



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3522

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The program will launch a pilot workforce advancement program for adults with autism in the mobile device and repairs and services industry. The program will integrate individualized training, coaching, peer mentoring, and supports across a spectrum of needs; and also include employer training in hiring, leading, and managing individuals with autism. Individuals will earn opportunities for industry certification and related skills that can lead to employment, greater independence, dignity and purpose.

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	1,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

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)	1,000,000	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	1,000,000	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? No

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?

No



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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		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Salaries and benefits of seven employment staff positions that include, job and training coaches, mobile device technician trainers, employer trainers, data and compliance analyst.	465,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Start-up program expenses may include mobile device repair equipment, training equipment, office supplies, communications, computers, accounting, bookkeeping, marketing, website and social media, training facility rent, electronic health records system, and travel and mileage.	337,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Development of workforce program, program curriculum, and data, compliance and management.	198,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

14. Program Performance

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



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The launch of a pilot workforce advancement program for adults with autism in the mobile device and repairs and services industry. The program will integrate individualized training, coaching, peer mentoring, and supports across a spectrum of needs; and also include employer training in hiring, leading, and managing individuals with autism. Individuals will earn opportunities for industry certification and related skills that can lead to employment, greater independence, dignity and purpose.

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

Planning, development, and launch of a pilot workforce advancement program for adults with autism in the high-tech sector of cellphone and tablet repair and disposition. Employer training in the employment of adults with autism and other IDD.

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

Individualized skills training, coaching, and peer mentoring. Specific skills include fine motor skills, problem solving and critical thinking, communications and teamwork, and time management. As a result, the individuals served will gain enhanced employability, career growth, and the opportunity to be an integral part of a skilled workforce.

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

Jobless persons, developmentally disabled persons, and persons with Autism Spectrum Diagnosis. Upwards of 100 individuals are expected to be served.

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

The program will provide an enriched cultural experience, improve the quality of education and enhance a specific individual's economic self-sufficiency. Measured successes and outcomes will derive from employer partnership surveys and feedback sessions. Improvements to the quality of education will be measured through participant outcomes such as gaining transferable job skills, earning industry recognized certifications, obtaining internships and training milestones that result in greater job readiness and successful placement. Enhancing economic self-sufficiency will be measured by tracking job readiness at multiple intervals of the training and certification process as well as gainful job placement.

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?

Corrective action plans and/or financial consequences will be required for non-compliance, non-performance, or failure to achieve the minimum level of services or performance under the contract.

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