

# Appropriations Project Request - Fiscal Year 2020-21

## For projects meeting the Definition of House Rule 5.14

1. Title of Project: FSU College of Law Public Interest Law Center: Veterans Legal Assistance Incubator
2. Date of Submission: 11/14/2019
3. House Member Sponsor: Bryan Avila  
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? 2018-19
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No
- 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:					200,000	200,000

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 Veterans' Affairs
  - 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.  
Return of all funding.

6. Requester:

- a. Name: Prof. Paolo Annino
- b. Organization: FSU College of Law Public Interest Law Center
- c. Email: pannino@law.fsu.edu
- d. Phone #: (850)644-9930

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

- a. Name: Prof. Paolo Annino
- b. Organization: FSU College of Law Public Interest Law Center
- c. Email: pannino@law.fsu.edu
- d. Phone #: (850)644-9930

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

- a. Name: None
- b. Firm: None
- c. Email:
- d. Phone #:

9. Organization or Name of entity receiving funds:

- a. Name: FSU College of Law Public Interest Law Center
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended): Leon
- c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding): Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Wakulla

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?

The Veterans Legal Assistance Incubator will provide free legal representation to low-income veterans in various matters such as family law cases, mortgage foreclosures, landlord/tenants disputes, public benefits, drivers license reinstatement, etc., the goal being to help veterans in need overcome obstacles to employment and full participation in their communities. Additionally, the program will be an incubator educating law students and pro bono attorneys in veterans assistance matters.

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 type="checkbox"/> d. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> e. Salaries and Benefits	Two attorney positions: This portion of the funds will pay the salary and benefits of the Director of the Veterans Legal Assistance Incubator and one staff attorney.	190,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> f. Expenses/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	This portion of the funds will pay travel expenses and litigation costs.	10,000
<input type="checkbox"/> g. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		

<input type="checkbox"/> h. Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
TOTAL		200,000

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:

Letters of support from the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs, Legal Aid Service of Broward County, United Way of the Big Bend, FSU Student Veterans Center, Big Bend Homeless Coalition, and Legal Services of North Florida. Copies of these letters can be provided upon request.

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

Yes

16a. Please Describe:

Title: Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups (CHALENG) Fact Sheet. Author: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Date: May 2018. Requester of the Report: It was a public study. The study found that legal assistance was among the top 10 unmet needs of veterans, both male and female. Link to study: <https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/CHALENG-2017-factsheet-508.pdf>.

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?

The program will provide full legal representation to indigent veterans in a variety of matters, including but not limited to family law cases, child support matters, landlord/tenants disputes, public benefits issues, drivers license reinstatement, etc. A social worker will provide assistance with additional non-legal matters such as obtaining stable housing, applying for public benefits, identifying mental health resources, etc.

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

The program will provide full legal representation to indigent veterans in a variety of matters, including but not limited to family law cases, child support matters, landlord/tenant disputes, public benefits issues, drivers license reinstatement, etc.

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): Indigent Veterans

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 type="checkbox"/> Improve physical health		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve mental health	This will be measured by the number of veterans seeking mental health services who have obtained such services as a result of the program's assistance.	Clients will be surveyed about whether they need mental health services and whether they are receiving them at intake and every 3 months thereafter for the program's duration.
<input type="checkbox"/> Enrich cultural experience		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve agricultural production/promotion/education		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve quality of education		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve transportation conditions	This will be measured by the number of previously unlicensed drivers who receive their drivers license as a result of the program's assistance.	Clients will be surveyed about whether they have a valid drivers license license at intake and every 3 months thereafter for the program's duration.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase or improve economic activity	This will be measured by the number of veterans who become employed or find better employment as a result of the program's assistance.	Clients will be surveyed regarding their employment status at intake and every 3 months thereafter for the duration of the program.
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase tourism		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create specific immediate job opportunities	This will be measured by the number of veterans who become employed or find better employment as a result of the program's assistance.	Clients will be surveyed regarding their employment status at intake and every 3 months thereafter for the duration of the program.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance specific individual's economic self sufficiency	This will be measured by the number of veterans who become employed or find better employment as a result of the program's assistance.	Clients will be surveyed regarding their employment status at intake and every 3 months thereafter for the duration of the program.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce recidivism	This will be measured by the number of veterans who are charged with crimes after engaging with the program.	Clients will be surveyed about whether they have been charged with a crime at intake and every 3 months thereafter for the program's duration.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce substance abuse	This will be measured by the number of veterans who are charged with substance abuse-related crimes or who disclose substance abuse after engaging with the program.	Clients will be surveyed about whether they have been charged with substance abuse-related crimes or are abusing substances at intake and every 3 months thereafter for the program's duration.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Divert from Criminal/Juvenile justice system	This will be measured by the number of veterans who are charged with crimes after engaging with the program.	Clients will be surveyed about whether they have been charged with a crime at intake and every 3 months thereafter for the program's duration.
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Please describe): Improve participation in government	This will be measured by the number of veterans whose voting rights are restored.	Clients will be surveyed about whether their voting rights have been restored at intake and every 3 months thereafter for the program's duration.

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:	200,000	100.0%	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:	0	0.0%	No
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	

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

No