



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1507

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The requested funds will develop the Agricultural Business Associate certification, aligning with Florida's CTE standards and the Principles of Agribusiness course (8009120) to support. The program will create an industry-aligned exam, comprehensive curriculum, and teacher resources to prepare students for roles like Accounting and Financial Clerk. This initiative addresses workforce demand, enhances CTE instruction, and supports financial literacy.

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	185,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>185,000</b>

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)	185,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>185,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.

**Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects**



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**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)?**

**c. What is the estimated start date of construction?**

**d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?**

**e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and 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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Compensation for leadership managing the coordination of program activities and deliverables.	10,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel expenses for stakeholders to attend collaboration meetings, teacher focus groups, and industry engagement events.	5,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Fees for contracted services related to industry engagement, teacher focus groups, and curriculum development with collaborating partners, including FFBF, AEST, and the Center for Ag Education, ensuring program development.	45,000
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Compensation for partner organizations supporting exam and curriculum development efforts.	30,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Technology tools, resources, and materials for curriculum and certification exam development.	10,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Consulting for exam alignment, curriculum development, and materials refinement with industry and teacher input.	85,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>185,000</b>

**13. Program Performance**

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

The goals to be achieved through the funds requested are to improve agricultural promotion and education, to improve the quality of education, to increase and improve economic activity, to create specific immediate job opportunities, and to enhance a specific individual's economic self-sufficiency. These goals will be met through the development of the Agricultural Business Associate certification, creation of an industry-aligned exam with comprehensive curriculum and teacher resources to prepare students for roles like Accounting and Financial Clerk.



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

The funds will support developing the Agricultural Business Associate certification and resources. Activities include consulting industry experts to design exam standards, creating a curriculum aligned with the Principles of Agribusiness course, and developing exam materials. Teachers and industry experts will review draft materials to ensure alignment with both classroom and industry needs.

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

The funding will support the creation of resources that will benefit Florida's CTE teachers and students. Direct services include the development of a comprehensive curriculum, exam prep materials, and industry-aligned certification standards. Teachers will access pilot resources for review, ensuring materials meet workforce needs for future implementation.

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

The target population served by this project includes jobless persons, economically disadvantaged persons, at-risk youth, high school students, and university or college students. We are expecting to serve over 1,000 students across Florida.

**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 create the Agricultural Business Associate certification framework, including a standards-aligned curriculum focused on agribusiness management and economics concepts. The framework will be assessed through progress tracking on developing certification objectives, curriculum modules, and real-world application examples as well as through feedback from agribusiness experts and teachers involved in pilot reviews. The curriculum will be evaluated for both quality and alignment of curriculum drafts based on detailed reviews by educators, alignment with FL DOE standards, and iterative feedback from teacher focus groups and consultants.

**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?**

Imposing performance improvement plan, implementing an additional project manager, requiring additional quality control measures.

**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
- No, but intends to apply



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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) 501(c) (5)

d. First Name  Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number  Ext.



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#### 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.*