



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1470

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Florida AgrAbility Project will provide direct assistance services to individuals with a disability in production agriculture (including small, new/beginning, socially disadvantaged minority, and veteran farmers/farmworkers and their families). The Florida AgrAbility Project will provide training to enhance the competencies of farmers and rural health professionals to accommodate and adapt to a disabling condition. Education and training activities will include educating farmers, ranchers, and farmworkers to accommodate disabilities in their work environment and to prevent secondary injuries, development of Augmented/Virtual Reality tools for individuals with disabilities to make physical environments more accessible for selected agricultural work settings and educating rural health professionals, rehabilitation, health care professionals, extension agents, etc. about AgrAbility and available assistive technology resources.

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	300,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	300,000

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)	300,000	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	300,000	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.



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The Florida AgrAbility Project relies on state funding to deliver essential direct assistance services and training programs to individuals with disabilities in production agriculture. In the absence of state funding, the program would face a significant reduction in services, limiting its ability to accommodate the available funding and potentially impacting the support provided to farmers, ranchers, and farmworkers facing disabling conditions."

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.

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	Executive Director salary	20,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Program Case Coordinator salary	10,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel and equipment costs	10,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Salaries and benefits for instructors	50,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Education, training, accessibility accommodations, direct assistance to farmers (travel and purchase of assistive technology)	150,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Consultant services to develop educational tools with Virtual and Augmented Reality	60,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		300,000



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14. Program Performance

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

The specific purpose of this request is to (1) provide direct assistance services for individuals with disabilities in agriculture (new/beginning, socially disadvantaged, and veteran farmers and their families), (2) provide Assistive Technologies and other adaptive equipment that is needed for farmers to continue working, (3) provide educational training to enhance competencies to accommodate disabilities of farmers - and to educate rehabilitation and healthcare professionals on assistive technologies.

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

Identify individuals with disabilities in production agriculture; Provide Assistive Technologies and other adaptive equipment that is farmers need to continue working; Educate farmers, ranchers, and farmworkers to accommodate disabilities in their work and to prevent secondary injuries; and Develop tools for selected agricultural work settings to accommodate disability.

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

Conduct site assessments and determine the assistive technology needs; Provide Assistive Technologies and other adaptive equipment that is farmers need to continue working; Provide training/education on AT use; Provide counseling and other needed health services farmers need and cannot afford; and provide educational tools and outreach educational materials.

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

Farmers with disabilities, including physical, developmental and behavioral health disabilities, as well as students with disabilities and individuals who are unemployed, wounded veterans and formerly incarcerated persons with a disability.

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

The services provided to the farmers will increase their physical safety and help prevent secondary injuries. Farming with disabilities can increase the risk of secondary injuries. Assistive technologies have been developed for the farmstead to help individuals maintain productivity and independence, but can also assist in the prevention of secondary injuries.

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?

Funding will be contingent on satisfaction of specific deliverables. If deliverables are not completed, payment will be deducted proportionately.

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



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- 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