



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1291

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The project will expand the college's existing marine science programs, create a new Associate in Science Maritime Professional degree to complement existing associate and baccalaureate programs. The institute will add skilled professionals in maritime and marine industries by increasing program capacity and offering additional industry certifications such as Yamaha, ABYC, PADI, ADCI, USCG. The programs will prepare students for diverse afloat and ashore career pathways, including Merchant Mariners, Marine Technicians, Boat Building, Marine Restoration, Marine Aquaculture, and Welding, contributing to local and national workforce development.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted?

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	1,997,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	203,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,200,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,200,000	75%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	750,000	25%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	2,950,000	100%

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

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. **Is future-year 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.**

None identified



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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

09/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

03/05/2026

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

Operating funds and renovation and repair funds will be used to maintain the currency of the new ventilation system for the welding lab.

11. 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.

The College of the Florida Keys

12. 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		
Salary and Benefits	1 faculty member	150,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Vessels, vessel maintenance, vessel equipment, marine aquaculture supplies and equipment	1,847,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Welding lab ventilation system renovation.	203,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,200,000

13. Program Performance

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

The project establishes a Marine and Maritime Professional Institute, adds an Associate in Science Maritime Professional degree, increases program capacity 82% or 330 new students through certifications (Yamaha, ABYC, PADI, ADCI, USCG), and prepares students for afloat and ashore careers like Merchant Mariner, Comm. Diver, Ship Builder, Marine Technician, Fabricator, and Marine Restorer. These jobs have higher than average wages - critical to the state's workforce and economic development.



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

The activities and services funded will include the development and implementation of the new degree program, acquisition of specialized equipment and resources for maritime training, and enhancement of existing infrastructure to accommodate increased enrollment. The College will offer comprehensive training programs aligned with industry standards and workforce demands, covering both technical skills and regulatory compliance for maritime careers. These efforts will ensure a steady pipeline of skilled professionals ready to contribute to the maritime sector's growth and sustainability and state and national security

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

Citizens will receive direct educational and workforce training services, equipping them with the skills to earn certifications in the maritime industry. This includes hands-on training for afloat careers such as Seamanship, Merchant Mariners, Offshore Energy, Marine Technicians, and Marine Assessment and Conservation, as well as ashore careers like Marine Fabrication, Marine Electrical Work, Boat Building, Marine Project Planning, Welding, Marine Resource Management, Marine Aquaculture, Marine Restoration, and Fisheries. These services will prepare students for immediate employment in high-demand maritime sectors, contributing to economic growth and workforce development locally and beyond.

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

High school students, high school graduates, college students, veterans, underemployed individuals, career changers and workforce members in need of up-skilling. The expected number of individuals served is 300 per year.

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

The project will address maritime workforce shortages by expanding capacity and introducing the Associate in Science Maritime Professional degree, preparing students for afloat and ashore careers like Seamanship, Marine Technicians, and Marine Restoration. Benefits include increased access to industry certifications (e.g. Yamaha, ABYC, PADI, ADCI, USCG). Outcomes will be measured through enrollment and completion rates, job placement data, and partnerships with maritime industry stakeholders. These metrics will demonstrate the program's impact on workforce readiness and economic growth.

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 in the contract?

Funds will be returned if delivery and performance measures are not met.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No



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No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

Yes, Applied

Yes, Received

No

No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

18. 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**



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e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.