



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2151

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA), a project of the Tampa Jewish Community Centers and Federation, proposes to build on the momentum generated in 2022 to foster economic growth in Florida by connecting Florida's top industry sectors with high-tech Israeli companies whose products solve key business problems. In 2023, FIBA will identify statewide initiatives related to major infrastructure and transportation projects including water, ports, railway, airports, roads and bridges, and coastal structures. FIBA will work to identify Israeli high-tech companies that can offer unique solutions for these projects. FIBA will also continue to focus on connecting innovative technology solutions from Israel with Florida's tourism, hospitality and retail industries, as well as with partners in space, agriculture and health care - in order to address their most pressing operational challenges.

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

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>500,000</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500,000	50%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	100,000	10%
Other	400,000	40%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

- 8. Has this project previously received state funding?**

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	250,000	SL066	No

- 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.**

Hillsborough County - \$100,000  
Tampa Jewish Community Centers and Federation, Inc. \$400,000



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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.

PPP1 \$1,409,721 PPP2 \$1,410,225 ERTC 2021: Q1 \$646,060 Q2 \$663,398 Q3\$516,900  
 Used for payroll and payroll related expenses, utilities, interest on secured equipment, rent, cloud based software costs, HR costs, PPE supplies.

## 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

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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Salary for FIBA's Co-Executive Directors to represent and operate the Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA) throughout the State of Florida	180,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Salaries for a Marketing Coordinator, Sales/Commercialization Director and Office Manager/Executive Assistant	160,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Administrative services, office equipment, supplies, and admin travel	30,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Fees for various types of professional service providers and Executive Advisors	40,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Support for recruitment of Israeli and Florida companies, professional membership subscriptions, conference attendance, IT and program Infrastructure, marketing, media and communications support, event promotion and production equipment	40,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Consultants to assist with recruitment of Israeli and Florida companies, professional service companies to assist with event management and operations, website management and media strategy	50,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0



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<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>	<b>500,000</b>
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#### 14. Program Performance

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

FIBA will work with its Florida industry partners to identify their technology pain-points (shortfalls) and then curate Israeli technologies that map to those needs. FIBA will then facilitate the deployment of Israeli technology to various Florida industry sectors including infrastructure and transportation projects (water, ports, railway, airports, roads and bridges, and coastal structures). FIBA will also continue to connect innovative technology solutions from Israel with Florida's tourism, hospitality and retail industries, as well as with partners in space, agriculture and health care - in order to address their most pressing operational challenges.

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

FIBA will coordinate with its key industry partners in Florida in order to determine their most pressing challenges as the State of Florida experiences exponential growth. This endeavor will focus on the Sarasota-Manatee area with statewide application for its solutions. The project will include identifying and connecting proven Israeli technology companies to Florida-based industry partners in need of innovative solutions to create production and development efficiencies related to major infrastructure and transportation projects; building partnerships between Israeli and Florida companies or investors that encourage Israeli companies to open US subsidiaries in Florida thus creating high-skilled/high-wage jobs; and continue collaborating with Florida economic development and entrepreneur organizations to provide resources to Israeli companies looking to grow their businesses in Florida.

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

Florida's ever-increasing demographic and economic growth requires an immediate and streamlined approach to expansion of its infrastructure through increased efficiencies and productivity for the State's various development initiatives and for its partners who will build these infrastructure projects. Israeli technological advances that map to - and are applied to - these infrastructure challenges will benefit individual Floridians by helping to provide the necessary statewide growth to accommodate the exponential influx of new residents to the state of Florida.

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

Statewide, the population will be positively impacted by the deployment of proven Israeli technology that creates production and development efficiencies related to major infrastructure and transportation projects. In addition, the statewide population - and people employed in - some of Florida's key industries including hospitality/retail, agriculture, cybersecurity and healthcare will benefit from efficiencies gained through the use of Israeli innovation in these fields. FIBA will address cross-industry challenges including labor shortages, employee burnout, employee and customer safety, customer loyalty and remote access to personal and professional services - all of which will impact Florida residents statewide.

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

Methodology includes partnering with key Florida industry sectors to overcome their immediate technology needs as they seek to increase production and development efficiencies related to major infrastructure and transportation projects.

**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?**

Pro rata reimbursement of appropriated funds.

#### 15. Requester Contact Information

**a. First Name**  **Last Name**

**b. Organization**

**c. E-mail Address**

**d. Phone Number**  **Ext.**



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#### 16. 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

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number