



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1724

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

4. Project/Program Description

Extending the Aviation Academy to open Aerospace Technology program at Lake Minneola High School and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations program at Leesburg High School as well as to further develop the Aerospace Technologies program at Eustis High School, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations at East Ridge High School and Aviation at South Lake High School. The Aviation Academy will offer students the opportunity to train and obtain industry certification in the fields of private pilot ground school, operations technician, UAS safety certificate and Visual Systems Operator ground and air certificates. This appropriation would allow for students to learn and increase their competency of aviation skills through hands-on and simulation equipment projects on a state-of-the-art facility. Additionally, this appropriation will allow for students to have the opportunity to earn post-secondary credits via dual-enrollment with Embry Riddle Aeronautical University .

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	350,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	350,000	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 2022-2023	350,000	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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10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

\$2.8 million has been received from various federal assistance grant to include GEER I, GEER II, Lake County Cares Act, Charter School Program Covid-19 Distance Learning, Rising K, ELCLC Funds, Medicaid. Funds were used to fund summer programs, technology for distance learning, custodial supplies, PPE and fogging equipment and offset loss of medicaid revenue.

11. 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	Curriculum and software subscriptions include specialty software and media training aids for simulation projects and industry certification, as well as the industry certification tests. Computer hardware for student use that will include the purchase of 64 computers to build two computer labs, flight simulators, ancillary equipment and drones. Equipment includes the purchases of storage cabinets, personal protection equipment, specialized tools, and classroom equipment. Supplies	343,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Embry Riddle agreement costs.	7,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		350,000

12. Program Performance

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

The purpose is to grow the Lake County Schools Aviation Academy thus increasing enrollment opportunities for students across the district. The Aviation Academy will prepare students for high-skilled, high-demand, high-wage jobs to meet the job outlook expected growth for Florida aerospace/aviation employment. This appropriation would create state-of-the-art facilities equipped with the latest technologies and equipment, making premier sites for students to train for aviation careers. The programs provide a productive place where students can excel by earning industry certifications and post-secondary credits.

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



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1. Maintain Current Year Programs

- A. East Ridge HS- USI Curriculum and certification testing for VSO-Ground & VSO-Air
- B. Eustis HS- Embry Riddle Courses and certification testing for UAS Safety Certificate
- C. South Lake HS - Embry Riddle Dual-enrollment Courses and certification testing for Private Pilot Ground; purchase of flight simulator and 2 computers for content/skill application.

2. The following would be added:

- A. Lake Minneola HS- Embry Riddle Dual-enrollment Courses and certification testing for Private Pilot Ground; purchase of flight simulator, ancillary equipment, classroom equipment, software and 31 computers for content/skill application.
- B. Leesburg HS - USI Curriculum and certification testing for UAS Safety Certificate and Private Pilot Ground; purchase of flight simulator, ancillary equipment, classroom equipment, software and 31 computers for content/skill application.

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

The Aviation Academy addresses Florida’s growing demand for high-skilled labor in the aerospace/aviation industry as our population and economy grow, supplying the state with a skilled, prepared workforce addressing job outlook growth. Florida aerospace/aviation employment increased 40% through 2019 (Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, 2019). Lake County is uniquely situated in Central Florida and is rapidly growing in population and economy. Lake County has the support of our local aviation business/industry and related business leaders who are committed to the Aviation Academy success.

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

All Lake County High School students who wish to enroll in the Aviation Academy are eligible. Currently, between the three high schools with programs in the Aviation academy, there are 200 students enrolled. By expanding, the students expected to be served may increase to 500. This program is especially tailored to increase STEM learning opportunities and to expose students to careers in the aviation field. Both male and female students are encouraged to enroll in this program.

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

This project will allow the Aviation Academy to create the future workforce for Central Florida and Lake County aviation industry. Participating students will graduate ready to fill high-demand jobs and/or may continue with their postsecondary education to become airline/commercial pilots. Airline/Commercial Pilot job outlook expected to see a 13% increase 2020-2030 (USBLS, 2020). Providing skilled workers to fill the labor gaps may attract more business to our state thus allowing businesses to grow and generate more revenue. In addition, students will leave the academy with the skills to obtain high-wage jobs insuring their financial outlook. Florida ranks 5th in the nation for airline/commercial pilot salaries (USBLS, 2020).

Performance measures include:

- Student enrollment, retention, and completion in the Aviation Academy
- Postsecondary enrollment
- Industry Certification Rate
- School Grade
- Internship placement Rate

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?

Loss of funding for failure to meet deliverables.

13. 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



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14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

15. 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

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number