



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1505

1. Project Title Franklin Academy Inc. of Tallahassee - Update to Student Technology, Transportation and Materials

2. Senate Sponsor Corey Simon

3. Date of Request 11/17/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The purposes of these funds are to provide technology for the at risk youth we serve in order to better enrich their education, to increase the educational materials we are able to provide the students, and to purchase a van to assist in transportation for the students.

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	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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)	250,000	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	250,000	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.

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.

Margaret Franklin, Executive Director/Owner of Franklin Academy Inc. of Tallahassee

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	Administrative, Record Keeping/Accounting, Marketing, IT services	74,700
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Purchase Chromebooks for each student (approximately 50 students), valued at approximately \$300/each, for a total value of about \$15,000; Purchase a new passenger van, an estimated value of \$65,000, to provide transportation for the students; Purchase Educational Materials to provide to the students, totaling around \$30,000 Vehicle Maintenance \$250/qtr & Daily Fuel costs \$75/day: \$14,500	124,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Hire two reading coaches, at a salary of \$2000/mo over a 10 month school year, to work with the students on their reading gaps, for a total of \$40,000. Hire a bus driver for daily pick-up/drop-off of students, paying \$15/yr for two hours in the morning & afternoon, totaling \$10,800	50,800
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The purposes of these funds are to provide technology for the at risk youth we serve in order to better enrich their education, to increase the educational materials we are able to provide the students, and to purchase a van to assist in transportation for the students. Technological inequities and transportation challenges jointly affect underserved students, especially in rural and low-income communities. Research shows that access to education depends on the intersection of digital inclusion and mobility equity.

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

We would like to provide chromebooks for the students to be used during the day, so they may each access to our online reading and math learning tools during the school day, allowing them to move at their own pace as they find their own learning style. We would also like to purchase a new van to be able to provide daily pickup and delivery services for the students.

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

We will be providing device loans to our students in the form of chromebooks as a means of addressing technology inequities within our community. We will also be providing our students with access to customized math and reading tools, which act as companions to our curriculum, to help address the literacy disparities faced by our youth.

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

Target Population Includes: Economically disadvantaged persons; At-risk youth; Grade School Students; High School Students; Attention Deficit Disorder; Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder; Slow Learning Disability
We are able to serve a maximum of 146 students, with an average of 50-60 students served annually. Our goal with these funds is to provide technological aid and literacy aid to approximately 51-100 individuals.

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 of this project is increased competency in reading and math, as well as an improvement in attendance. Improvements in reading and math competency will be measured by comparing the pre and post assessment scores of each student at the beginning and end of the year. Improvements in attendance will be measured by comparing student monthly attendance ratios throughout the year, with an anticipated steady increase in monthly attendance by all students participating, as well as increase the number of students we are able to serve due to a lack of steady transportation.

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?

If the performance measures are not met, the funds will be returned 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



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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.