

The Florida Senate Local Funding Initiative Request Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1298

2. Senate Sponsor Nick DiCeglie

3. Date of Request 2/10/2025

4. Project/Program Description

This proposal outlines a transformation of the TAP program designed to further bridge the skills gap by offering scholarships and training opportunities to individuals transitioning into or advancing their careers. This program creates a strong manufacturing workforce by providing access to standardized training. Recruitment of the next generation of workers will include unemployed/under-employed, veterans, ex-offenders, high school students, adult-ed (GED) and individuals in career transition or seeking career enhancement. High-demand fields, such as aerospace, advanced technology, logistics, and aviation mechanics will be emphasized within the program. The talent attraction component will spotlight Florida's Space Coast manufacturing companies as a desirable pathway for growing a career; further ensuring this industry remains robust, innovative, and economically vital.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

Department of Commerce

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	400,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	400,000

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)	400,000	87%	
Matching Funds			
Federal	0	0%	
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%	
Local	60,000	13%	
Other	0	0%	
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	460,000	100%	

8. Has this project previously received state funding? If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year	Amo	ount	Specific	Vetoed	
(уууу-уу)	Recurring	Nonrecurring	Appropriation #		
2024-25	0	225,000	1271	No	

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

Yes 400,000

Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

Local community, corporate, and private sponsorships would be required.



Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. S	tatus of Constr	uction				
a.	What is the cur	rrent phase of the	e project?			
	O Planning	🔵 Design	Construction	🔘 N/A		
b.	Is the project "	shovel ready" (i.e	e permitted)?			
c.	What is the est	imated start date	of construction?			
d.	What is the est	timated completion	on date of construe	ction?		
e.	What funding s	stream will be use	ed for ongoing ope	erations a	nd maintenance of	the project?

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.

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	TAP Program execution and oversight.	80,000			
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	Image and Attraction Campaign and Talent Recruitment Marketing Campaign. Provide 70 scholarships for industry certifications and skills training, Career exposure, work experience, and Manufacturing Career Awareness Programs.	230,000			
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Community Engagement. Promote Manufacturing Skills Training in region. Industry Expert consultant. Talent Attraction Marketing Consultant. Web Site Maintenance / Management / Enhancements.	90,000			
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:					
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0			
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)					

13. Program Performance

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



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By addressing workforce shortages in critical sectors, the program will drive local economic growth and improve regional competitiveness. It will empower individuals, particularly those from underrepresented groups to secure stable, well-paid careers. The cascading effects—higher incomes, reduced unemployment, and stronger local economies—will benefit Brevard County, and the state of Florida, for decades to come.

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

This initiative is built around three interconnected components: scholarships and training, incumbent worker upskilling, and apprenticeship pathways. Each element has been designed to address workforce gaps while promoting inclusivity, innovation, and community impact.

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

Scholarships for Training and Certification, Skill Development Opportunities, Incumbent Worker Upskilling, Apprenticeship Pathways, and Career Transition Support.

These services aim to reduce the regional skills gap, improve career opportunities for residents, and support the growth of the local manufacturing industry.

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

The project is designed to serve a diverse target population, including the unemployed, under-employed, veterans, exoffenders, individuals in career transition or seeking career enhancement, non-college-bound youth, GED students, and incumbent manufacturing workers. It aims to provide a minimum of 70 individuals with scholarships that give access to skills-based training, which will pave the way for career advancement opportunities.

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

The project's goal is to establish a talent pipeline that not only meets the demands of the local industry but also facilitates career advancement for the target population, enabling them to excel in a high-wage, high-tech sector.

Quarterly reports on the number of individuals served and details about outreach efforts. This monitoring will enable ongoing assessment and adaptation of strategies to ensure the project's success in meeting both industry demands and individual career goals.

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?

The appropriation will be a cost reimbursement grant in which the penalty for non-performance will be forfeiture of payment.

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 infastructure)

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

□ 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	Lynda	Last Name	Weatherman
b. Organization	Economic Development C	commission c	f Florida's Space Coast
c. E-mail Address	lweatherman@spacecoastedc.org		
d. Phone Number	(321)638-2000	Ext.	

18. Recipient Contact Information

- a. Organization Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast
 b. Municipality and County Brevard
- c. Organization Type
 - □For Profit Entity

□Non Profit 501(c)(3)

□Non Profit 501(c)(4)

Local Entity

□University or College

Ø Other (please specify) Non-Profit 501 (c) (6)



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d. First Name	Sheila	Last Name	Poland		
e. E-mail Address	spoland@spacecoastedc.org				
f. Phone Number	(321)638-2000	Ext.			
19. Lobbyist Contact Information					
a. Name	Barney T Bishop III				
b. Firm Name	Barney Bishop Consulting	g LLC			
c. E-mail Address	Barney@BarneyBishop.co	om			
d. Phone Number	(850)510-9922				

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