



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1759

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The Volusia STEM Ecosystem has been designed to bolster the STEM proficiencies of K-12 students, all while fostering partnerships with local industries to catalyze growth and innovation in sectors such as manufacturing, motorsports, and space exploration. Central to our mission is the fundamental belief that collaboration is the linchpin of success—an element often overlooked in previous STEM initiatives. Within this dynamic Ecosystem, students will immerse themselves in a comprehensive curriculum encompassing computer science, robotics, and cutting-edge maker technologies. Here, they will actively engage with industry experts, honing the specific skills requisite for excelling in Volusia and beyond. Volusia STEM Ecosystem is committed to equipping teachers and industry professionals with the tools and knowledge needed to stay at the forefront of STEM education and innovation by providing the education to succeed in learning and in life.

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	890,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,400,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,290,000</b>

**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)	2,290,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>2,290,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.

local

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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Project Lead would receive salary of 100,000 with benefits of health insurance and 401K of 30,000	130,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel to STEM Conferences and state meetings	10,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contractors and various services to get building up to code and usable space	50,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Manager of programs salary 80,000 with benefits of 20,000 Office Assistant salary 65,000 with benefits 20,000	200,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Equipment for training	400,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Trainers for K-12 and industry: 100,000	100,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Renovation needs; 350,000.00 Updating STEM tech needs: 150,000.00 Building purchase 900,000.00	1,400,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,290,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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



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

The program will provide a place and the components necessary to engage K-12 students to learn STEM skills and pursue STEM jobs. The program will also provide a place for current adults to receive training to enhance their STEM skills and compete in the workplace for rewarding 21st century jobs.

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

STEM training and skill acquisition are some of the direct services for K-12 students and adults alike. K-12 students will also participate in STEM competitions to also enhance their STEM skills. Career exploration in STEM fields will be an integral part of this program.

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

There are two populations. The first population is to students K-12 exploring STEM education. The second population is for adults obtaining STEM training and specific skills in STEM industries.

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

The benefit is to ultimately provide skilled personnel for our local STEM industries such as manufacturing, racing and space. We will use mixed methods in our methodology to assess the success or need for change. Each participant will be given surveys at the end of the project to ascertain the effectiveness of the program. Additionally, quantitative measurement of how many participate in the various offerings to determine the efficacy of 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?**

Penalties with negligence should result in a suspension or delay of funding until said negligence has been addressed. Other failings should be met with discourse to address the issues.

**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) K-12 Public School System



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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