1. Project Title   University of Florida - Florida AI for Health Institute (FAIHT)

2. Senate Sponsor   Jason Brodeur

3. Date of Request   12/9/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The Florida AI for Health Institute (FAIHT) will serve as a statewide engine for safe, ethical, and effective AI in medicine and public health, linking universities, health systems, industry, state agencies, and the public to improve patient outcomes, grow jobs and train AI workers, and strengthen Florida's innovation economy. FAIHT has secure data enclaves and AI deployment tools as its core structure. FAIHT operates through 3 integrated hubs: Gainesville Applied Research Translational Hub (advancing AI diagnostics and clinical tools via HiPerGator supercomputer), Jacksonville Applied Research & Medical Education Hub (community health innovation and workforce development), and Campus Without Borders Education Hub (graduate programs, industry partnerships, statewide upskilling).

5. State Agency to receive requested funds   Board of Governors

State Agency contacted?   No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	4,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	**4,000,000**

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)	4,000,000	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	**4,000,000**	**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

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	Funds will support core personnel essential to statewide implementation of the AI for Health initiative including faculty experts in biomedical data science, data enclave security, and AI ethics; clinical data analysts; program managers; and administrative staff who ensure compliance and evaluation. These roles provide the intellectual and operational infrastructure for the Institute's educational, research, and workforce missions. Salary support ensures continuity of training, research.	2,000,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds the creation of secure data enclaves, cloud infrastructure, and AI computing systems essential for education and research training. This includes licensing, cybersecurity compliance, and development of AI-enabled training modules. Equipment costs also support rural access through virtual engagement and mobile training programs. These infrastructure investments will expand Florida's secure data capacity and make health AI education accessible statewide.	1,500,000

Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Strategic partnerships will be established with industry and public agencies to align academic and workforce goals. Contracted services will include professional training modules, continuing education programs, and impact evaluations that inform state-level AI policy and ethical standards. Partnerships with healthcare networks will allow real-world application and rapid workforce deployment of AI-enabled practices. These engagements will ensure sustainability and measurable statewide impact.	500,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		**4,000,000**

13. Program Performance

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

Florida AI for Health Institute (FAIHT) will be a statewide engine for safe, ethical, effective AI in medicine and public health, linking universities, health systems, industry, state agencies, and the public to improve patient outcomes, grow jobs, and strengthen Florida's innovation economy. Funds will protect Floridians' privacy while expanding AI capacity through secure data enclaves, build a statewide testbed for effective AI, train an AI-ready workforce, and unite technical, clinical, law and policy expertise to make Florida the leading state others follow on AI policy.

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

FAIHT will forge statewide partnerships among Florida's universities, community colleges, health systems, industry, and state agencies to build regional AI innovation capacity; build secure data enclaves and AI testbeds to advance AI safety in healthcare and public health; launch an AI Policy Analysis Lab to inform policymakers, health systems, and the public on AI technical, ethical, and policy concerns; and host public events and training (AI Passport, Apprenticeship Hub, Certificates, MS and Executive PhD) to promote digital literacy and upskill Florida's AI workforce.

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

Floridians will gain enhanced access to safe, well-tested AI diagnostic, preventive, and telehealth tools while enjoying state-of-the-art privacy protections through secure data enclaves. Training and apprenticeships will prepare students and workers for fulfilling, well-paid careers. The AI Policy Analysis Lab and community outreach will boost Floridians' digital health literacy and identify potential policies to make health AI safe and ethical in Florida.

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

The Florida AI for Health Institute (FAIHT) serves Florida's 600,000+ healthcare and research professionals, students, clinicians, educators, policy leaders, and patients through statewide AI training, apprenticeships, and AI oversight programs. It will also create new "AI for Health" apprenticeship jobs for high school graduates and early-career workers and benefit patients through safer, smarter, and more accessible care. Indirectly, it benefits millions of Floridians through safe, effective, privacy-preserving AI-enabled health care throughout our state.

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

Benefit: FAIHT will advance Florida's health/public health AI capacity through secure data enclaves, AI testbeds, AI workforce training, and effective public-private oversight structures. Funds will protect Floridians' privacy while advancing AI to improve patient outcomes, build a vibrant AI health sector, and make Florida the national leader for effective medical AI policy.
Measurement: Workforce training and job placements; enclave adoption rates and privacy outcomes; academic-industry partnerships; oversight strategies adopted by health systems and state agencies.

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?

Standard provisions and penalties for universities are sufficient.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No

   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 infastructure)

   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#:

   [   ]

   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   Jennifer   **Last Name**   Hunt

   b. Organization   Dean, College of Medicine, University of Florida

   c. E-mail Address   jenniferhunt@ufl.edu

   d. Phone Number   (352)273-7839   **Ext.**

18. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization University of Florida College of Medicine

b. Municipality and County Alachua

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 Chris   **Last Name** Emmanuel

e. E-mail Address chris.emmanuel@ufl.edu

f. Phone Number (850)933-1223   **Ext.**

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name Monica L. Rodriguez

b. Firm Name Ballard Partners

c. E-mail Address monica@ballardpartners.com

d. Phone Number (850)577-0444

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