



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2610

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This project aims to gain a better understanding of human neuromusculoskeletal functions and provide innovative, promising, and non-invasive diagnostic and rehabilitative treatment methods. Neuromusculoskeletal disorders arise from overused or injured muscles, tendons or ligaments. They affect the body's nervous system, brain, spinal cord, nerves, as well as muscles, bones, cartilage, and joints. Examples of diseases include arthritis, low back pain, multiple sclerosis, osteoporosis, lupus, and temporomandibular joint (TMJ) disorder. Neuromusculoskeletal diseases and conditions are the largest self-reported medical conditions affecting adults in the United States. The Center will transform the care of neuromusculoskeletal disorders by continuing a multidisciplinary and integrative platform for research and the development of evidence-based approaches for assessment, prevention, and treatment.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	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	500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	300,000	0	147	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

Federal grant requests are solicited (up to 5-6 per year), albeit this avenue is not consistent or as reliable to keep a consistent world-class team of research investigators at the Center.



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

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	Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	205,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Postdoctoral Fellow(s); Graduate Students, Undergraduate Research Assistants	240,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel / Equipment / Supplies	25,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Salary and Benefits	30,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
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)		500,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Translational/clinically relevant research that fosters collaborative innovation, discovery, education and clinical implementation. The Center investigates the underlying causes of chronic neuromusculoskeletal conditions, especially chronic low back pain, and others that are ubiquitous in patient populations; all in concentrated effort to improve clinical care. The Center combines research interests in distinct areas of neuromusculoskeletal medicine, including the clinical specialties of chiropractic, orthopedics, physical medicine & rehabilitation, neurology, neurosurgery, sports medicine, pediatrics, and physical therapy, as well as the basic sciences such as neuroscience, physiology, anatomy, and biochemistry.

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

These activities and services include: 1) understanding the underlying causes of chronic disorders, especially chronic low back pain, and others that are ubiquitous in patient populations and 2) study techniques and procedures commonly used in the treatment of chronic neuromusculoskeletal disorders to learn and document mechanisms of action, 3) reduce the use of opioid use and addiction, 4) lower the cost of care in these areas, 5) decrease the burden of disease in patients from these conditions, 6) promulgate findings nationally and internationally to enhance the outcomes of neuromusculoskeletal disease, and 7) seek extramural funding through federal and private organizations and through donations.

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

Florida residents (pediatrics, adults, and elderly) will be able to participate in research and receive information from high-quality research publications (estimated 10-12 per year). In addition, media from studies will be published by the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine media releases and associated outlets.

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

Low back pain (LBP) is one of the highest incidence medical conditions that contributes to disability, decreased quality of life, and inability to work in the United States and worldwide. LBP affects ~70-85% of the population during their lifetime, with ~20% becoming chronic (age 20-59). As one of the leading neuromusculoskeletal conditions, LBP largely contributes to the United States financial burden costing ~\$980 billion annually (5.8% of the Gross Domestic Product). Further, many chronic neuromusculoskeletal pain patients do not respond to surgery and many develop dependence to opioids. This is alarming as 45% of those that go to the emergency room for LBP are prescribed opioids. Research for LBP care and prevention is needed to compare the effectiveness of treatment options, develop new treatments, and evaluate prevention approaches.

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

The Center expects to contribute cutting-edge research on neuromusculoskeletal diseases to the Florida population. Further, there will be a large network of collaborations established and continued. Metrics of success are peer-reviewed publications, growth of the Center (collaborators and employees), and an influx of federal, foundation, and industry funding for a diverse array of neuromusculoskeletal research activities.

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?

Standard penalties.

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



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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