



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2083

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Learning through Listening provides public school students with print disabilities accessible, human-narrated versions of textbooks and literature used in Florida schools as well as professional training to educators on the implementation of the program, including courses such as: how to bring the science of reading-based literacy practices into the classroom and designing and implementing explicit word recognition practices. Program also includes virtual spotlight on dyslexia conference that is open to all public school educators. Additional funds will support expanded program that in 2020 served 101,032 students and 28,924 educators in over 2,800 schools.

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	1,100,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,100,000</b>

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)	1,100,000	42%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	1,141,704	44%
Local	0	0%
Other	370,848	14%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>2,612,552</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	1,141,704	750,000	101	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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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Learning Ally received a PPP loan in the amount of \$2,082,100, which was used for payroll.

## 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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Statewide access to the Learning Ally Audio-book Solution and statewide access to Learning Ally's Professional Learning Community for Florida educators and parents to include 10 asynchronous professional learning course development; spotlight on dyslexia virtual professional learning conference which may be accessed by all Florida public school educators.	1,100,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,100,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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



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Additional funds will continue support and expansion of program that, since FY 14-15, has grown from 5,400 students in 780 schools to 101,032 students and 28,924 educators in over 2,800 schools. Additional funding supports professional development for Florida educators.

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

The Professional Learning course are aligned to Brain-Based Literacy Practices, key literacy goals of the Florida DoE, and personalized to the district/school educator cohorts. Here are some examples of key areas of focus: how to bring the science of reading-based literacy practices into the classroom, and designing and implementing explicit word recognition practices.

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

Learning Ally will partner with Florida Department of Education districts, schools, and educators to provide professional learning services grounded in agency, collaboration, and instructional outcomes.

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

The target population is Florida students who benefit from accessible instructional materials and professional development opportunities for educators. Learning Ally anticipates serving 101,032 students and 28,924 educators in over 2,800 schools.

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

This program will provide accessible instructional materials to individuals with disabilities and professional development opportunities for educators. Outcome will be measured through educators survey and usage metrics will track overall growth of program utilization and academic success.

**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?**

The existing contract addresses penalties that would carry forward into any new agreement.

**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
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity



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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**