



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2725

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

FSU is seeking funding to create the Center for Advanced Aerospace Technology (CAAT). The mission of CAAT will be to accelerate research and development (R&D) capability in Florida, accelerate certificate and degree production of Panhandle residents in the areas of engineering technology, aviation, and aerospace, and seek industry partners and investments to establish related specialty technology facilities, advanced composites, materials and coatings, robotics artificial intelligence, structural assembly and testing, and advanced sensors and software. FSU in partnership with the Florida Department of Education, Space Florida, and the Board of Governors, will initiate relevant market and sponsor-partner assessments as well as the development of a well-delineated business plan for the CAAT. Implementation planning will include targeted industry dialogue toward receipt of sustaining partnership commitments to the Center.

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	5,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	5,000,000

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)	5,000,000	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 2023-2024	5,000,000	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?

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

Revenue: \$69.5M Direct Student Aid and \$85.2M Institutional Support. Expenses: 1) \$69.5M Direct Student Aid; 2) \$85.2M Campus Operations: \$57.2M-Lost revenues in campus auxiliaries; \$8.7M-Campus health/safety; \$8.2M-Reimbursements for housing/study abroad/meal plans; \$1.0M-IT infrastructure and equipment for remote/distance learning; \$0.4M Off-campus quarantine housing; \$9.7M-Other operating costs

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	Funds will be used to support associated startup costs related to equipment and costs related to workforce development and community outreach. When established, the program will support the accelerated certificate and degree production of panhandle residents in the areas of engineering technology, aviation, and aerospace.	5,000,000
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)		5,000,000



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14. Program Performance

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

FSU is applying to partner up with Triumph Gulf Coast and other partners in northwest Florida to establish the FSU Center for Advanced Aerospace Technology, based on FSU's established leadership in research and workforce development in the areas of aerospace engineering. The requested funds will provide startup support for this initiative.

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

University officials will use funds to plan for and purchase necessary equipment for the FSU Center for Advanced Aerospace Technology.

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

Once established, the FSU Center for Advanced Aerospace Technology will partner with local partners to support students pursuing certificates and degrees in the areas of engineering technology, aviation, and aerospace in the Florida Panhandle.

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

The target population of this project is university students, who will benefit from an enhanced education experience and access to more career opportunities. Additionally, the FSU Center for Advanced Aerospace Technology will serve jobless persons and economically disadvantaged persons by creating more jobs in the Florida Panhandle and revitalizing the local economy.

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 improve economic activity in the Florida Panhandle. Once established, the center will help to address shortfalls in the advanced aerospace industry by working with local and state economic development partners in hopes of attracting industry leaders to the Panhandle that can provide jobs to the community, and therefore, increase economic vitality in northwest Florida and increase household incomes. Additionally, the center will improve the quality of education by supporting students pursuing certificates and degrees in the areas of engineering, technology, aviation, and aerospace. Florida's aerospace industry is in need of qualified workers. This initiative will help close the workforce gap.

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?

Revert state appropriation and withhold additional funding for this initiative.

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



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- 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