



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1437

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The Boca Raton Achievement Center is dedicated to helping teens and young adults with Autism learn the skills they need to successfully navigate a productive and independent adult life. The BOOST program focuses on teaching participants hard and soft skills necessary to obtain and maintain employment. Through the BOOST program, students explore and practice skills from a wide range of vocations, both on-campus and in the community, to help them identify their strengths and interests. The program includes comprehensive components to prepare them for productivity and success in the workforce. BOOST includes job training, employment coaching, scheduling, interviewing, appropriate communication skills, transportation, and financial literacy training. The program assists students overcoming challenges and obstacles and ensures they have every opportunity to become dependable, valuable employees and prepares them for adult independence in a least restrictive environment.

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	260,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	260,000

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)	260,000	79%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	70,000	21%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	330,000	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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We are trying to service as many as possible by fundraising in the local community, but the population is increasing along with waiting lists for services.

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

No

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		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	2 Instructors and 3 full time job coaches	200,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Workplace environment simulation/replication for generalization of skills, augmentative enhancements, adaptive and virtual classroom supplies, communication and training materials, Employer community partnerships, and transportation expenses.	60,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		260,000

14. Program Performance



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

BOOST is a Job skills training and placement program for persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The Boca Raton Achievement Center is dedicated to helping teens and young adults with Autism learn the skills they need to successfully navigate a productive and independent adult life. The BOOST program focuses on teaching and training participants the necessary hard and soft skills and providing necessary supports to obtain and maintain employment.

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

The program will hone employment skills from a wide range of vocations, both on-campus and in the community, includes comprehensive components to prepare participants for productivity and success in the workforce. BOOST includes job training, employment coaching, scheduling, interviewing, appropriate communication skills, generalization of skills to multiple environments, transportation, and financial literacy.

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

Communities will benefit from dependable employees who can be included in the retail, industry, and business community and promote acceptance and inclusion in a variety of occupations. Also explore opportunities and training in small business creation and production of retail products and services, such as shredding, recycling, assembly, art and greeting cards, soap, candles, gardening, IT, etc.

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

Up to 50 Individuals with Autism, physical, developmentally and intellectually disabled, high school participants.

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

Job training to increase chances of employment and provide income, self sufficiency and increased commerce. Getting individuals with autism out of their homes and working in the community inspire many to patronize those businesses and support their independence. Many participants who are not excelling academically often have other skills and talents in addition to acute perseverance. Exploring other abilities and preferences to increase participants desire to perform certain jobs helps them become more proficient in targeted job skills. All training, performance and placement metrics will be tracked monthly with quarterly progress updates and an annual program report.

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?

Notification with opportunity to cure.

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)



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- 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