

# Appropriations Project Request - Fiscal Year 2020-21

## For projects meeting the Definition of House Rule 5.14

1. Title of Project: Stetson College of Law Veterans Advocacy Clinic
2. Date of Submission: 10/03/2019
3. House Member Sponsor: Chris Latvala  
Members Copied:

### 4. DETAILS OF AMOUNT REQUESTED:

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? Yes  
***If answer to 4a is "No" skip 4b and 4c and proceed to 4d, Col. E***
- b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded? 2019-20
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? Yes
- d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request:

FY:	Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project for FY 2019-20 <i>(If appropriated in 2019-20 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)</i>			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2020-21 <i>(Requests for additional RECURRING funds are prohibited.)</i>		
Column:	A	B	C	D	E	F
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated  <i>(Recurring plus Nonrecurring: column A + column B)</i>	Recurring Base Budget  <i>(Will equal non-vetoed amounts provided in Column A)</i>	<b>Additional Nonrecurring Request</b>	<b>TOTAL Nonrecurring plus Recurring Base Funds</b>  <i>(Will equal the amount from the Recurring base in Column D plus the Additional Nonrecurring Request in Column E.)</i>
Input Amounts:		250,000	250,000		425,000	425,000

5. Are funds for this issue requested in a state agency's Legislative Budget Request submitted for FY 2020-21? No
  - 5a. If yes, which state agency?
  - 5b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested? Department of Education
  - 5c. Has the appropriate state agency for administering the funding, if the request were appropriated, been contacted? No
  - 5d. Describe penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures which the agency should provide in its contract to administer the funding if appropriated.  
Ineligible for future funding

6. Requester:

- a. Name: Stacey Rae-Simcox
- b. Organization: Stetson University College of Law
- c. Email: ssimcox@law.stetson.edu
- d. Phone #: (727)562-7732

7. Contact for questions about specific technical or financial details about the project:

- a. Name: Stacey Rae-Simcox
- b. Organization: Stetson University College of Law
- c. Email: ssimcox@law.stetson.edu
- d. Phone #: (727)562-7732

8. Is there a registered lobbyist working to secure funding for this project?

- a. Name: Dr. Joshua Truitt
- b. Firm: Stetson University
- c. Email: jtruitt@stetson.ed
- d. Phone #: (386)822-8874

9. Organization or Name of entity receiving funds:

- a. Name: Stetson University
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended): Pinellas
- c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding): Hillsborough, Manatee, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota

10. What type of organization is the entity that will receive the funds? (Select one)

- For Profit
- Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Government
- University or College
- Other (Please describe)

11. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds being requested?

Stetson's in-house pro bono legal clinic for veterans serves those who have served us as they navigate the disability benefits application and appeals process of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

12. Provide specific details on how funds will be spent. (Select all that apply)

Spending Category	Description	Nonrecurring (Should equal 4d, Col. E) Enter "0" if request is zero for the category
Administrative Costs:		
<input type="checkbox"/> a. Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> b. Other Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> c. Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> d. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Medical Consultations/opinions	50,000
Operational Costs:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> e. Salaries and Benefits	Supervising Attorney	120,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> f. Expenses/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Technology, software, advocacy and travel	80,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> g. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Case Management, Paralegals, Staff Attorneys	175,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
<input type="checkbox"/> h. Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>425,000</b>

13. For the Fixed Capital Costs requested with this issue (In Question 12, category "h. Fixed Capital Outlay" was selected), what type of ownership will the facility be under when complete? (Select one correct option)

- For Profit
- Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Government (e.g., police, fire or local government buildings, local roads, etc.)
- State agency owned facility (For example: college or university facility, buildings for public schools, roads in the state transportation system, etc.)
- Other (Please describe)

14. Is the project request an information technology project?

No

15. Is there any documented show of support for the requested project in the community including public hearings, letters of support, major organizational backing, or other expressions of support?

Yes

15a. Please Describe:

The Veterans Consortium, Bay Pines/Pinellas County Community Veterans Engagement Board

16. Has the need for the funds been documented by a study, completed by an independent 3rd party, for the area to be served?

No

17. Will the requested funds be used directly for services to citizens?

Yes

17a. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the purpose of the funds?

Students and supervising attorneys will assist veterans with their U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits claims. Students will also help veterans having less than fully honorable military discharges to upgrade their discharge status. Unfavorable discharge statuses are often due to misconduct resulting from post-traumatic stress disorder, military sexual trauma, or traumatic brain injury that occurred during military service.

17b. Describe the direct services to be provided to the citizens by the funding requested.

Outreach to veterans, intake interviews, conducting case analysis, performing investigations, preparing claims and drafting briefs. On average each veteran's case receives the equivalent of 200-250 billable attorney hours of work. In a first-of-its-kind partnership to help veterans secure their disability benefits faster and with proper documentaion, Stetson College of Law refers veteran clients to USF Health for reduced cost diagnosis and assessment of mental and physical health concerns.

17c. Describe the target population to be served (i.e., "the majority of the funds requested will serve these target populations or groups.").

Select all that apply to the target population:

- Elderly persons
- Persons with poor mental health
- Persons with poor physical health
- Jobless persons
- Economically disadvantaged persons
- At-risk youth
- Homeless
- Developmentally disabled
- Physically disabled
- Drug users (in health services)
- Preschool students
- Grade school students
- High school students
- University/college students
- Currently or formerly incarcerated persons
- Drug offenders (in criminal Justice)
- Victims of crime
- General (The majority of the funds will benefit no specific group)
- Other (Please describe): Veterans of Armed Forces

17d. How many in the target population are expected to be served?

- < 25
- 25-50
- 51-100
- 101-200
- 201-400
- 401-800
- >800

18. What benefits or outcomes will be realized by the expenditure of funds requested? (Select each Benefit/Outcome that applies)

Benefit or Outcome	Provide a specific measure of the benefit or outcome	Describe the method for measuring level of benefit

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve physical health	Advocate for and assist 85 veterans to pursue VA benefits	Coordinate with VA and frequent follow-up
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve mental health	150 Veterans will enroll and or seek assistance and treatment.	Coordinate with VA and frequent follow-up
<input type="checkbox"/> Enrich cultural experience		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve agricultural production/promotion/education		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve quality of education	40 law students will assist attorneys and veterans with veteran cases	Coordinate with VA and frequent follow-up
<input type="checkbox"/> Enhance/preserve/improve environmental or fish and wildlife quality		
<input type="checkbox"/> Protect the general public from harm (environmental, criminal, etc.)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve transportation conditions		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase or improve economic activity	75 Veterans will attempt securing VA benefits and discharge upgrades	Case management to track and report benefits received and health statistics.
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase tourism		
<input type="checkbox"/> Create specific immediate job opportunities		
<input type="checkbox"/> Enhance specific individual's economic self sufficiency		
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce recidivism		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce substance abuse	Veterans who receive earned VA benefits will get priority health care in order to seek more frequent treatment to reduce substance	Case management to track and report benefits received and health statistics.

<input type="checkbox"/> Divert from Criminal/Juvenile justice system		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve wastewater management		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve stormwater management		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve groundwater quality		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve drinking water quality		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve surface water quality		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please describe):		

19. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2020-21 from all sources of funding (Enter "0" if amount is zero):

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent of Total	Are the other sources of funds guaranteed in writing?
1. Amount Requested from the State in this Appropriations Project Request:	425,000	49.7%	N/A
2. Federal:	0	0.0%	No
3. State: (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column F)	0	0.0%	No
4. Local:	0	0.0%	No
5. Other:	430,000	50.3%	Yes
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>855,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	

20. Is this a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year?

Yes

20a. How much state funding would be requested after 2020-21 over the next 5 years?

⊙<1M

- 1-3M
- >3-10M
- >10M

20b. How many additional years of state support do you expect to need for this project?

- 1 year
- 2 years
- 3 years
- 4 years
- >= 5 years

20c. What is the total project cost for all years including all federal, local, state, and any other funds? Select the single answer which best describes the total project cost. If funds requested are for ongoing services or for recurring activities, select "ongoing activity".

- Ongoing activity – no total cost
- <1M
- 1-3M
- >3-10M
- >10M