



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1968

1. **Project Title** Florida Education Fund McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Program

2. **Senate Sponsor** David Simmons

3. **Date of Request** 11/18/2019

4. **Project/Program Description**

The program was created by the Florida Legislature (Sec. 1009.70, F.S.) in 1984 to increase the number of African American students attending Florida graduate schools to earn a Ph.D. In 2010, the Florida Legislature added Hispanic students. With the Ph.D. degree, participants can qualify for faculty positions at Florida Universities, colleges, governmental agencies and private sector corporations. The program provides fellowships to help graduate students pay for tuition, fees, and living expenses. The program also provides professional development activities to enhance the students' ability to complete their Ph.D. programs and secure employment. Currently, 460 Ph.D. students are attending Florida's 8 public and private major research universities.

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

State Agency contacted? ☒ Yes ☐ No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

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

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500000	100.0 %
Matching Funds		
Federal	00	0 %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	00	0 %
Local	00	0 %
Other	00	0 %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	500,000	100 %

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

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2019-20	3,000,000	00	77	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 500,000



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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Direct student academic, financial and support services: funding will be used to increase the number of fellowships offered and increase student stipends, pay tuition, fees, and the cost of their research projects, conference presentations, and professional development workshops.	500,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000



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11. Program Performance

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

Recruit highly qualified African American and Hispanic American students to attend Florida universities' Ph.D. graduate programs. The goals are to diversify the professoriate and provide well-trained, highly qualified professionals for work in corporations and government jobs, especially in STEM fields.

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

1. Recruit and retain highly qualified applicants for Florida Ph.D. programs. 2. To enhance graduation rates, the program will provide professional development activities for our graduate students: a. New Fellows Orientation; b. Annual Fellows Meeting; c. Mid-Year Research & Writing Conference; d. Summer Research & Writing Institute; e. Professional Editorial Services for publishing articles and writing book chapters, grant proposals, and dissertations. 3. The program will provide job placement assistance and promote collaboration on research, publication and grant writing projects. 4. Provide grant writing workshops.

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

As the fellowship recipients matriculate through their graduate programs, they serve as Research and Graduate Assistants for their universities. The Research Assistants help university professors and administrators secure grants from governments and corporations. Graduate students also develop and teach courses for their universities; manage research and course labs, provide professional consultation services to some of Florida's public schools, and tutor and develop educational programming for FEF's academic enrichment programs for precollege students. Upon graduating from their Ph.D. programs, most of the graduates will teach full-time at Florida universities and colleges or secure employment in Florida governmental agencies and private corporations. Some of the graduates may also secure post-doctorate positions at Florida and other universities and begin their faculty research, teaching, and/or administrative positions after completing their post-doctorate appointments.

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

Underrepresented African Americans, Hispanics, and women. We are expected to serve up to 460 graduate students.

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

While attending graduate school, students will serve as graduate research assistants, lecturers, grant writers, instructors, lab technicians and administrators, tutors, and professional consultants. After earning their Ph.D's, they will become university professors and administrators and work in private industry or governmental agencies, including the U.S. military. They will also provide tutorial services to undergraduate and precollege students. FEF submits annual reports to DOE, documenting student performance and service to the State of Florida.

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 in the contract?

None suggested.



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12. 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.

N/A

13. Requestor Contact Information

- a. First Name Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.

14. 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

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.