



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3464

1. **Project Title** Jacksonville University - GROW FL Nurses: Graduate Retain and Optimize a Workforce of Florida Nurses

2. **Senate Sponsor** Clay Yarborough

3. **Date of Request** 01/16/2024

**4. Project/Program Description**

By 2035, Florida's healthcare ecosystem will be in a full-blown emergency, with a projected shortage of 60,000 nurses. Jacksonville University's GROW program, a unique real-time workforce development approach to growing the nursing and healthcare workforce, proposes three innovative pathways to supplement traditional pipelines and produce more qualified graduates ready for workforce entry: 1) Supplement traditional BSN enrollment growth programs by seeking students from new markets to enter the education funnel. 2) Expand and optimize the current BSN program, using innovative technology to improve outcomes and slowdowns caused by the scarcity of clinical practicums. 3) Expand the specialty graduate nursing programs in psychiatric, rehabilitative, and palliative care – all currently critically underserved as the state's population increases and ages. JU's GROW program is a proven program that, with state investment, can be expanded and benefit Florida's citizens.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Department of Education

**State Agency contacted?** No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	900,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	9,100,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>10,000,000</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)	10,000,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>10,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** No

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

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?** Yes

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.** 3,500,000

b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**

Private Funding



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

Yes

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

The total amount of federal assistance received by Jacksonville University during the COVID19 pandemic is \$13,025,493. The University received \$2,208,846 (Cares Act), \$3,764,301, (CRRSAA) & \$7,052,346 (American Rescue Plan). The funding was used primarily to assist students in their transition during the pandemic with economic assistance as well as provide financial assistance to the University as a result of the added expenses and lost revenue resulting from the pandemic.

## 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.

Jacksonville University is the sole owner of any facilities or improvements funded through any fixed capital outlay funding.

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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Faculty and staff to operationalize the program expansion for the accelerated Bachelors of Nursing program and increase the current enrollment for the traditional BSN.	900,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	Sustainability and re-investment in high tech simulation mannequins and new virtual nurse and LPN certificate training programs (2.0 million); Immersive Learning and VR training laboratory (2.5 million); Biology, chemistry, and physics lab renovation to support larger medical, nursing and healthcare programming (3.5 million); Renovation of JU classrooms to expand training space and renovation of housing to support expanding adult and other non-traditional learner cohorts (1.1 million).	9,100,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>10,000,000</b>

#### 14. Program Performance

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

The Jacksonville University GROW Florida Nurses program will significantly expand three innovative JU nursing programs, all with highly successful track records in adding to the nursing and healthcare workforce, that will serve the growing needs of Florida's expanding and aging population. This unique program fills a gap in nursing workforce development that will supplement and enhance traditional nursing pipelines.

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

The GROW program will increase faculty and staff to prepare for rapid expansion of several key programs including the existing and highly successful Accelerated Bachelor of Nursing program (ABSN), first to the region, and create new specialty graduate degrees that are in critically needed specialties in Florida. Also, GROW will add cutting edge simulation and virtual reality technology labs and equipment to match industry standards and allow for growth of BSN programs. In addition, biology, chemistry, and physics lab renovations are needed to support the expanding nursing student core curriculum and that will also support larger medical, nursing, and healthcare programming, and allow for expanded classroom/training spaces for larger cohorts that will graduate and enter the Florida workforce.

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

Graduates from the GROW program will provide direct health care and treatment to the citizens of Florida from traditional floor nurses, to virtual nurses and within critical areas of high need including, palliative care, rehabilitative care and cancer care.

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

The citizen's of Florida will be the ultimate beneficiaries of the program and would number in the tens of thousands.

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

JU's GROW program aims to increase the nursing and specialty-nursing workforces by more than 3,500 over ten years. Importantly, these healthcare workers will supplement those already being produced in traditional nursing and workforce programs for a true increase in net workforce. Outcomes can be measured by number of participants in and graduates from the program as well as by licensure exam success rates.

**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?**

Awardee to return any unexpended funds to the state of Florida.

#### 15. Requester Contact Information

**a. First Name**  **Last Name**

**b. Organization**

**c. E-mail Address**

**d. Phone Number**  **Ext.**



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#### 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