



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1773

1. Project Title Miami-Dade County Public Schools Early Childhood Education Learning Labs

2. Senate Sponsor Alexis Calatayud

3. Date of Request 12/8/2025

4. Project/Program Description

This project would expand Miami-Dade County Public Schools' Early Childhood Education (ECE) program and open eight (8) new ECE Learning Labs, tied to CTE Teaching Academies, in high schools throughout the district. These programs provide care for infants, toddlers, and prekindergarten students, and provide high school students participating in the Early Childhood Education pathway program with insights into the teaching profession. The additional schools will provide more options for both students and parents.

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	1,503,800
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,503,800

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)	1,503,800	35%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	2,751,400	65%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	4,255,200	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? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 1,500,000

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

Miami-Dade County Public Schools will match 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	Stipend supplement for Program Director/CTE Teacher to implement and run learning lab, in addition to teaching high school students; \$2,500 (stipend) x 8 (labs); including fringes and benefits.	25,062
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Instructional equipment (classroom furniture, Cricut machines, Roamer Robots bundle, etc.), instructional materials (textbooks and online resources), classroom supplies (arts and crafts supplies, toys, books, etc.), and playground; \$182,842.25 (cost per lab) x 8 (labs).	1,462,738
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Professional development training sessions for curriculum: \$2,000 x 8 (labs).	16,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,503,800

13. Program Performance

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



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The purpose of the funds is to expand the Early Childhood Education (ECE) program and open eight (8) new ECE Learning Labs, tied to CTE Teaching Academies, in high schools throughout the district. These programs provide care for infants, toddlers, and prekindergarten students, and provide high school students participating in the Early Childhood Education pathway program with insights into the teaching profession. The schools will provide more options for both students and parents.

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

Children will have a nurturing and stimulating preschool environment that will prepare them for kindergarten through developmentally appropriate activities that will help them meet their social, emotional, physical, cognitive, and intellectual developmental needs. High school students will be able to plan, prepare, and execute lessons while being supervised by well-trained staff.

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

Parents of infant, toddler, and preschool children will have more regional options for early childhood education and childcare, reaching more under-served areas. Additional high school students across the district will be able to gain relevant knowledge and skills needed to prepare for postsecondary education and careers in the education industry.

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

The target population includes over 800 preschool children and high school students in the Early Childhood Education pathway program across Miami-Dade County.

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 to equip high school students with the relevant knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience needed to succeed in postsecondary education and future careers, as well as strengthening the teacher pipeline and addressing the teacher shortage. Expanding to more high schools will also increase regional options for parents for early childhood education and childcare, reaching under-served areas. This will be measured through CDA certifications, evaluations, enrollment and graduation rates.

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?

Denial of future 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



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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

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.



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19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name	<input type="text" value="Carlos San Jose"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Corcoran Partners"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="carlos@corcoranpartners.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(305)987-9591"/>

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