



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3591

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

These funds will be used to design and engineer a regional aquatic education & training facility for NW FL. This multi-functional aquatic educational facility will allow for the expansion of the physical & occupational therapy programs at NWFSC, and provide a year round indoor aquatic training facility for the numerous DoD Special Forces units that reside and/or train in NW FL, as well as for our law enforcement personnel. This facility, & its aquatic instruction services, would also foster teaching, mentorship, competition, & public safety in Okaloosa & Walton Counties. Finally, this facility would contribute to the physical and mental well-being of the community, strengthen social ties, and build a stronger sense of community in Okaloosa County.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,000,000

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)	2,000,000	91%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	200,000	9%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	2,200,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. **Is future 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.**

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



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

The City of Niceville received approximately \$4 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in 2021 and another approximately \$4 million in 2022. To date, the City of Niceville has used these funds on infrastructure projects around the city. The city will expend all of its remaining ARPA funds in FY24 including \$1,612,000 on a reclaimed water pipeline project.

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.

The City of Niceville will be the principle owner of the facility.

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		0
Operational Costs: Other		
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	This funding is for the land acquisition, site analysis, facility engineering and permitting.	2,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,000,000

14. Program Performance

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



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

This facility will provide a platform for educational opportunities & talent development in physical & occupational therapy. This facility will also provide a year round training facility for DoD and law enforcement personnel and will be able to offer swimming lessons, lifeguard training, & other educational programs, promoting water safety and instilling a sense of responsibility among community members. In addition, this facility will serve as a hub for community engagement, attracting individuals from diverse backgrounds & fostering social interactions. The facility will host swim meets, water polo tournaments, and other aquatic events that would bring people together, creating a sense of community pride and unity and increasing economic prosperity.

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

The primary goals of this facility is to meet a growing demand for aquatic education & training facilities and to enhance and expand the physical therapy and occupational therapy programs of NWFSC. However, the public at large would also benefit, as aquatic sports and activities' propensity to promote healthy living and physical activity are well documented. Crucially, an aquatic facility in Okaloosa County will decrease the rate of drownings by providing a safe and controlled environment for swimming education, water safety programs, and lifeguard training, thereby equipping individuals with the necessary skills and awareness to prevent water-related accidents. The center will provide a variety of programs and classes, including swimming lessons, water aerobics, and competitive swimming team activities. The center will also host various events and competitions throughout the year, attracting participants from across the region, particularly boosting tourism during the winter months.

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

All population demographics will be served by this proposed facility and all residents of, and visitors to, Okaloosa County would be able to benefit from this facility. It is projected that this facility will serve more than 20,000 people per year.

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

This facility will enhance & expand the occupational & physical therapy programs at NWFSC, thus producing higher quality physical & occupational medical professionals for the State of Florida. It will enhance the physical health of local children, adults, seniors, and those with disabilities, by providing them a location for aquatic exercise, training programs, & drown proofing classes. This facility will also advance the mental health of children, adults, seniors, and our many local military members and veterans by providing them with a facility that affords them place for aquatic activities, exercise, training, and community fellowship, which has been shown to improve mental health, and reduce stress, anxiety, and depression. Finally, over a ten year period, this facility is projected to support over 457 jobs and will cumulatively generated \$234.7 million of economic impact.

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?

If deliverables or performance measures are not met, a corrective action plan should be required to determine the root cause of the failing deliverables and/or performance measures. The corrective action plan should document non-compliance issues and develop measurable and feasible solutions and practical deadlines.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address



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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)
- 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

Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.

18. Have you applied for alternative state funding?

- Waste Water Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify)
- N/A

19. What is the population economic status?

- Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)



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- Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- N/A

20. What is the status of construction?

Construction has not begun. This funding is for site analysis, design, & engineering.

21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0%

22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2025