



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 3149

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

A local- custom designed neuro-diverse playground offers a safe, inclusive space with sensory-friendly equipment to support children with autism and neuro-diverse disorders. It aims to enhance sensory, motor, social skills, and emotional well-being, helping children engage, relax, build confidence, and improve their overall development and quality of life. We worked with Edwin Watts (to design a putting green portion of the playground,(one example of the partnering local businesses) spotlighting the history of our county (home of the special olympics & golf gold medalist, Patrick Rosser and Michael Embry, 2025 Special Olympic Athlete Award Winner).

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted?

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	22,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	32,000
Total State Funds Requested	54,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	54,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	54,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	108,000	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.**



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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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

03/1/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

08/01/2026

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

The academy' s operational budget will be used to keep the playground in good operational and maintained order.

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.

Forever Lawns - construction and installation of the playground custom ground cover and equipment. Forever Lawns are contractors of the Academy for this project. Owners of the playground and campus are the Not for Profit (501C3) Advanced Sacred Hope Academy (Julie Webb- ED and founder)

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	Playground equipment - specialized designed and engineered for neuro- diverse development	22,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	The sensory playground will create an engaging outdoor environment for our special needs student body. The space combines traditional play structures with specialized sensory elements to promote sensory regulation, balance and social interaction. Planning, engineering, construction & installation of the neuro- diverse equipment	32,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		54,000

13. Program Performance

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



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This neuro-diverse playground offers a safe, inclusive space with sensory-friendly equipment to support children with autism and neuro-diverse disorders. It aims to enhance sensory, motor, social skills, and emotional well-being, helping children engage, relax, build confidence, and improve their overall development and quality of life.

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

The custom designed/built playground and equipment will help to develop and improve the sensory, motor, social skills and emotional well being of the children (and subsequently including but limited to tunnels, putting greens and rock climbing(teaching concentration and patience skills), plus hand- eye coordination. The difference in the child's behavior will greatly improve the structure of each family as they see the difference proper developmental activities and skills education makes in their child's and their own lives. Example- One of our families has taken their first (EVER) family vacation, they directly attribute this opportunity to their child's new learned developmental and coping skills. What a opportunity for the entire family

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

Developmental and coping skills training in addition to physical skills improvement.

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

101-200 individual students (each school year) will be served however, as the school grows (already moving into a new larger campus facility with more expansions planned).

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

ASHA knows this funding will significantly improve the quality of life and developmental opportunities for neuro-diverse children in our community . The new playground will attract families seeking specialized educational resources, boosting community growth. Supporting this initiative aligns with our commitment to inclusive, innovative, and supportive educational environments. Detailed records will track the additional new student enrollments based on the addition of these opportunities the academy offers families in our community. Also the improved developmental skills will be tracked by the staff and admin of the Academy and reported to the funding agency.

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?

We have contacted the agency (Emily Reeves), and have not received any feedback of any additional suggested penalties other than its standard penalties at the time of submission. If deliverables are not met due to circumstances beyond the control of the Advanced Sacred Hope Academy (extreme weather or construction supply issues causing delays), we will coordinate with the sponsoring Representative to negotiate acceptable terms for deliverables, timelines, an/or appropriations.

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



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- 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

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



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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.