



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1352

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

Lake-Sumter State College seeks \$5.1 million investment to add a 40,000-square-foot Technology Innovation Center on the South Lake Campus in Clermont to support student enrollment growth in high-skill, high-wage occupations. The facility will house specialized classrooms and cutting-edge lab spaces to cater to academic programs in information technology, cybersecurity, AI, robotics, manufacturing automation, and other high-tech industries. By providing students with a conducive environment and modern resources, the Technology Innovation Center aims to bridge the gap between education and industry, fostering collaboration and facilitating students' successful transition into the workforce. In addition to the academic programs in technology and skilled industries, the Technology Innovation Center will also incorporate entrepreneurial programs to foster a culture of innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship among students.

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	5,100,000
Total State Funds Requested	5,100,000

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)	5,100,000	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	5,100,000	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?** Yes
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

At this time, Lake-Sumter State College does not have additional funding in lieu of state funding to support this workforce project.



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

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

The College has received a total of \$6.8m for student support and \$9.5m for institutional support. For student support, funds were distributed as emergency grants to an estimated 1,650 students.

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		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	Design, land preparation, and initial construction of a 40,000 sq. ft. 2 story facility that will supplement existing facilities on campus.	5,100,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		5,100,000

14. Program Performance

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



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The South Lake Campus of LSSC in Clermont opened in 1999 and has experienced significant student enrollment and area population growth since. The population of the City of Clermont has grown 327% from 2000 to 2021 and is growing faster than 96% of similarly sized U.S. cities since 2000. Additionally, all of Lake County continues to experience significant population growth. Lake County is ranked as the 13th fastest-growing county in the entire U.S. This growth is driving innovation and intense workforce demand in an array of industries making significant investments locally. LSSC seeks an initial investment of \$5.1 million to design, development land, and to start construction on a 40,000-square-foot Technology Innovation Center to support student enrollment growth in high-skill, high-wage occupations. The facility will house specialized classrooms and cutting-edge lab spaces to cater to academic programs in information technology, cybersecurity, AI, robotics, and automation.

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

By providing students with a conducive environment and modern resources, the Technology Innovation Center aims to bridge the gap between education and industry, fostering collaboration and facilitating students' successful transition into the workforce. In addition to the academic programs in technology and skilled industries, the Technology Innovation Center will also incorporate entrepreneurial programs to foster a culture of innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship among students. Recognizing the importance of entrepreneurship in today's rapidly evolving economy, the center will provide dedicated resources and support to nurture entrepreneurial skills and mindset. By incorporating entrepreneurial programs, the Technology Innovation Center will empower students to become innovative problem solvers, job creators, and leaders in a vast array of industries.

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

The Technology Innovation Center will be a technology hub in the Lake County community that will not only possess high tech instructional spaces yet be a hub for technology-based workforce development in the Lake and Sumter County region. It will allow the growing business sector of the area we serve, an opportunity to partner with LOSSC in creating the education and training needed to fill their workforce needs.

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

The Technology Innovation Center will serve students, alumni, community and local employers who can come together for academic, and technology rooted workforce preparation. The Center is expected to serve well over 10,000 citizens on an annual basis.

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

The Technology Innovation Center will provide a platform for improved student outcomes in individual courses, semester-to-semester retention, and time to completion. The outcomes will allow students to graduate in technology focused fields quicker, with less debt, and enter the workforce better prepared to meet the advanced technology demands of employers. The increases in student outcomes, coupled with the growth in enrollment in existing and planned programs, will also support an increase in students entering Florida's workforce. Through intentional career planning and placement efforts, students and members of our community will be connected to employers to fill job openings and apprenticeships and to assist the private sector and the community with job placements in the local workforce region.

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?

No penalties known at this time.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

16. Recipient Contact Information



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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