



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2759

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

SFSC seeks to expand our commercial vehicle driver program to help offset the statewide commercial truck driver shortage. Funds will upgrade the truck driving academy in Highlands County and will expand training opportunities to Hardee County. This will not only provide skills needed for high-wage positions for unemployed and underemployed in our community but also support the logistical transportation needs of local businesses. Program enrollment is expected to double within three years.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

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)	1,500,000	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	1,500,000	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?

Yes



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

SFSC received \$14,716,294 from the Federal CARES Act. The funds were used for financial aid grants to students, campus safety and sanitation, personal protective equipment, and technology upgrades for distance learning.

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	State-of-the-art commercial vehicle driving simulators in Hardee and Highlands counties, lighting and electricity for training area in Highlands for night classes, collaborative workspaces.	1,500,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000

12. Program Performance

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

To expand our commercial vehicle driver program to help offset the statewide commercial truck driver shortage. Funds will upgrade the truck driving academy in Highlands County and expand training opportunities in Hardee County to double students throughout within three years. The driving simulators will expand the student experience to include learning to drive in adverse weather including snow and mountain terrain while preparing them for emergency situations. This training will provide skills needed for high-wage positions for the unemployed and underemployed in our community as well as support the logistical transportation needs of local businesses.

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

The simulators will provide a way for students to safely become familiar with the operation of a commercial vehicle. On the simulators, students learn how to drive in the mountains and adverse weather conditions as well as how to handle the vehicle during emergencies like tire blowouts, brake failures, and jack-knife situations. Our goal is to provide a safer learning environment for students, instructors and citizens on the roadways. Training will also benefit the line worker program in Hardee County which commercial vehicle driver training is an integral component. As the CDL program is expected to double in size, there would not be enough room for CDL and line workers at the Highlands facility. Adding lighting to the training facility in Highlands will allow SFSC to expand course offerings at night to serve students that work during the day. Night driving will be a Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration requirement in 2022.

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

Citizens will be offered the opportunity to participate in training to enable them to enter a high-wage, high-demand career. This project will also help business leaders operating local distribution centers to fill open positions for qualified commercial drivers.

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



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The target population to be served includes unemployed and underemployed residents in the College's service district, students in the College's commercial vehicle driving and electrical line worker programs, as well as local businesses seeking qualified commercial drivers. The number of individuals directly served is estimated at 500-600 annually who, in turn, will be able to positively impact not only our local, but the Florida economy.

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

The expected benefit of the project is to provide a realistic and enhanced educational setting to meet the needs of our growing economy and distribution needs throughout the state. The primary outcome of the project is the expansion and retention of the number of highly qualified and resilient commercial vehicle drivers. Quantitative and qualitative methods will be utilized to measure the program's impact. The number of individuals served by the commercial vehicle driving program educational offerings at the College will be documented in addition to employer and student survey data.

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?

Suggested penalty for failure to enhance and upgrade the College's commercial vehicle driving program as requested would be related to the return of any funds not used for authorized expenditures.

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