



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1713

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

4. Project/Program Description

The HBCU Hoops Invitational is a pre-season, non conference, college basketball tournament exclusively featuring Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) women's and men's basketball programs. The inaugural basketball tournament is scheduled to take place in December 2025 at Disney's ESPN Wide World of Sports in the destination city of Orlando, FL. This tournament aims to provide equal opportunities, meaningful education, and robust career preparation achieved through facilitating access to essential resources such as technology, tailored educational support, and career development tools. Thereby enabling participants to thrive academically and professionally.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	695,250
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>695,250</b>

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	695,250	44%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	400,000	25%
Other	500,000	31%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>1,595,250</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:

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

9. Is future-year 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.

While we intend to seek donor and corporate contributions, the success of those efforts will, most likely, not support the majority of the required budget.



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## Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

### 10. 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?

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

11. 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.

### 12. 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</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	1 week: Venues, event Insurances, transportation, food and beverage, accommodations for staff, teams and officials, academic support stipends for teams. @25%	515,125
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	6-12 months retained: Tournament and campaign team staff to include, Chief Development Officer, media, marketing, promotions, and advertising professionals, event coordinators, accounting support, and legal counsel, education support and career development programming (on-campus); 1 week: Health & Safety, Emergency Medical Staff, Interns, additional medical supplies. @25%	180,125
<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>695,250</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



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The event will take place at Disney's ESPN Sports Complex in December 2025. We exist to unite and inspire a dedicated stakeholder community to level the academic playing field for HBCU student-athletes. By promoting broad opportunities, meaningful academic support, and robust career preparation, our students, institutions, and communities are more readily able to reach their fullest potential.

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

As a result of the combined inaugural 2025 campaign, activation, and competition experience, we will build a substantial stakeholder community, engage with key education, community, and corporate, partners, provide financial support to the Florida host schools and other invited schools,

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

The entire campaign will provide robust education support to college sports programs, athletes who attend invited schools, in-depth career development and mentorship, college and career fair to promote opportunities for middle, high school students, and college /graduate students. Mental health and wellness programming, socialization and recognition of the legacies/ pioneering elderly citizens.

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

Elderly persons, economically disadvantaged persons, at-risk youth, grade school students, high school students, University/College students, Multi-generational families--committed stakeholders traveling to FL for an unprecedented experience.

We anticipate a range of 20-30,000 visitors within the days and week surrounding the experience.

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

As a result of the combined inaugural 2025 campaign, activation, and competition experience, we will build a substantial stakeholder community, engage with key education, community, and corporate, partners, and provide financial support to the Florida host schools and other invited schools.

Subject matter experts within organizations such as Visit Orlando and University of Central Florida will provide research and reporting of the direct and induced economic impact regarding all relevant indicators including hotels, business revenue, restaurants revenue, etc.

Additionally, pre and post event survey assessments among guests, colleges and universities participants.

**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?**

This is the inaugural event year. Should this initiative grossly fail to meet its mission or not produce the event activation, the organization may consider refusing all funding or return funding to the agency/state.

**14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?**

**a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?**

- ☐ Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- ☐ Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- ☐ Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

**b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):**

**15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?**

- ☐ Yes, Applied



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- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

#### 17. Requester Contact Information

- a. First Name  Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 18. 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



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☐ Other (please specify)

d. First Name  Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

*The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.*