



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1690

1. Project Title
2. Senate Sponsor
3. Date of Request

**4. Project/Program Description**

The Build Jacksonville Initiative (BJI) Pilot Program addresses Jacksonville's critical construction labor shortage by providing pathways to stable employment for undeserved populations, including individuals exiting jail or prison, high school dropouts, and at-risk youth. This program offers free training, industry-recognized certifications, job placement services, and wraparound support to ensure success in the construction field. BJI will collaborate with local construction companies, educational institutions, and community organizations to provide the necessary skills for high-demand construction roles. By leveraging ARPA and WIOA funding, the program will foster job creation and contribute to Jacksonville's economic recovery while supporting workforce development for individuals facing significant barriers to employment.

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	650,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	100,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>750,000</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)	750,000	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>750,000</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.



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1690

The Build Jacksonville Initiative (BJI) Pilot Program can be supported through several funding sources in lieu of state funding, including:  
 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): Designated for economic recovery, ARPA funds can support training, certifications, and job placement services.  
 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA): Provides funding for workforce development and job training for individuals facing employment barriers.  
 Private and Corporate Sponsorships: Local business

## 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?

01/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2026

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

Ongoing operations and maintenance of the project will be funded through Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds, ARPA funding, and private partnerships with local businesses and organizations. These sources will support long-term sustainability, job training, and workforce development

### 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 owner of the facility will be the Jacksonville Black Chamber of Commerce.  
 Relationship: The Jacksonville Black Chamber of Commerce will own and oversee the facility, ensuring it operates as a community resource for workforce development. The Chamber is the entity responsible for the implementation and maintenance of the project, working in collaboration with local businesses, community organizations, and construction partners to ensure the long-term success of the initiative.

### 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	This will fund the salary and benefits of the Executive Director or Project Head who will oversee project management, team coordination, and ensure the successful execution of project deliverables.	80,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Allocated for salaries and benefits for additional project staff members responsible for research, coordination, outreach, and project support.	150,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	This category includes costs for necessary equipment, supplies, and travel related to project implementation, ensuring staff and materials are available for the successful execution of activities.	90,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	These funds will be used to hire external consultants or experts for specialized support, including studies, evaluations, and technical services necessary for the project.	100,000



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

**LFIR # 1690**

<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits	These funds will be used to cover the salaries and benefits of staff working on the operational aspects of the project. This includes administrative support, accounting, and logistics coordination required to keep the project running smoothly.	90,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	This category includes costs for necessary equipment, supplies, and travel related to project implementation, ensuring staff and materials are available for the successful execution of activities.	70,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	These funds will be used to hire external consultants or experts for specialized support, including studies, evaluations, and technical services necessary for the project	70,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	This allocation will cover land acquisition, planning, and engineering services required for construction or renovation aspects of the project.	100,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>750,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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

The funds requested will be used to address Jacksonville’s construction labor shortage by providing training, certifications, and job placement services for undeserved populations, including individuals exiting jail or prison, high school dropouts, and at-risk youth. The specific goal is to equip these individuals with the skills needed for high-demand construction jobs, facilitating stable employment, economic recovery, and long-term workforce development in Jacksonville. These funds will ensure the success of the Build Jacksonville Initiative (BJI) Pilot Program, creating lasting impact in both the community and local economy.

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

To meet the intended purpose of these funds, the following activities and services will be provided:  
**Construction Training and Certification:** Participants will receive hands-on training in high-demand construction skills, along with industry-recognized certifications to ensure they are job-ready.  
**Job Placement Services:** The program will connect participants with local construction companies and help them secure stable employment in the field.  
**Mentorship and Support:** Participants will receive mentorship and wraparound support services, including career counseling, life skills training, and job retention assistance to ensure long-term success.  
**Partnerships with Local Organizations:** Collaboration with local construction companies, educational institutions, and community organizations to provide the necessary resources and opportunities for workforce development.  
 These services will work together to create clear career pathways for undeserved populations

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

The direct services provided to citizens by the appropriation project will include:  
**Free Construction Training:** Participants will receive hands-on training in key construction skills, such as carpentry, electrical work, plumbing, and safety protocols.  
**Industry Certifications:** Participants will earn certifications recognized by the construction industry, increasing their employability and job prospects.  
**Job Placement Assistance:** The program will connect participants with local construction employers, helping them secure stable, long-term employment opportunities.  
**Mentorship and Support:** Each participant will receive individualized mentorship, career coaching, and life skills training to support their transition into the workforce and ensure job retention.  
**Wraparound Support Services:** Additional resources, including transportation assistance, childcare, and personal development support, will be available to help participants overcome barriers to employment.

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



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

**LFIR # 1690**

The target population served by this project includes:  
 Individuals aged 18 and older, particularly those facing significant barriers to employment, such as:  
 Individuals exiting jail or prison (re-entry population)  
 High school dropouts  
 At-risk youth with limited career pathways  
 Undeserved and high-risk individuals from low-income communities  
 Children in alternative schools who are nearing the age of 18 and about to age out of the school system, with no clear pathway to stable employment.  
 The project aims to serve 150-200 individuals in its pilot phase, providing them with the necessary training, certifications, job placement assistance, and wraparound support to secure stable employment in the construction industry.

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

The BJI Pilot Program will reduce Jacksonville's construction labor shortage by providing undeserved populations with the skills and certifications needed for stable, long-term employment in the construction industry. This will drive economic recovery and create an inclusive workforce.  
 Methodology for Measuring Outcomes:  
 Enrollment & Completion Rates: Track the number of participants enrolled and successfully completing training.  
 Job Placement: Measure the percentage of participants securing employment within 6 months of completion.  
 Retention: Monitor job retention rates one year after placement.

**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?**

Suggested penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures may include:  
 Reduction in Funding: Decrease in project funds if milestones are not met.  
 Withholding Payments: Payments delayed until compliance is demonstrated.  
 Extended Reporting: Increased frequency of progress reports.  
 Termination of Contract: Potential contract termination for significant non-compliance.  
 Liquidated Damages: Financial penalties for delays.  
 Ineligibility for Future Funding: Disqualification from future funding opportunities.  
 These penalties ensure accountability and project success.

**14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?**

**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

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



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1690

**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**

**e. E-mail Address**

**f. Phone Number**  **Ext.**

**19. Lobbyist Contact Information**



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1690

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.*