



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1048

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Southwest Florida LAUNCH Center at Manatee Technical College will be the region's first collaborative community of practice facility for the manufacturing, aviation, and technology sectors establishing an innovative education concept for local technical college, apprentice, high school and adult education students. Tangible outcomes will be realized by career-readiness through apprenticeship, dual enrollment, adult and technical education thus progressing a regional workforce development eco-system. Engagement will be with workforce partners such as Manatee Chamber of Commerce, the Bradenton Area EDC, the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport, Space Florida, Career Edge and CareerSource Suncoast. The LAUNCH Center will help students launch careers and their abilities to become productive citizens. The 35,000 sq ft flexible hands-on learning space will help meet labor demands, help students achieve high-wage in-demand careers and support business growth in the Suncoast Region.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	8,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	8,000,000

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)	8,000,000	47%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	9,000,000	53%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	17,000,000	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.



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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.

Direct postsecondary student financial assistance, laptops, simulators and related technology for distance learning, personal protective equipment, disinfecting supplies in addition to electronic student/employee building access points.

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.

Manatee Technical College is the owner and operator of the facility and a public career center that is operated and governed by the School District of Manatee County.

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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Design/Plan/Construct the Southwest Florida LAUNCH Center at Manatee Technical College	8,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		8,000,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Career-readiness, knowledge advancement and incubation of local needs of the community in the sectors of manufacturing, aviation, and technology through apprenticeship, technical programs, seminars and workshops. Creation of an adult education and high school dual enrollment feeder program.

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

The activities and services provided include procuring contracts and agreements for the design and construction of Southwest Florida LAUNCH Center at Manatee Technical College.

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

Direct services provided include adult education, high-school dual enrollment feeder program, career certificate training, industry standard certification testing, apprenticeships, workshops, meeting spaces, collaborative innovative design and development, incubator of workforce development ideas in targeted industry sectors.

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

The citizens (aged 16 and older) of Region 18 (Sarasota and Manatee County) participating in the development of the community, the students desiring to obtain new and or additional education to increase their wage earning potential in the community, the local business entities leadership to utilize the building for future planning and implementation to meet current and future regional workforce demands, citizens obtaining training for adult education and workforce skills needed for civic participation, careers and continuing education for current and future careers to support family life. The Florida LAUNCH Center will be able to serve over 250 students daily.

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

More citizen training for workforce skills supporting the local airport and targeted industries.
 More citizen training for adult education and high school dual enrollment feeder program.
 More citizen opportunities to test for certifications and licenses for obtaining careers in the community.
 Citizens gaining information and guidance to improve their career opportunities.
 Creating a place where citizens can LAUNCH careers, education, information and be innovative in the planning of regional workforce and industry development.

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?

The suggested penalties would be to return the funds to the state. The performance measure would be letters of understanding between agencies and Manatee Technical College helping to meet the labor needs of the community with the opportunity for additional partnerships to be made in the future making sure it is not at the expense of the founding agreements.

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



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- 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