



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1867

1. Project Title Beacon College - Tuition scholarships for students with learning and attention issues

2. Senate Sponsor Keith Truenow

3. Date of Request 2/6/2025

4. Project/Program Description

Funding for tuition scholarships for Florida residents with high financial need who are enrolled at Beacon College in Leesburg. Beacon is the first institution of higher learning in America to award competitive bachelor's degrees in the arts, sciences, business and technology in an environment created specifically to help students with learning disabilities, ADHD, dyslexia, and autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) thrive and navigate successful futures.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Education

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	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 2025-2026	500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2024-25	0	500,000	59	No

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? No

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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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
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		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	100% direct scholarship assistance provided directly to Florida students with high financial need, who have learning and attention issues.	500,000
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)		500,000

13. Program Performance

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

Tuition scholarships will help alleviate the cost of a college education and reduce the burden on young Floridians with learning and attention issues.

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

Tuition scholarship assistance will be provided to young Floridians -- with learning and attention issues --- who possess significant financial need.

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



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Tuition assistance provided to high-need Florida students with learning and attention issues will broaden our workforce to include more citizens with learning and attention issues, a population that faces significant unemployment. Beacon is heralded as the top school in the nation for educating students with learning and attention issues and learning disabilities.

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

Beacon's Florida students -- all, of which, have learning and attention issues (ADHD, dyslexia, ASD, etc.) with high financial need will be eligible to be served and supported. There are approximately 70-100 students who are expected to be served.

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

Florida students with learning and attention issues will be able to enroll in an academic community that has been heralded as one of the top institutions of higher education for students with learning and attention issues and learning disabilities. Tuition scholarships will make the pursuit of a college education more affordable. Beacon graduates 63% of this population of student while, less than 30% of students with learning and attention issues graduate.

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?

Beacon will provide the contracting agency with a complete breakdown of students who are provided tuition assistance. Return of funding if we do not meet the deliverables.

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
- ☐ 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



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- ☐ 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
- ☐ 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



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