



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3354

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

4. Project/Program Description

Funds will begin a pilot program in approximately 3 to 4 districts, including Broward and Miami-Dade, to provide a voice-controlled AI assistant built for teachers to capture and keep students' attention, leading to more engaging interactions in the classroom. By uniquely blending technology and teaching, these AI tools help reduce distractions, maintain student focus, increase digital literacy, and improve learning outcomes, all while ensuring a safe and secure environment for students, and increasing available instruction time.

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	900,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	900,000

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)	900,000	48%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	963,410	52%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	1,863,410	100%

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3354

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	None.	0
Other Salary and Benefits	None.	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	None.	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	None.	0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	None.	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds will be used to purchase equipment and software licenses for schools and classrooms participating in the pilot. \$52,160 for 1,630 voice-enabled remotes \$832,930 for accompanying software license subscriptions.	885,090
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Funds will be used to procure contracted services with an independent, third-party evaluator to measure the efficacy of the pilot program.	14,910
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		900,000

13. Program Performance

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3354

The goal of this pilot program is to improve teacher efficiency and efficacy by introducing technology in the classroom that results in improved student outcomes by increasing student engagement and direct instructional time afforded teachers while reducing the pressures of manual planning and implementation. State-of-the-art AI offerings will be deployed in 3 to 4 districts, including Broward and Miami-Dade school districts, for the benefit of teachers and students. Using this technology, which has been solely designed to support teachers and not replace them, teachers will have the means to improve the quality and efficiency of their teaching instruction, while reducing the stress associated with instructional planning and implementation use without technological support. Research has shown these instructional improvements, particularly instructional quality, are the most highly correlated factors to increasing student engagement and ultimately increasing student achievement.

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

Purchase of remote control units (RCUs) and accompanying software subscriptions. These tools provide teachers with push-to-talk capability to remotely control their classroom devices with their voice, as well as an air mouse, and allow quick access to shortcuts, video playback controls, education-specific content, & other frequently used commands. Additionally, an independent third-party assessment will be conducted to measure changes in teacher performance, stress, increases in teacher and student AI literacy, and improvements in student engagement & performance.

Additionally, teacher training & support will be available, including a website that offers orientation and certification modules, videos, and helpful guides; on-site training and technical support as needed; and tips and tools for using AI to support behavior and transition management, support resiliency, provide specific accommodations for ESE students, and support lesson preparation and delivery.

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

Teachers will have access to the first AI voice assistant designed to enhance live instruction and facilitate smooth transitions while impacting positive behavioral interventions and support. Additionally, generative AI tools that make high-quality, standards-based lesson and rubric preparation easy and fast for teachers will result in increases in student instructional time and academic performance.

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

K-12 teachers and students in multiple school districts. Funds will go towards outfitting 1,630 classrooms in Florida K12 schools in 3 to 4 districts, including Broward and Miami-Dade school districts. The number of classrooms translates effectively as a 1:1 ratio to the number of teachers served. Using the state average of 17 students per teacher in Florida, by serving 1,630 teachers, this funding will be able to impact an estimated 27,710 students.

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

Improved teacher efficiency and efficacy by improving technology in the classroom, and to improve student outcomes by increasing student engagement and direct instructional time from teachers while reducing the pressures instructional leaders face in designing, planning and implementing instruction manually. State-of-the-art artificial intelligence (AI) offerings will be deployed in 2 to 4 school districts.

Outcomes will be measured by a third party independent evaluator to study the impact of this technology on classrooms. The evaluator will be chosen based on recommendations from participating districts and the FLDOE. Participating districts and instructional leaders will provide feedback throughout the school year via surveys and interviews, all of which will be collected after obtaining applicable consent and in recognition of student privacy laws. The survey process will be coordinated with the administration in each school district.

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?

Performance penalties may include reduction in program appropriations commensurate with deliverable(s) not met.

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)



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3354

- 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

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3354

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify) School District

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.