



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1646

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Funds will be used to expand the pipeline of qualified new teachers entering the education profession in Florida. The Teacher Accelerator Program (TAP) is an innovative initiative to mitigate the teacher shortage across Florida. TAP will expand into Broward County and expand school partnerships. TAP provides college seniors not majoring in education and career-changing professionals with Bachelor's degrees not in education with a clear pathway to teaching.

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	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

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)	750,000	17%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	3,793,128	83%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	4,543,128	100%

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		
2025-26	0	500,000	127A	No

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.

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.

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	Achieve Miami as TAP's fiscal sponsor	100,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	TAP Summer Program staff across 5 training sites	75,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	TAP candidate stipends for Summer Internship training experience @ \$5,000 per participants x 85 TAP participants. TAP candidate scholarships and expenses at Miami-Dade College (MDC) and Broward College @ 150,000	575,000
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)		750,000

13. Program Performance

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

Funds will be used to expand the pipeline of qualified new teachers entering the education profession in Florida across Miami-Dade County and Broward County. Funds will support TAP's planned expansion to train 250-300 new teachers in its fifth year of programming. In the four years since its inception, TAP has already trained 400+ new teachers and continues to expand each year. Funding will directly support the hands-on, summer internship training experience portion of TAP candidates' training and support them through their initial TAP training course, which is the first component of the program.



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

TAP candidates will be supported through the first component of training--the TAP course, which is developed in partnership with college and university partners. During the summer internship, TAP participants are provided with hands-on teaching experiences with mentor teachers in partnership with public school and charter school partners. TAP participants work directly with experienced teachers and meet with education coaching staff to further develop their teaching skills. They meet 5 times per week throughout June and July and teach students enrolled in summer learning programs.

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

TAP provides direct services to individuals through teacher recruitment, preparation, and training. TAP begins with a 3-credit course at the University of Miami, Miami-Dade College, Broward College, Barry University, or Florida International University. The course is tailored to college seniors not majoring in education and career changing professionals who hold bachelor's degrees not in the field of education. TAP candidates then participate in a paid TAP summer internship and receive accreditation and hiring support for guaranteed job placement as full-time teachers in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. During their first year of teaching, TAP candidates receive ongoing mentorship, training, and support.

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

TAP serves college seniors and professionals with bachelor's degrees not in the area of education. TAP's target population is made up of individuals who would not otherwise consider a career in education. Though TAP trains teachers, this has an impact on the number of students who have access to a full-time, qualified teacher, enhancing student learning outcomes across South Florida.

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

Aligning with TAP's identified 5-year Goals and Objectives, TAP has facilitated the successful training of over 400 teachers in the first 4 years of the program. The expected outcome is that in year 5, TAP will train and place 250-300 new teachers across public and private schools. This program will ensure that hundreds of additional students will have qualified teachers who otherwise may have been seated in an empty classroom. TAP uses data driven research methods. TAP's evaluation includes community-based participatory research practices through focus groups and multi-stakeholder partners.

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?

The state could allow for a "no cost" contract extension to allow Achieve more time to meet contract deliverables.

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.