



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1093

1. Project Title Research University Alzheimer's Research Using Exablate Neuro Focused Ultrasound

2. Senate Sponsor Ana Maria Rodriguez

3. Date of Request 11/10/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The Research University Alzheimer's Research Using Exablate Neuro Focused Ultrasound program advances Florida's capabilities to address neurological and neurodegenerative diseases through applied R&D and clinical translation. Building on prior investments in HIFU and LIFU systems installed across Florida's hospitals and research institutions, the program supports continued technology development, system optimization, and statewide clinical trial readiness. Funds intend to enhance diagnostic and therapeutic applications for Alzheimer's, brain cancer, addiction, PTSD, Parkinson's, OCD and other neuro disorders. This initiative strengthens Florida's leadership in noninvasive neurotechnology, expands patient access to innovative treatments, and fosters public-private collaboration to accelerate deployment of next-generation brain health solutions.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Elder Affairs

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	5,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	5,000,000

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)	5,000,000	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 2026-2027	5,000,000	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		
2025-26	0	3,000,000	1102	No

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 5,000,000

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

Hospital operating funds; charitable or private funds



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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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Other; includes equipment, expenses, travel, supplies, consultants, contract services, and studies. Funds will support R&D and applied trial costs to advance Exablate Neuro HIFU/LIFU technology, enabling system upgrades and new capabilities within Florida hospitals. Enhancements strengthen statewide clinical infrastructure, expand noninvasive treatment access, and drive sustained neuroinnovation.	5,000,000
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)		5,000,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The Research University Alzheimer's Research Using Exablate Neuro Focused Ultrasound program advances Florida's leadership in next-generation high- and low-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU/LIFU) R&D and clinical trial deployment. Building on prior state investments that established HIFU/LIFU systems across Florida's academic and hospital networks, the program supports continued system innovation, proof-of-concept studies, and translational readiness for neurological and neurodegenerative disease applications, including Alzheimer's, brain cancer, addiction, PTSD, OCD, Autism, stroke and Parkinson's. Funding enables ongoing technology refinement, expanded clinical capacity, and enhanced collaboration between state universities, hospitals, and Insightec. The goal is to strengthen Florida's neurotechnology infrastructure, accelerate patient access to advanced noninvasive treatments, and position the state as a global leader in applied brain health innovation.

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

Funds will be expended on activities that advance Exablate Neuro focused ultrasound R&D and statewide and international clinical capabilities. Deliverables include system and software enhancements, proof-of-concept studies, pilot data generation, and preparation for multicenter clinical trials targeting neurological and neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's, brain cancer, addiction, PTSD, and Parkinson's. Activities may strengthen Florida's hospital and research infrastructure, improve diagnostic and therapeutic trial access for patients, and sustain innovation in noninvasive neurotechnology. The program will also facilitate collaboration among Florida universities, hospitals, and private sector, aligning public-private resources to accelerate translational progress and reinforce Florida's leadership in advanced brain health solutions.

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

Direct services supported by this appropriation will expand access for Florida patients to advanced, noninvasive focused ultrasound trial diagnostics and trial treatments for neurological and neurodegenerative disorders, including potentially Alzheimer's, brain cancer, addiction, PTSD, OCD, Stroke and Parkinson's. Funds will facilitate applied R&D, clinical trial implementation, and technology enhancements to improve precision, safety, and treatment outcomes. As innovations are validated and deployed within Florida's hospitals and research institutions, patients will directly benefit through earlier access to next-generation therapeutic options within the advanced trial framework. The program's continued progress supports statewide and international partnerships and clinical excellence, fosters public-private collaboration, and advances the quality of neurological care available to Florida citizens.

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

The target population includes elderly individuals and patients affected by neurological, neurodegenerative, and related brain or behavioral health disorders, including Alzheimer's, brain cancer, Parkinson's, PTSD, addiction, OCD, and stroke. The program also serves economically disadvantaged and underserved populations who may not otherwise have access to advanced noninvasive treatment options. Through Florida's hospital and university trial networks, the initiative is expected to directly serve hundreds of patients through applied research and clinical studies, while indirectly benefiting thousands more through expanded statewide diagnostic and trial therapeutic capabilities. These efforts strengthen Florida's clinical trial infrastructure, enhance access to next-generation neurotechnology, and advance equitable delivery of innovative brain health solutions.

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

The expected outcome is the continued advancement and validation of noninvasive Exablate Neuro focused ultrasound technologies that may expand Florida's capacity to diagnose and treat neurological and neurodegenerative disorders in trials. Applied R&D and clinical implementation are anticipated to broaden advanced therapeutic trial opportunities enhance patient access to advanced trials, and strengthen Florida's leadership in next-generation neurotechnology. Measurable outcomes will derive from R&D milestones, and program progress reports. This framework provides a flexible, evidence-based approach to evaluating scientific, clinical, and economic impact statewide.

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?

Return of state funds

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

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



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- ☐ 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
- ☐ 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



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c. Organization Type

- ☐ For Profit Entity
- ☐ Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- ☐ Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- ☐ Local Entity
- ☐ University or College
- ☒ Other (please specify) state agency

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.