



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3668

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

This item is eligible for recurring funding pursuant to Section 1003.4204, Florida Statutes. The Safer, Smarter Schools program is requesting a \$2 million dollar appropriation for the 2023-2024 program year. Funding will be utilized to continue to provide child abuse prevention curriculum and resources to Florida's public and charter school students, educators, parents, and communities. Over the past three years, Safer, Smarter Schools has seen a significant increase in requests for resources in order to comply with DOE's newly revised Health Education Standards. Additionally, the program work alongside district leaders, teachers, school counselors, and school resource officers to ensure they receive these much-requested trainings in addition to the complete suite of child protection resources.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	2,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,000,000	95%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	100,000	5%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>2,100,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	2,000,000	100	No

9. Is future 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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10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

## Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

### 11. 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?

12. 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.

### 13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Executive Director	38,250
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel	5,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Project Manager	75,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel, printing, postage	150,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Video services, technical education advisors, trainers, on-line professional development resource maintenance, on-line parent support resource maintenance, learning management system maintenance	1,731,750
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,000,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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



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The Safer, Smarter Schools curriculum is a comprehensive personal safety curriculum that helps teachers and parents support students in the attainment of learning protective principals to help keep them safe from abuse and exploitation. The curriculum is aligned to support school districts in the implementation of DOE's Health Education Standards. The the need for these critical resources is due to the documented rise in child physical and sexual abuse, maltreatment, digital exploitation, & trafficking; Safer, Smarter Schools resources not only teach children how to avoid the traps predators set, but how to access help if they are being abused or exploited. Educators and parents are also given tools to spot the signs a child may need help and resources to assist students working to heal from trauma.

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

Lauren's Kids will distribute curriculum materials to Florida public and charter school educators, learners, and parents through a learning management system and e-commerce site, while continuing to support implementation through public awareness, education, and outreach, including conducting trainings for educators statewide. Digitization of materials will ensure accessibility regardless of location within the state.

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

Citizens will receive resource materials, instructional trainings, and information on personal safety, abuse and human trafficking prevention, signs of abuse and mental illness, and reporting at no cost, as well as assistance in identifying and accessing critical resources for prevention, intervention, and healing.

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

Florida's 3 million public and charter school students via digitized and printed materials, as well as those served by Florida Virtual Schools; Florida public and charter school parents and educators; persons with poor mental health, at-risk youth, youth with developmental disabilities, preschool students, grade school students, high school students, victims of crime, victims of human trafficking

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

Abuse prevention and early intervention - Victims of child sex abuse are 3x more likely to develop a mental illness, 20% sustain severe psychological issues for life; 65 percent of male victims report developing a substance abuse issue following abuse. Resulting maladaptive behavior is dependent upon duration and severity of abuse, and access to trauma informed care. With this education, victims are 3.5x more likely to disclose. Trafficking prevention & intervention - children who are victims of human trafficking are being served in U.S. schools. Benefit/outcome will be measured by the ability to provide effective prevention education programming and refer victims to appropriate trauma informed care to prevent maladaptive effects of abuse, human trafficking, or mental illness. Quantitative measures are difficult to collect due to medical and minor privacy concerns; qualitative data is available in the form of teacher surveys and feedback from child advocacy centers.

**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 the contract?**

Currently the Department of Education Grant Agreement outlines penalties for failure to complete deliverables in accordance with scope of work to include the withholding of funds and any subsequent payments.

**15. Requester Contact Information**

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

**16. Recipient Contact Information**

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County



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#### 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

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number