



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2039

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The University of Florida (UF) Forensic Interview Center will be the center for forensic interviewing education in Florida. It will work with the Department of Health (DOH) to enhance the training of CPT forensic interviewers, to develop and help administer a credentialing test, to train on forensic interviewing procedures for those who have initial contact, and to develop model procedures. The Center also will work with FDLE, law enforcement agencies, and Child Advocacy Centers. The goal is to have a center of excellence that assures the most advanced techniques that support children.

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	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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)	250,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	250,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23		250,000	525	Yes

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.

No other source of 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.

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
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Randell Alexander MD PhD - PI (0.15 FTE) \$44,643 National and international child abuse pediatrician expert Subtotal \$144,381	44,643
Other Salary and Benefits	Barbara Knox MD (0.1 FTE) \$33,460 National and international child abuse pediatrician expert Jackie Sander-Gonsen (0.1 FTE) \$12,825 - former Child Protection Team statewide Forensic Interviewer educator Dr. Alexander's Assist. (0.20 FTE) \$13,453	59,738
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Jay Howell JD - led two state committees on Forensic Interviewing and issued a comprehensive report to DOH, the legislature and governor's office	40,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Seminar with national experts - 2 days \$18,000 Credentialing agency - to help develop and administer certified testing \$59,119 Website \$2,500 Initial contact training \$12,000 Dogs \$12,000 Supplies \$2,000	105,619
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000



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14. Program Performance

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

The UF Forensic Interview Center will be the center for forensic interviewing education in Florida. It will work with the Department of Health (DOH), to train CPT forensic interviewers, to develop a first of its kind credentialing test and help with its administration, to train on forensic interviewing. The Center also will work with FDLE, law enforcement agencies, and Child Advocacy Centers. The goal is to have a center of excellence that assures the most advanced techniques.

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

1. Seminar with national experts.
2. Test preparation with accrediting agency. Working to develop a first of its kind statewide interviewing test.
Time frame: June 2025
3. Website. A website for the Center will be developed.
Time frame: June 2025
4. Initial contact training. State Attorneys, DCF, some police and others have contact with children that includes some interviewing. This should be appropriate and not counterproductive. It should include principles seen with formal forensic interviewing training, but a shorter version. The curriculum for this will be developed.
Time frame: June 2025
5. Therapy dogs. Rules about their use in Florida for interviews and court vary. A model procedure, will be developed.
Time frame: June 2025

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

The training Center will help front line professionals who do the actual forensic interviewing throughout Florida.

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

Children who are victims of crime, at risk youth, and those with concurrent disabilities will benefit from improved forensic interviews. The training of interviewers will be statewide.

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

The deliverables and time frames are listed in b). 1. Develop state of the art forensic interviewing training. 2. Develop and help administer an accredited statewide interviewing test. 3. Website. 4. Contact training. Develop a curriculum and track number of trainings. 5. Build upon prior Task Force reports and develop a model for use of therapy dogs with interviews and court. All of this should improve accuracy of interviews and improve the experiences for children. Activities are measured as occurring.

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 for individual activities not accomplished - proportionally.

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