



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1158

1. Title of Project: Just Read, Florida! Literacy Matrix PD System

2. Senate Sponsor: Kelli Stargel

3. Date of Submission: 01/24/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

Florida reading proficiency levels have stagnated in recent years, with far too many third graders not reading on grade level. Currently, just 57% of third graders are reading-proficient. This \$3.5M appropriation through the Just Read, Florida office will tackle this considerable dilemma, with a goal of significantly increasing the reading proficiency of third graders to the highest levels in Florida’s history. This will be accomplished through the delivery of a literacy-focused, online professional development system, called the Literacy Matrix, that will ensure teachers know how to implement evidence-based reading instruction with additional intervention supports for struggling readers. The system has been developed based on approaches that have demonstrated significant impact on teacher practice and child outcomes and is poised to be scaled across the state to reach up to 2,000 teachers this year and positively impact thousands of students.

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

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	3,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	3,500,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	3,500,000	41.2%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	5,000,000	58.8%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	8,500,000	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1158

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 3500000

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Salary and benefits for program coordinator to oversee the implementation of proposed activities	5,000
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	Implementation of PD for 2,000 participating teachers, including coordination of delivery of PD with school districts and DOE as well as facilitation and/or coordination of virtual communities of practice and coaching.	2,100,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Statewide travel to provide implementation support, including trainings and professional development sessions for teachers and administrators.	75,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Florida Center for Reading Research will be contracted to measure impact of PD on teacher knowledge and skills. Consultants will be contracted to serve as reviewers and certifiers of participant-submitted artifacts within competency-based system. Additional costs incurred for usage and maintenance of online learning platform.	1,320,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,500,000

11. Program Performance:

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

This appropriation will fulfill 2017 Florida Statute (1001.215) mandating the development and delivery of a literacy-focused professional development system to ensure that they are able to effectively implement evidence-based reading instruction with even the most struggling readers. This system, called the Literacy Matrix, will support up to 2,000 teachers in 2019-2020 who need to complete their reading endorsement.

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

The Literacy Matrix will be implemented by the UF Lastinger Center and will provide online, research-based professional development to up to 2,000 Florida K-2 educators who need to complete the state-mandated



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1158

reading endorsement. Additional support will be offered through virtual learning communities and coaching opportunities to further enhance teacher knowledge around evidence-based reading instruction practices. A robust evaluation will be conducted by the Florida Center for Reading Research to examine the implementation and impact of the professional development system on teacher content knowledge, teacher practice, and student reading proficiency.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

Online professional development, through the Literacy Matrix, that focuses on evidence-based, high-impact reading instruction techniques and strategies will be delivered to up to 2,000 K-2 teachers across the state of Florida at no cost to them, along with additional support through virtual communities of practice and coaching.

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

Up to 2,000 Florida K-2 teachers who must complete the state-mandated reading endorsement. In turn, these teachers serve approximately 30,000 students this year.

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

As already demonstrated through pilot studies, the Literacy Matrix will significantly increase teacher knowledge on effective literacy instruction techniques, particularly those that help the most struggling readers. This will be evaluated by FCRR and measured through pre- and post-assessments within the Literacy Matrix. A long-term expected benefit is improved reading proficiency levels for third grade students, which will be measured in future years through FSA third grade reading assessments.

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?

Liquidated damages

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

N/A

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Philip Poekert
- b. **Organization:** University of Florida Lastinger Center
- c. **E-mail Address:** poekert@coe.ufl.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (352)273-4103

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Just Read, Florida!
- b. **County:** Leon
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1158

- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (Please specify)

d. Contact Name: Philip Poekert

e. E-mail Address: poekert@coe.ufl.edu

f. Phone Number: (352)273-4103

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name: Jerry McDaniel

b. Firm Name: Southern Strategy Group

c. E-mail Address: mcdaniel@sostrategy.com

d. Phone Number: (850)671-4401