



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2049

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Diabetes costs Florida \$25B/year and the US \$410B/year, with 1 in 4 healthcare dollars spent on the disease. The University of Florida Diabetes Institute (UFDI) has been a leader in diabetes research and care. With a \$10M investment over four years, UFDI will expand its efforts through a state-wide diabetes research hub and clinical outreach program, catalyzed with AI and supercomputing for personalized care. This will position Florida as a national leader in diabetes care, with a projected ROI of around \$200-\$300 for every dollar invested.

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	10,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	10,000,000

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)	10,000,000	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	10,000,000	100%

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.

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	Key researchers and clinicians, computational and spatial biologist, administrative roles for programmatic oversight and evaluation metrics capturing as well as support staff and research coordinators. These personnel will work together to deliver the program's three major components: population screening and outreach, AI-enabled personalized diabetes education.	1,600,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Outreach and engagement promotional materials to develop and implement effective outreach strategies to engage patients, support ongoing education and training for healthcare professionals, and promote the program's services and resources across the state of Florida.	800,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Programmers & app developers to support the development & maintenance of AI-enabled personalized diabetes education and management. Full suite of care experts including: Diabetes Educators, Dieticians, Psychologists, Endocrinologists, Pediatricians, and Computational and Spatial Biologist, and Pathologists to provide expert guidance and support for effective diabetes management.	4,000,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Patient care costs including CGM sensors help enable patients to track their glucose levels in real-time and receive timely interventions. Travel expenses will be covered to facilitate access to care for patients who require specialized services. Furthermore, the cost of smart phones and connected devices. These investments will help to improve patient outcomes and reduce hospitalizations.	3,400,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Misc. diabetes educational and outreach services. These investments will help to improve patient outcomes, reduce hospitalizations, and enhance the overall quality of life for individuals with diabetes.	200,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		10,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

Empower the University of Florida Diabetes Institute to expand its efforts in creating a state-wide diabetes research hub and clinical outreach program. This initiative will harness AI and supercomputing for personalized diabetes care, reducing costs and burden through research, prevention, and early detection. Estimated \$10M investment is expected to return \$215M over 4 years.

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

Diabetes STEPS program delivers three main activities:
State-wide population screening and outreach using genetic and blood biomarkers.
AI-enabled personalized diabetes education and management with CGM, insulin pumps, and interactive Apps.
Expanding ECHO Diabetes tele-education and a repository for diabetes tissue research.

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

Early detection and prevention of diabetes through state-wide population screening and outreach.
Personalized diabetes education and management using continuous glucose monitoring and AI-enabled technology to empower citizens to manage their diabetes effectively.
Access to diabetes tissue biobanking and fundamental research to advance the understanding and prevention of diabetes and its complications.

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

The target population is the estimated 2.9 million Floridians who currently have diabetes, as well as those at risk of developing diabetes. We estimate reaching over 4.5 million Floridians over a 4-year period through the Diabetes STEPS program.

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

Improve Physical Health:
• Benefits or Outcome: Reduce HbA1c levels (a long-term measure of blood glucose control), reduce hospitalizations and emergency department (ED) visits, increase frequency of screening and early detection for T1D and T2D, increase use of Continuous Glucose Monitors (CGM) among Floridians with diabetes
• Methods for measuring: Pre and posttest HbA1c levels, Diabetes related ED and hospital admission rates, screenings referred and completed, CGM use among participants in the Diabetes STEPS program, time in target range (TIR) for blood glucose levels as measured by CGM
Improve Mental Health:
• Benefits or Outcome: Reduce diabetes distress in patients, including adults and children, as well as families and caregivers of those living with diabetes
• Methods for measuring: Pre and posttest using Diabetes Distress validated scales for patients seen by providers participating in the ECHO Diabetes tele-education program

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?

Standard provisions and penalties for universities are sufficient.

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)



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- ☐ 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
- ☐ 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



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- ☐ 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

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