



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 2007

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Florida's school choice system only thrives when every family- regardless of school type- can rely on safe, secure learning environments. Upward Trend Academy seeks state funding to support and implement essential campus safety. Including fire alarm systems, fire sprinklers, perimeter fencing and campus wide video monitoring. Florida's school-safety legislation provides requirements, but private schools are not eligible for additional funding. This project ensures private-school students receive the same protection as their public school peers and supports the long term sustainability of school choice in Florida.

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	214,000
Total State Funds Requested	214,000

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)	214,000	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	214,000	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		

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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

03/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

08/01/2026

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

School tuition and operating income

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.

Amy Michaelis- Owner
Lindsay Strausbaugh- Owner

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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Fire Sprinklers- \$115,000 Fire Alarm System- \$16,000 Full Perimeter Fencing- \$38,000 Camera System- \$45,000	214,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		214,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The goal of this project is to ensure Upward Trend Academy meets Florida's school-safety expectations by upgrading critical safety infrastructure, including perimeter fencing, a comprehensive video surveillance system, a modernized fire alarm system, and the installation of required fire sprinklers. Private schools must comply with many of the same safety mandates outlined in s. 1006.07, s. 1006.12, Florida Fire Prevention Code, and the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, but receive no state funding to implement them.

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

Funds will support the installation of perimeter fencing to establish a secure, controlled single point of entry; a campus-wide video monitoring system; upgrades to the school's fire alarm system; and the installation of fire sprinklers to meet Florida Fire Code requirements. These improvements ensure the school is equipped to prevent unauthorized access, detect and respond to emergencies, meet life-safety standards, and strengthen compliance with state school-safety legislation and fire-safety regulations.

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

This project supports Florida's school-choice priorities by ensuring private schools can sustain themselves while providing families the safe, compliant learning environments they expect and deserve. The project will provide a significantly safer educational environment by reducing security risks, improving emergency detection and response, and protecting students and staff from fire hazards. Enhanced campus security, modernized fire protection.

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

The project serves over 80 K-12 students with disabilities and learning differences, along with more than 35 staff members. Families choosing private education through Florida's school-choice programs also benefit, as enhanced safety measures increase parental confidence and access to secure learning environments.

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

Expected outcomes include:

- Full compliance with Florida school-safety and fire-safety requirements
- Improved protection against fire hazards through modern alarms and sprinkler systems
- Reduced risk of unauthorized campus access
- Stronger active-assailant and emergency-response readiness

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?

Penalties may include withholding funds until fire-safety and security benchmarks are met, requiring a corrective action plan, or the return of unused or misallocated funds if the project does not achieve the intended improvements in campus safety, fire protection, and statutory compliance.

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



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- ☐ 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 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



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☐ Other (please specify)

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.