



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1663

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Jacksonville School for Autism (JSA) is a not-for-profit private school established in 2005 to support children and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders. JSA has seen tremendous growth—JSA started with 2 students and now supports 60 students from the counties of Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns with over 45 teachers and therapists. With 1 in 50 children diagnosed with Autism, JSA continues to experience significant growth.

The scope of services has grown with the student population. The Supportive Transition & Employment Placements (STEP) Program for students ages 14-22 focuses on three core domains that research have shown are barriers to individuals with Autism fully integrating into their community. The three domains are vocational skills, functional daily living skills and leisure skills.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted? Yes No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="300,000"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="000"/>
Total State Funds Requested	300,000

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)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="300000"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="100.0"/> %
Matching Funds		
Federal	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Local	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Other	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	300,000	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		
<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="2019-20"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="250,000"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="32"/>	<input type="text" value="No"/>

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

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



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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		<input type="text"/>
Other Salary and Benefits		<input type="text"/>
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		<input type="text"/>
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		<input type="text"/>
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	1 Education Department Director 1 Transition Director 2 Job Coaches 2 Behavior Support 8 Vocational Instructor/Para	200,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Program & Service Expansion; Enterprise Development; Transition skills Evaluation Protocol; Vocational and Functional Daily Living Skills Training Equipment and Program Development with focus on applied nutrition education and culinary arts.	100,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		<input type="text"/>
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		<input type="text"/>
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		300,000



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11. Program Performance

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

The purpose and goal of JSA's STEP Program is to provide our young adults the skills necessary to be fully integrated into their community and successfully transition into adulthood. The program focuses on three domains: vocational, functional daily living and social/leisure. We strive to identify each student's individual interests and needs to tailor a program of learning opportunities in a variety of settings. Each student has a core curriculum of functional daily living skills that are structured and taught to a level of independence. These skills are assessed and tracked through assessments and data collection. JSA's STEP program is a comprehensive program designed to provide students the tools they need to be successful adults; at work, home and their community.

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

We propose to use this funding to develop a comprehensive transition program. This includes expanding JSA vocational enterprises to allow for more students to participate in vocational training. This will be accomplished by developing a functional daily living skills program and securing the necessary equipment to develop the skills in the classroom and community. To prevent recidivism, JSA will also focus on the development of social/leisure programs and the necessary equipment to increase independence in the classroom and community.

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

JSA STEP students will provide services to the Northeast Florida community through a variety of outlets. The STEP program will continue to provide vocational supports and services to a variety of local business; including but not limited to confidential shredding, sell locally-grown produce and products and screen printing. In addition, having a comprehensive transition program reduces the need for more comprehensive supports when individuals with autism age out of school. It also assists with developing young adults that are productive members of their community. The list will go on and on as our community opportunities continue to expand through the use of additional funding and resources. Several enterprise options will be tested in an effort to solidify a long term sustainable funding model.

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

The group of people that this project will serve are students age 14 to adulthood. Program participants include current pre-vocation and vocation students at JSA as well as post-secondary students from other private and public programs. JSA serves populations of individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). We enroll individuals from the surrounding counties of Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns. Our current placement of families crosses all ethnicities and economic backgrounds; autism does not discriminate by whose lives are impacted!

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

The expected benefit of JSA's STEP Program is to essentially provide our students with more and more job opportunities and supportive employment placements. In addition, we want to provide our students with functional daily living and social/leisure skills that will assist them with successfully transitioning to adulthood. In order for our students and young adults to develop and have the skills necessary to be successful and productive members in both their home and community; we just need to provide additional resources for them to be able to THRIVE! JSA uses a real time software program called Catalyst that help develop individual goals and programs and it has the capability to track skill development over multiple skills and environments.

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?

Customary penalties.



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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.**

none

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.