



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1788

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

4. **Project/Program Description**

The program provides a secure, online, tablet-based solution delivering a fully accredited high school education to Florida inmates. The educational program is fully AdvancED/SACS accredited and includes a career-based online high school education component to prepare adult inmates for transition into the workplace. Inmate students are enrolled in the program and receive transfer credit for previous high school credits earned and for GED tests that have been successfully completed. The educational program is open to inmate students considered low education-level (e.g., 5th - 9th Grade) and/or have previously failed the GED.

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="500,000"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="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)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="500000"/>	<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	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		
<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>

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		[]
Other Salary and Benefits		[]
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		[]
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		[]
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		[]
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		[]
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Fully accredited, tablet-based, online high school diploma and career certificate program for 400 inmates (initially); potentially for 70,000 inmates.	500,000
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?

The specific purpose of the program will be to serve individuals within Florida's adult drop out population that are incarcerated. The intent of the program is to improve their employment and earning prospects upon release; and to reduce their likelihood of returning to prison by providing them an opportunity to obtain high school and career credentials through an accredited online school district.

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

The activities and services provided will consist of a full service online portal, accessible with a tablet, and offering 92 semester courses (academic and career training), transcript analysis, academic coaches (certified teachers), learning management system, near real-time reporting of student progress, student support services, issuance of high school diplomas and career certificates.

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

Direct services provided will consist of online high school instruction, online academic coaching (by certified teachers); transcript analysis for those inmate students that have completed some high school and/or some GED tests; issuance of high school diplomas, and workforce certificates.

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

This project focuses on those low education-level inmates (i.e., 5th - 9th grade level) that lack a high school diploma or an equivalent (e.g., GED). Florida's correctional system has limited capacity for educational services (e.g., of the 99,000 inmates housed by DOC in FY 2015-16, approximately 80% received no educational programming). An online high school program that leverages tablet-based delivery can provide DOC with the tools necessary to address the unmet educational needs of low education-level inmates (5th to 9th grade level). This project would provide tablet-based educational services to approximately 400 inmates initially; it could potentially expand to approximately 70,000 inmates.

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

In addition to the inmates, the Florida taxpayers will benefit. The typical lifetime cost of each high school dropout to taxpayers is approximately \$292,000. Approximately 60% of Florida's prison inmates, and nationally 50% of persons on death row, are high school dropouts. A high school diploma and a career certificate will reduce the probability of returning to prison, open opportunities for post-secondary education, and assist them in joining the ranks of taxpaying citizens. Program performance will be reported to the DOC program manager on a monthly basis. This data includes the number of credits earned towards high school graduation by each student; the number of high school diplomas and career certificates awarded to students who complete the program.

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?

Maintain system availability of 95% or greater during a monthly reporting period; 99% or greater each year. Monthly uptime, measured as the total percent of classroom time the system was available to inmate students that month must be 95% or greater. Annual uptime, measured as the total percent of classroom time the system was available to inmate students throughout the reporting year must be 99% or greater. A \$250 credit to the State will be assessed for each occurrence that fails to meet the monthly Acceptable Standard. Any credit assessed will be deducted from a subsequent payment. A \$1,000 credit to the State will be assessed for each occurrence that fails to meet the annual Acceptable Standard. Any credit assessed will be deducted from a subsequent payment.



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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.