement based on individual needs and goals of foster youth. Other program expenses, printing, travel, incentives, etc.	75,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Educational psychologists, certified reading coaches, and other specialists as needed to serve the specific and unique needs of foster youth. This includes services such as educational testing for learning disorders, etc.	125,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		450,000

13. Program Performance

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



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To increase the number of foster youth who are able to graduate high school or achieve a GED degree with reading competency so they can become productive members of society. Currently less than 30% of foster youth will complete high school. This funding will allow us to expand our reading and educational tutoring for all grade levels as well as launch our GED program.

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

New sites will increase access for foster youth to the in-person tutoring and support needed to fill the gaps in their education caused by trauma, regular moves between group and other foster homes, etc. Educational psych testing will identify learning disorders and other challenges that can be addressed with proper tools and support. Our remote help system will be improved to serve more youth.

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

Those in or having been foster care will receive personalized educational support and mentoring including literacy and subject-specific tutoring, educational testing, and degree/GED tracking. Less than 30% of foster youth complete a high school or equivalent degree. Similarly, less than 30% can read and comprehend on a level to get through the basics needed in adulthood.

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

Target populations are youth 22 and under who are or were a part of the foster care system Florida. We expect to serve 201-400 youth this fiscal year while scaling to serve exponentially more in years to come.

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

Expected outcomes include improved physical and mental health, improved education levels and success, improved job readiness, etc. while reducing likelihood of substance abuse, human trafficking (over 84% of foster kids are trafficked), economic dependency in adulthood, etc. Outcomes will be measured by improved internal and external testing scores, qualitative reports, increased rates of graduation, and increased rates of employment once in adulthood.

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?

Return of funds to the administrative agency.

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



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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.