



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1149

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) has invested in state, local, and private health information exchanges (HIE) since 2006, supporting the secure exchange of clinical patient data across the patient care continuum. Historically, state efforts have been primarily focused on hospitals and long term care facilities. This funding enhances and secures the investment made by the state to expand the adoption of HIE services for independent Medicaid providers and rural hospitals by using a private, community, or state exchange which provides connectivity to the medical service area up to the national eHealth Exchange (eHX) through a HIE vendor participant to eHX. Research supports that creating a secure HIE for the Medicaid population helps to improve patient outcomes, while reducing the total cost of care of the Medicaid population.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	3,250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	3,250,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	3,250,000	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 2022-2023	3,250,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2019-20	0	742,500	236	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

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



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Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

PPP in the amount of \$106,800.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	3 year HIE subscription fee for Medicaid providers creating connectivity to a medical service area HIE which may include: digitizing faxing communication to be HIPPA compliant, an interface to the providers electronic health records (EHR) which provides connectivity with the local medical service area, DOH, Florida HIE and up to the national eHX, providing provider access to the eHX, and redirect as determined by the practitioner needs.	3,250,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
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)		3,250,000

12. Program Performance

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

The proposed project will connect independent Medicaid providers and rural hospitals, creating connectivity to a medical service area HIE which may include: digitizing faxing communication to be HIPPA compliant, an interface to the providers electronic health records (EHR) which provides connectivity with the local medical service area, health information exchange, mandated state reporting requirements, and up to the national eHX via an eHX vendor participant which enables their participation in a query based infrastructure connecting with private, local, Florida HIE platforms as well as public institutions such as the Veterans Administration or the Social Security Administration. Funding will be provided to operationalize Florida HIEs to connect additional eligible Medicaid practitioners, rural hospitals, and clinics.

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

3 years software licensing fees for HIE subscription service. HIE implementation to include: HIE Participant Creation & Project Charter; Clinical Workflow Analysis and Electronic Work Queue(s) Setup User Credentialing and Setup; Desktop Application Installation & Setup, Fax Number Configuration & Fax Hardware Replacement (Optional), Automated Data Interface Setup E HR HL7 Interface for physician practice and rural hospitals (optional); the last mile connectivity to the FHIE; connectivity to the national eHealth Exchange; Community Patient Lookup & Notification Setup (Optional); Administrative Management & Reporting Setup
On-site System Training, Testing and Validation
On-going Support & Account Maintenance

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



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There are approximately 83,000 physicians licensed in the state of Florida with at least 63% accepting new Medicaid patients. This funding is aimed to support at least 52,500 Medicaid providers, rural hospitals, and safety net providers. Proper connectivity to the health information exchange also assists in a disaster recovery in the event a physician practice's EHRs are inaccessible due to hurricanes and flooding.

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

Florida's Medicaid programs serves, as of April 2021, 4,249,167 individuals. A large percentage of the Medicaid population resides in Region 8 and 11. Although this is a local request, funds may be used throughout the state.

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

HIEs provide a variety of benefits that include:

- Provides a basic level of interoperability among diverse EHRs maintained by individual physicians, hospitals, and other healthcare facilities.
- Reduces health related costs.
- Providing a vehicle for improving quality and safety of patient care by reducing medication and medical errors.
- Eliminates redundant or unnecessary testing.
- Improves public health reporting and monitoring.
- Increases efficiency by eliminating unnecessary paperwork.
- Provides caregivers with clinical decision support tools for more effective care and treatment.

HIE benefits are heightened by the number of users. The methodology by which this outcome will be measured:

1. Number of end users established on the HIE.
2. Implementation of HIE subscription based services.
3. Number of transactions on the local medical service area HIE.
4. Replacement of antiquated faxing communication between providers.

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 in the contract's execution, e.g. not paying the invoice for services not provided within this document.

13. 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.

This funding is allocated to eligible Medicaid participants, through a contractual arrangement via AHCA, to the vendor and then vendor to the Medicaid providers as approved by AHCA.



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14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

15. 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) Agency

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number