



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1635

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Yarger Hall building, constructed in 1997, has reached an age where significant updates are essential to meet contemporary educational and safety standards. This project addresses program space changes to existing science labs. The project accommodates changes in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) programs. Anatomy and Physiology, Environmental Science and Oceanography, Chemistry, Biology, undergraduate research and classroom spaces will be reconfigured to accommodate additional student stations and improve efficiency of space. The building, which spans 17,982 gross square feet, requires comprehensive improvements to its mechanical, electrical, plumbing, security, and life safety systems to support modern academic needs and maintain a secure environment for students and staff.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	7,092,094
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>7,092,094</b>

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)	7,092,094	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027</b>	<b>7,092,094</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.



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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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

08/08/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

08/01/2028

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

This is an existing building, and its operations and maintenance are already included in the operating budget.

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.

Florida SouthWestern State College

### 12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Planning/programming, architect/engineer fees, inspection services, on-site representations, other professional services, testing/surveys, permit/environmental fees, miscellaneous costs, movable equipment/furnishings.	7,092,094
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>7,092,094</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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

Funds for the renovation of Yarger Hall will be used to modernize and reconfigure science labs and classrooms to support STEM programs, such as Anatomy and Physiology, Environmental Science, Chemistry, and Biology. The goal is to expand lab capacity, improve space efficiency, integrate advanced teaching technology, and create a collaborative learning environment to enhance educational outcomes and workforce readiness.



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

Funds for Building G will modernize science labs and classrooms to support STEM programs like Biology, Chemistry, and Environmental Science. Activities include reconfiguring spaces to expand lab capacity, upgrading mechanical and safety systems, and integrating advanced teaching technology. The project will create collaborative, flexible learning environments to enhance educational outcomes and workforce readiness, addressing the growing demand for STEM trained professionals.

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

Building G will indirectly provide services to citizens by producing more STEM-trained professionals to meet workforce demands. Enhanced lab and classroom facilities will better prepare students for careers in fields like healthcare, environmental science, and technology, ultimately benefiting the community through a more skilled workforce.

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

This project will serve STEM students by enhancing labs and classrooms to support programs in Biology, Chemistry, and Environmental Science. By preparing graduates for critical roles in healthcare, technology, and science fields, the project will address workforce needs in Southwest Florida. The improved facilities will benefit the community through the development of a highly skilled and job-ready workforce.

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

The Building G renovation will enhance STEM education by modernizing labs, expanding capacity, and integrating advanced teaching technology, better preparing students for careers in science, healthcare, and technology. Success will be measured by increased enrollment, higher graduation rates, and workforce placement in STEM fields, ensuring the project meets the growing demand for skilled professionals in Southwest Florida.

**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 appropriated funds.

**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
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

**a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:**



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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

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 19. Lobbyist Contact Information



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a. Name	<input type="text" value="Nicole Kelly"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="The Southern Group"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="kelly@thesoutherngroup.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(850)671-4401"/>

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