



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1211

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

To implement workforce training programs in low-income, underserved communities, including reentry programs, for residents in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties to obtain the skills needed to acquire a well-paying job. We will use virtual reality, a proven and existing technology, for career exploration and hands-on skills training. The 100% mobile program delivers the trainings to the people and communities where it is needed the most instead of limiting the program to members of one organization or organizations with only one location.

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	168,500
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	168,500

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)	168,500	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	168,500	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

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

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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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	Accounting and administrative services, and marketing and outreach to targeted populations	35,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	VR equipment and connectivity supplies (15 headsets, 15 Wi-Fi hot spots), promotional materials, travel, storage space, postage	83,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Program manager will be hired to facilitate the program and community outreach.	50,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		168,500

14. Program Performance

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

Implement a virtual reality workforce development program in low-income, rural and underserved communities in collaboration with community partners. Utilizing virtual reality, a proven existing technology, we will work with a coalition of education, nonprofits, government, business partners and reentry organizations to help bolster innovative workforce development efforts in the two county area.

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



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This initiative is an innovative solution that creates a coalition of education, nonprofits, government and businesses to provide community workforce development and training to individuals with barriers to employment. Target markets are at-risk youth, ages 18-49, incarcerated and formerly incarcerated persons, underserved and vulnerable populations, and disabled and Veteran communities.

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

The 100% mobile classes will address workforce needs in the area, including career exploration for youths and adults, plus upskilling and reskilling existing workers. The population will become more employable and qualify for local jobs.

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

Persons with poor physical and mental health, jobless and economically disadvantaged, at-risk youth, developmentally and physically disabled, students and currently or formerly incarcerated individuals.

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

Provision of soft skills and hard skills education, measured by certifications received by the individual participants; increase in qualified, trained workers for Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, measured by number of program participants; enhanced job opportunities available through 2-county area, measured by number of participants receiving employment increases through the program.

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 of future funds.

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

d. First Name Last Name



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e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number