



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1068

1. Project Title School Based Substance Use Prevention and Resiliency Programming k-12

2. Senate Sponsor Lori Berman

3. Date of Request 11/6/2025

4. Project/Program Description

This project expands delivery of evidence-informed, school-based substance use prevention education in the School District of Palm Beach County, supporting compliance with Florida Statute 1003.42, which requires five hours of annual resiliency instruction addressing prevention of alcohol, nicotine, and drug abuse. As an approved district provider, the program offers classroom and assembly-style instruction led by licensed mental health professionals who teach students skills to resist peer pressure, make healthy choices, and strengthen resiliency. Instruction aligns with DOE's Comprehensive Health Education and Resiliency Standards and integrates into the district's behavioral health framework. Funding will expand services from 87 to 95 schools and increase presentations from 2,231 to 2,500 in the school year of 26/27, achieving a 5% increase in duplicated student reach and advancing statewide prevention and health priorities.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Education

State Agency contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	300,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	300,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	300,000	38%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	500,000	62%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	800,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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? No

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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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
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	Partially supports a Program Director who is a Licensed marriage and family therapist and three licensed mental health professionals delivering evidence-informed prevention education, early intervention, and family engagement in Palm Beach County K-12 schools, ensuring quality implementation and measurable behavioral health outcomes.	300,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
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)		300,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The requested funds will support the School District of Palm Beach County's implementation of Florida Statute 1003.42, requiring five hours of annual resiliency instruction including preventing alcohol, nicotine, and drug abuse. As an approved alternative provider, we deliver evidence-informed prevention programming that builds resiliency, supports healthy decision-making, and strengthens district capacity to meet DOE standards.

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

Funds will expand evidence-informed substance use prevention education in Palm Beach County schools, increasing reach from 87 to 95 schools and presentations from 2,231 to 2,500. Licensed professionals will deliver classroom and group instruction, raising duplicated student reach by about 5%, to over 82,208 students and school staff.

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

Students in Palm Beach County public schools will receive direct substance use prevention education through classroom and assembly-style presentations led by licensed mental health professionals. Sessions focus on preventing alcohol, nicotine, and drug use while building resiliency and healthy coping skills.

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

The target population includes students in Palm Beach County public schools across elementary, middle, and high school levels. The program delivers school-based substance use prevention education that strengthens resiliency and decision-making. For the 2026–2027 school year, services will expand from 87 to 95 schools, providing over 2,500 presentations and reaching more than 82,208 students annually through classroom and assembly-style instruction.

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

Funding will expand prevention education to 95 schools and over 2,500 presentations, increasing duplicated student reach by about 5%. Students will demonstrate improved knowledge of substance use risks, stronger refusal and coping skills, and greater overall resiliency, supporting safer, healthier school communities. Outcomes will be measured through pre- and post-program student surveys assessing knowledge, attitudes, and refusal skills related to substance use. Additional metrics include number of schools served, presentations delivered, and percentage increase in student reach to evaluate impact and program effectiveness.

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?

In addition to standard penalties, the organization supports performance-based funding adjustments tied to measurable outcomes. Reimbursements may be reduced proportionally to unmet deliverables (e.g., students reached, presentations completed). A corrective action plan would be submitted within 30 days, and final payments may be withheld until deliverables are achieved.

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



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☐ 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

☐ Other (please specify)



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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.