



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1050

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Palm Beach Atlantic University (PBA) is planning a new building for our School of Business, and the LeMieux Center for Public Policy will be located in the building. The new business school will help meet the needs of an expanding financial services industry in Palm Beach County. The LeMieux Center for Public Policy, which has been in existence for 10 years, will serve the students and public by providing a space for reasoned, thoughtful, and civil discourse on pressing public policy issues confronting Florida, the United States, and the world. Each year The Center will host nationally and internationally known speakers who provide their insights to the public policy world. Hosted by PBA, the public forums are open to both students and the public free of charge. In addition to the speaker series, The Center will also give access to pressing public policy issues via The Quill podcast and quarterly publication and social media.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,000,000

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)	3,000,000	3%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	87,000,000	97%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	90,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

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.

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.

\$5,843,563 emergency financial aid grants distributed directly to students; \$7,303,564 institutional grants used for room/board discounts to students, COVID mitigation and distancing initiatives, student quarantine/isolation housing, COVID-19 testing supplies.

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.

Palm Beach Atlantic University will own, manage, and then operate the facility in downtown West Palm Beach, FL on their land. The President of the University, Dr. Debra A. Schwinn, will have final responsibility. \$5 million of the donor's \$25 million gift has been designated (by the donor) for an endowment to pay to maintain the facility over the years. That is included in the total \$90 million cost listed above for the building.

13. 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: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	LeMieux Center for Public Policy programming, including but not limited to the lecture series, fellows program, marketing, and The Quill.	500,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Six floor, 125,000 sq. ft. business building on S. Olive Ave on Palm Beach Atlantic University's downtown West Palm Beach Campus. The LeMieux Center for Public Policy will be located in this new building and will also utilize the auditorium and various conference rooms/meeting spaces.	2,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,000,000



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14. Program Performance

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

The LeMieux Center for Public Policy will be located in the Rinker School of Business building and will serve students and the public by providing a space for reasoned, thoughtful, and civil discourse on pressing public policy issues confronting Florida, the United States, and the world. In existence for 10 years, The LeMieux Center for Public Policy has a speaker series and fellows program which tackle significant public policy issues. The Rinker School of Business is AACSB accredited.

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

Named for the former U.S. Senator from Florida, George LeMieux, the LeMieux Center for Public Policy provides opportunities and connections to instill civil discourse on topics of importance for Floridians. Students learn directly from esteemed policy experts and global thought leaders from a broad spectrum of disciplines. This experience offers a higher level of preparation for a future in areas such as public policy, law, business and servant leadership.

Each year the LeMieux Center hosts a lecture series that provides forums for PBA students to interact with leading experts and thinkers. Recent speakers include former British Prime Minister Tony Blair; Admiral James Stavridis; Peggy Noonan, columnist with the Wall Street Journal; Mike Pompeo, 70th Secretary of State and former CIA Director. Additionally, the Center hosts state and national conferences in Florida for policy makers and scholars to address pressing public policy issues.

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

The LeMieux Center for Public Policy hosts nationally and internationally known speakers who provide their insights to the public policy world. Hosted by Palm Beach Atlantic University, the public forums are free of charge and open to all Floridians no matter their standing in life. In addition to the live, in-person events, PBA also records interviews with leading experts and thinkers. A library of the videos is also made available to the public.

The Center produces materials available to Floridians on a number of pressing policy issues via The Quill podcast, quarterly publications, and social media. The intent of this material is to be factual, balanced, easily accessible, and available at no charge.

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

Palm Beach Atlantic University (PBA) students are the primary population; however, The LeMieux Center also serves local tri-county residents through events, social media, website, The Quill podcast and publication all free of charge to Floridians.

The target audience consists of PBA's student body totaling 3800+ for 2023-24, friends of PBA via communications/mailings totaling over 24,000, and the tri-county resident population who could attend any of the events free of charge or access LeMieux publications or videos totaling 6.14 million residents.

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

The expected outcome of this proposal is to deepen public discourse around pressing policy issues. The mission of the Center is to position itself as a leading center of excellence in the State. The Center also wishes to be known as a place of reason, thoughtful, and civil discourse. This is achieved through programming that includes thought leaders and the public, brought together to grapple with these issues. The Center also uses social media to amplify its impact throughout the State in an effort to be accessible to all Floridians without charge. A center is successful when all goals are achieved, enhancing its reputation as a trusted source on policy debates.

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?

Return of funds to the state for failure to meet deliverables.

15. Requester Contact Information



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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

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