



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1148

1. Project Title Hillsborough County Public Schools Prevention First: Expanding School-Based Mental Health

2. Senate Sponsor Jim Boyd

3. Date of Request 11/18/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The purpose of the funding is to expand school-based mental health supports as required under FL Statute 1006.041 by adding early interventions, ex: preventing substance use, violence, and sexual exploitation; reducing behavioral disruptions; and supporting safer, stable learning environments. This initiative yields measurable outcomes: fewer incidents, increased attendance, stronger academic performance, and a pipeline of resilient graduates who contribute meaningfully to Florida's future.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Education

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

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

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)	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 2026-2027	500,000	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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Hillsborough County Public Schools will secure a provider that will provide school-based mental health supports utilizing student-facing digital tools, teacher training, and parent-accessible resources to deliver early interventions that address a wide range of student mental health needs, including prevention of substance use, suicide, bullying, sexual abuse, and exploitation.	500,000
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?



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

The initiative will expand school-based mental health supports by leveraging student-facing digital tools and strategies, teacher training, and parent-accessible resources to deliver early interventions that address a wide range of student mental health needs, including prevention of substance use, suicide, bullying, sexual abuse, and exploitation, aligned with Florida Statute 1006.400.

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

Students will access digital therapeutic modules and strategies focused on prevention and early intervention; educators will receive tools to identify risks and connect students to care; and parents and caregivers will receive communication and resources to support student well-being. School staff and mental health providers benefit through data insights that enable timely, coordinated response.

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

Funding will serve approximately 25,000 K-12 students.

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

Expected benefits or outcomes include: improved mental and physical health, improved quality of education, a reduction in substance abuse and juvenile crime, and the protection of the general public from harm. Outcome measures will be tracked using qualitative and quantitative methods such as: completion rates of digital mental health lessons, Pre/post student self-assessments, Educator observations of emotional regulation, Referrals to school counselors or support staff, Daily attendance data, Behavior incident and referral reports, GPA and grade tracking, and Teacher surveys on academic engagement and classroom participation amongst other critical data points.

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?

Failure to meet performance measures or contract deliverables may result in a corrective action plan and the imposition of financial penalties, up to and including the reversion of funds to the 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
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No



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☐ 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)

d. First Name Last Name



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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.