



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2281

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Empowering Futures: Brownsville Preparatory Institute stands as a beacon of quality education. Rooted in our 'Read by 3' program, we foster early literacy, ensuring every child's fundamental skills. With expanded capacity, we reach more young minds, nurturing their potential. Our new location in Tallahassee's south side addresses crucial educational gaps, impacting underserved communities positively. Our Parental Support Program aids 10 school-age and 15 preschool students, fostering inclusivity. Enhancing teacher salaries, constructing classrooms, providing materials, and renovating facilities, we build a foundation for lifelong learning. We're not just enriching academics; we're fostering a supportive community where every child thrives.

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	263,760
Fixed Capital Outlay	53,000
Total State Funds Requested	316,760

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)	316,760	51%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	300,000	49%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	616,760	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.



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Our project benefits from a robust financial foundation, with an additional \$300,000 in match funding available. This means that for every dollar allocated, there is a corresponding dollar from our matched funds, effectively doubling the impact of our initiatives. This match funding serves as a testament to our commitment to the project's success, ensuring that the resources are not only substantial but also strategically leveraged to create a meaningful impact on the educational landscape.

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.

Our institution has received federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, we were granted PPP funds totaling \$180,000. This crucial support was allocated towards essential areas such as rent, teacher salaries, COVID supplies, and technology. This assistance played a pivotal role in ensuring the stability of our educational services during these challenging times, allowing us to continue providing high-quality education to our students without disruption.

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.

Rita Brown, Founder/CEO of Brownsville Preparatory Institute

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	With a state fund allocation of \$316,760, \$55,000 is specifically directed to the Executive Director/Project Head's salary and benefits. This investment aims to ensure effective leadership, strategic planning, and a nurturing learning environment, reinforcing the school's commitment to meeting educational objectives for all students in Tallahassee.	55,000
Other Salary and Benefits	The category of "Other Salary and Benefits" within the budget allocation of \$276,159 signifies a comprehensive approach to staff welfare and development.	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	The \$14,000 earmarked for Expenses (Equipment, Travel, Supplies, Marketing) in our budget is strategically utilized for enhancing educational quality and accessibility.	14,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Our budget designates \$45,000 for the Compliance Specialist's salary, emphasizing the strategic importance of regulatory adherence and program efficacy.	45,000



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Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Our proactive budget of \$97,760 is tailored to elevate our teaching staff's standards.	97,760
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Parental Support Program: With a budget of \$52,000, our Program ensures educational inclusivity. Income-verified subsidies cover tuition for 10 school-age and 11 VPK students.	52,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	price reflected in administrative cost	0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	School Expansion: At an investment of \$53,000, With \$20,000 allocated for classroom expansion and essential supplies and furniture, and \$33,000 dedicated to building renovations.	53,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		316,760

14. Program Performance

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

These funds fuel our mission's core: transformation, not just improvement. We empower teachers with higher salaries, invite skilled educators, break barriers for students, and expand spaces. This strategic vision doesn't just achieve goals; it creates a legacy of exceptional, culturally relevant education. Every child, regardless of background, will not just succeed but flourish, shaping a brighter, equitable future. The heart of our mission is embedded in these requested funds. We aim not just for improvement but transformation. These funds enable us to revolutionize education, empowering teachers through increased salaries, welcoming more skilled educators, breaking financial barriers for students in need, and expanding our physical space. Through these strategic actions, we're not merely achieving a goal; we're creating a legacy of exceptional education, fostering a future where every child, regardless of their background, excels and flourishes.

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

In our pursuit of educational excellence, our core focus is on nurturing exceptional teachers and fostering intimate, supportive learning environments. By increasing teacher salaries and hiring more educators, we ensure personalized attention, enabling tailored learning experiences for every student. Financial barriers are dismantled through our tuition subsidies, guaranteeing equal access to quality education. Physical expansion isn't just about infrastructure; it's about expanding minds and opportunities, benefiting communities in dire need. Our holistic approach ensures academic prowess and life skills development, creating a generation poised for a future of success and leadership.

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

The appropriation project aims to directly enhance citizens' lives through a multifaceted approach. By bolstering teacher salaries and hiring additional educators, we're ensuring high-quality, personalized education for students, directly impacting families by providing a nurturing learning environment. Additionally, our Parental Support Program directly subsidizes tuition for economically challenged families, breaking financial barriers and allowing more children to access education. Furthermore, our school expansion initiative directly benefits citizens by creating more educational spaces, directly addressing the shortage and fostering community development. Through these efforts, we're providing tangible, direct services that empower citizens and enrich their lives.

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

In the heart of Leon County, our mission extends far beyond mere educational provision. By directing these funds strategically, we are not just supporting 21 individual students, but igniting a beacon of hope in communities that need it the most. These funds are pivotal in realizing our vision of opening a new school in areas plagued by educational disparities. By focusing on 10 school-age and 11 VPK students, we're not just providing education; we're sowing the seeds of transformation. Each dollar invested isn't just a number; it's an opportunity, a key to unlock doors of knowledge and possibilities. This initiative is a testament to our commitment to serve, uplift, and empower, ensuring that no child is left behind and every community has access to the transformative power of education.

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



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The anticipated benefits of this project are multifaceted and profound. By increasing teachers' salaries, expanding classrooms, and providing subsidies, we're not just enhancing education; we're cultivating an environment where students flourish academically and emotionally. The outcome will be measured through various metrics: improved standardized test scores, enhanced teacher-student ratios, and increased parental involvement. Additionally, qualitative assessments, such as students' enthusiasm for learning and teachers' job satisfaction, will be considered. Through rigorous evaluation, we aim to ensure that each investment translates into tangible improvements, fostering a community where educational excellence is not just a goal but a reality. Additionally, parental surveys and standardized test scores will be utilized, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation of the program's impact.

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?

In addition to standard penalties, the contracting agency could implement graduated penalties for non-compliance. This may include reduced funding for subsequent years, mandatory training for staff, or increased oversight. These measures aim to incentivize adherence to deliverables and performance benchmarks, ensuring accountability and optimal use of resources. Penalties may also include financial penalties, performance reviews, and termination of contracts.

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

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



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d. Phone Number