



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1657

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Bilingual Vocational Pilot Program for Special Needs Students will provide specially designed vocational education programs to students with special needs, according to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for high schoolers and Americans with Disabilities Act for post-secondary participants, to prepare them in specific skills so they can be gainfully employed or self-employed with requisite skill. For the term of their education, all of the participants will also engage in activities aimed at improving their lives: they will receive physical examinations every 6 months and engage in outdoor activities to improve their physical health; they will receive mental health treatment (bi-weekly therapy appointments) to identify their needs and work on them; and the program will foster social interaction among participants. The students will finally develop an internship on their respective certifications through the different sponsors of the Joshua's House Foundation (JHF).

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	613,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	613,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	613,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	603,000	50%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	1,216,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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

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.



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

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

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List 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.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	These funds will be used to pay part of the payroll of the Project Head salary (Vocational Program Director).	45,000
Other Salary and Benefits	These funds will be used to pay part of the payroll of the permanent staff of the program for 1 year: Receptionist, Security, administrative assistant.	100,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	These funds will be used for equipment expenses, rent, utilities, software, office supplies, cleaning services and the purchase of a vehicle to transport students (Van).	172,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	These funds will be used to pay part of the payroll of the professional staff including 2 therapists, 1 coach, 1 social worker, 1 licensed mental health counselor (LMHC or licensed clinical social worker), 1 certified medical assistant, and 3 specialized staff to teach in vocational programs for a year.	200,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	These funds will be used for supplies for students participating in vocational programs.	96,000
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)		613,000



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14. Program Performance

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

Provide specially designed vocational education programs to students with special needs, according to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for high schoolers and Americans with Disabilities Act for post-secondary participants, to prepare them in specific skills so they can be gainfully employed or self-employed with requisite skill.

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

JHF will provide technical training for people with any type of disability. We will provide vocational programs specially designed for students with special needs, supportive therapies to support progress and rehabilitation of students, and civic engagement training to boost their participation in society and compliance as citizens. All programs will be bilingual.

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

Bilingual vocational programs: each curriculum is based on Florida laws from the educational department in compliance with the required hours to acquire the state certification in: Veterinary assistant (2 semesters program), Certified Peer Recovery Specialist (40 hours training and 500 hours of direct experience), and Agricultural Assistant (4 semesters program)

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

At least 150 people with benefit with this project. The target populations are:
 a) Persons with poor mental health; b) Persons with poor physical health; c) Jobless persons; d) Developmentally disabled; e) Physically disabled; f) High school students; g) Bilingual population; h) Young adults with mental and health diagnosis

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

3 vocational programs specially designed for students with disabilities and 70% of total enrolled participants with post-secondary certificates validated through the educational department. We will develop a curriculum for each vocational program detailing the different approaches for students with disabilities, as well as the adjustments in terms of activities, evaluations and subjects. On the other hand, the data base of each program will contain the progress for each participant, detailing each milestone reached during the formation process to validate the criteria they must meet.

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?

Implementation of a Corrective Action Plan.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

For Profit Entity



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- 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

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number