



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2341

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The College of Central Florida offers unique academic programs in Agribusiness, Equine Studies, Horticulture, and Livestock Management in an experiential learning environment at its 104-acre Vintage Farm Campus. These programs are the only hands-on agriculture-related learning programs offered in the Florida College System. Students learn not only theory, but more importantly the application of utilizing one-of-a-kind, cutting-edge technology to its students that leads to valuable employees who help organizations be more efficient in best practices of nutrient management and soil and water conservation, and other agricultural applications.

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	1,649,800
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,649,800

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)	1,649,800	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 2023-2024	1,649,800	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.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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

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
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	Equipment, facility improvements, programmatic costs for expansion	1,649,800
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)		1,649,800

14. Program Performance

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

Funding for this project will develop and cultivate agribusiness technology for Florida and will produce highly skilled graduates in the areas of: agribusiness, equine studies, horticulture, livestock management, and hemp research and production. Local farms and businesses are in desperate need of highly skilled professionals within the equine and agribusiness industries. These highly specialized positions are unique to our region and are critically important to the vitality of our economy and workforce.

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



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The College of Central Florida offers unique academic programs and learning opportunities. These programs are the only hands-on agriculture-related learning programs offered in the Florida College System. Our graduates have a deep understanding for sustainable agriculture practices and agricultural technology.

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

Access to affordable hands-on learning opportunities in the equine and agribusiness industries.

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

Target population- North Central Florida, Marion, Citrus, Levy counties & the State of Florida. These programs will accommodate and serve over 200 students annually.

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 Increase, expand, and enhance measurable outcomes including: enrollment, graduation, completion and job placement rates.

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?

Reversion of funds to State.

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
☐ 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



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17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name	Jonathan J. Rees
b. Firm Name	Smith Bryan & Myers Inc
c. E-mail Address	jrees@smithbryanandmyers.com
d. Phone Number	(850)570-0043