



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1184

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

4. **Project/Program Description**

LaunchCode's Florida Tech Career & Veteran Initiative will provide computer programming education & tech apprenticeship placement services to FL residents over a 1 yr period, at no cost to the learner/job seeker. Recruitment will focus on military active duty, veteran or reserve members, or their family or household members. LaunchCode's mission is to build a skilled workforce by creating pathways for driven people seeking careers in technology. This nonprofit organization provides job training through a 6-month, part-time class known as LC101 and places graduates into paid technical apprenticeships with leading-edge employers - from start-ups to Fortune 500 corporations. Participants receive these services at no charge. LaunchCode will enroll at least 200 individuals across two training classes in Florida in FY20; at least 50 of those enrollees will be military or military family. By 6/30/21, at least 60 tech careers will have been launched through training and/or apprenticeships.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted? Yes No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="1,000,000"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="000"/>
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="1,000,000"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="67.0"/> %
Matching Funds		
Federal	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Local	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Other	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="483,900"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="33"/> %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	1,483,900	100 %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes No
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="2017-18"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="500,000"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="2198A"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes No
- If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



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10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 staff members in Florida communities to manage education program delivery, conduct company relations and job placement activities, and engage the community - Allocated support costs such as recruiting, platform development, curriculum development, and technical sales support 	690,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct administration of LC101 and Liftoff through contracted instructors and teaching assistance - Space if not provided in-kind - Recruitment of classes through social media 	310,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000



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11. Program Performance

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

The LaunchCode Foundation views the shortage of tech talent, the 7.8% veteran unemployment rate, and the general underemployment rate in Florida as an opportunity to solve several problems at once. Through training courses and apprenticeship programs, LaunchCode provides an on-ramp for non-traditional tech candidates to self-sustained/economically-stable careers, a process which improves livelihoods through increased wages and economic independence. The programs provide an affordable, low-risk opportunity for employers to recruit diverse, reliable, and driven junior-level developers trained within the communities in which their businesses operate. Through LaunchCode's Florida's Tech Career & Veteran Initiative, at least 200 Floridians will be enrolled in free training classes between 7/1/20 & 6/30/21, with a focus on recruiting active duty, reserve/veteran, or their family/household members. At least 60 Floridians will be placed into tech apprenticeship/jobs by 6/30/21.

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

LaunchCode has developed a 28-week tech training course that is offered to the public at no cost to participants. Titled LC101, this course equips community members with the foundational computer programming skills and professional soft skills to land a junior-level tech apprenticeship with local companies. The Career & Veteran Initiative will partner with local military and veteran organizations to publicize course opportunities and to feature guest speakers throughout the classes that hire or provide programming to veterans. Following graduation from these training courses, alumni are offered the opportunity to apply for LaunchCode's Apprenticeship Program, in which they will work with Company Relations Managers - who maintain relationships with 250+ tech employers in Florida - to be placed as an apprentice at a local company. To date, LaunchCode has rocketed 237 individuals into upwardly mobile tech careers.

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

A \$1,000,000 budget appropriation from the State of Florida for FY20 would allow LaunchCode to offer 2 training programs between 7/1/20 and 6/20/21, with a focus on military / military family recruitment for the classes. Additionally, the funding would support the operations of the Apprenticeship Program.

Regarding the LC101 courses, funding would support contracted course instructors and teaching assistants, the program managers who oversee course management, community relations staff who will partner with veteran organizations, space rental, supplies/materials, marketing/advertising and the allocated cost of Public Relations, Technology, Course Development/Management and Marketing support from HQ staff in St. Louis, MO.

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

LaunchCode's 2017-18 appropriation (2198A) required 25 enrolled & trained and 10 job placements in the Tampa Bay area, and 10 enrolled & trained and 5 job placements in the South Florida market. With the 2020-21 appropriation, LaunchCode will enroll at least 200 Floridians total in our LC101 training programs (including military / veterans) and will commit to launching at least 60 Floridians into tech apprenticeship/jobs by 6/30/21 (nearly triple previous appropriation agreement). The historical demographics of our Florida students, enrolled in Miami, Deerfield Beach and Tampa: 66% male, 34% female; 47% Hispanic/Latino, 22% Caucasian, 17% African-American, 7% Multiracial, 6% Asian/Pacific Islander, 1% Other; 53% without a 4-year degree; 68% earning less than \$30k annually.

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

LaunchCode's 2017-18 appropriation (2198A) required 25 enrolled & trained and 10 job placements in the Tampa Bay area, and 10 enrolled & trained and 5 job placements in the South Florida market. With the 2020-21 appropriation, LaunchCode will enroll at least 200 Floridians across two LC101 training programs - including active, veteran or reserve members, or their family members - and will commit to launching at least 60 Floridians into tech apprenticeship/jobs by 6/30/21 (nearly triple previous agreement). The success of the programs is based on the number of students who complete LC101, the number of job seekers placed into apprenticeships, and the number of apprentices hired into full-time positions. To track candidates throughout their educational journeys to apprenticeship placement, Canvas Learning Management System is utilized and a custom digital platform that includes a detailed profile on each apprenticeship candidate & records activities while in the job search.

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 in the contract?

Recipient shall pay a penalty of \$500 for every individual trained less than 200.



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12. **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.**

N/A

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

- a. First Name Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.

14. **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)
- d. First Name Last Name
- e. E-mail Address
- f. Phone Number

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.