



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3166

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Center for Environmental Diagnostics and Bioremediation (CEDB) at the University of West Florida will create a comprehensive water quality research environment for counties in Northwest Florida. CEDB will use predictive data and assessment of local waters to identify bacteria and contamination and solutions for rapid improvement. Research will also help the region determine the state of the impact of development on estuaries, seagrass health, wetlands and intercoastal vibrio. The CEDB has a long history of coordination with regional partners and this new Center will utilize these relationships to assist local governments and coastal communities to leverage the research for the achievement of transformational environmental change.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	5,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	5,000,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	5,000,000	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 2024-2025	5,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	2,000,000	1705A	No

9. Is future 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.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. 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?

12. 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.

13. 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	Pensacola & Perdido Bay Estuary Program - \$500,000 Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance - \$175,000 St. Andrew and St. Joseph Bays Estuary Program - \$150,000	825,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Estimated to recruit up to 6 faculty, 3 full time lab technicians (undergraduate and graduate) an education and outreach coordinator, and post docs.	1,750,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Estimated for laboratory equipment and upgrades in the wetlands laboratory as needed for faculty and students. Student support materials, supplies, and computers. Maintenance and repair of analytical equipment.	1,175,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Research and Data Analytics support for the development of a platform for: +Gather, clean, integrate data from the northwest Florida region and surrounding waterways +Evaluate water quality & environmental health +Identify hotspots of water quality degradation and habitat loss.	1,250,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		5,000,000



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14. Program Performance

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

The analytics and research will provide integral assistance in the management and transformation of the region's environment. Coordination of this regional research will inform future decisions on protecting the Northwest Florida coastal communities.

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

- +Gather, clean, and integrate environmental data from the coastal counties.
- +Identify hotspots of water quality, degradation and habitat loss
- +Propose solutions to address drivers of water quality & water habitat
- +Determine best investments for maximum positive environmental impact

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

Northwest Florida Coastal communities will realize a much improved water quality environment.

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

Nearly 1 million residents live in Northwest Florida coastal communities and will benefit from a stronger environment and water quality.

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

- The successful implementation of this project will enable:
- +New discoveries of key drivers of water quality hazards and ecosystem changes
 - +The development of regionally transformative environmental protection and restoration projects that will be submitted for grant funding

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 the contract?

Withholding payments and assessing potential financial or liquidated damages.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

16. 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)



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- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name **Last Name**

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number