



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1762

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

4. Project/Program Description

To revert and appropriate \$650,000 approved in the 2024 budget (line 355) Feeding Florida Produce Incentives to Support Rural Retailers (SF-1433/HR-1936) supported by DACS, which would provide produce incentives statewide, so the Feeding Florida can administer the funds.

Feeding Florida’s produce incentive program, Fresh Access Bucks (FAB), would like to expand their produce initiative to help bring fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables to the under-resourced and rural communities that need it most. The expansion of FAB would create a 1:1 match of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits when buying fresh produce at specified retail locations. These grocers would be trained in the disbursement, control and redemption of these dollars in order to ensure proper utilization of the funding. As evidenced by pilot versions of this program, the increase in demand for fresh produce would also create an increase in supply and the economic benefit to the retailers.

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	0
Total State Funds Requested	650,000

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)	650,000	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 2025-2026	650,000	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		
2024-25	0	1,000,000	355	No

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.**



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Feeding Florida currently has a \$4M federal GusNIP grant for this project however those funds limit the number of retail outlets that can operate the program. These funds will allow for expansion in the retail market with a focus on under-resourced and rural Florida communities.

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)?

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
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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Over the course of one year, SNAP Nutrition Incentives will be distributed as a \$1:\$1 match to fresh produce model with a \$20 match cap, while closely monitoring redemption rates and analyzing data. If at any point, this model becomes unsustainable, FF will shift to a \$10 match cap until funding is exhausted. This projected amount is based on historical analyses of retail SNAP transactions.	650,000
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)		650,000

13. Program Performance



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

To revert and appropriate \$650,000 approved in the 2024 budget (line 355) Feeding Florida Produce Incentives to Support Rural Retailers (SF-1433/HR-1936) supported by DCF, which would provide produce incentives statewide, so the Feeding Florida can administer the funds. Finding a way to incentivize healthy food consumption by food insecure Floridians is a critical part of supporting and enhancing our state. Hundreds of studies agree that nutritional food can help prevent any number of health issues and food as medicine is widely recognized as good for all communities. The goal is to improve the overall health of the most vulnerable population of our state by increasing access to affordable fresh produce in under-served and rural communities while also supporting Florida's farmers and enhancing local economies.

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

The team will be working in conjunction with the retail operational teams around the state to ensure that their customers are aware of the program and the extent of the available benefits. Training on all aspects of the program will be provided.

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

Citizens utilizing SNAP benefits will have immediate access to the supplemental funds expressly for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables from participating retail locations.

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

The target population is the food insecure customer base of the retail outlets that will be offering the program. Based on historical transaction data, it is expected that over 40,000 people will participate in this program and obtain fresh, healthy food to supplement their SNAP spend.

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

The expected benefit is to allow for food insecure Floridians participating in the SNAP program to obtain healthy food in a dignified manner. It is expected that this will improve the health conditions of these citizens. All transactions involving SNAP spend, incentive issuance and incentive redemption will be constantly monitored. This ensures the integrity of the funding issuance process and that all funds were spent as indicated.

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?

Feeding Florida can provide documentation on all transactions for each fiscal period. This would include the amount of funding provided to each recipient and the amount of funding redeemed or utilized at each retail site. FF will work to accommodate any data format that is acceptable to the state. This data can be submitted at requested intervals during the fiscal year and should the data be deemed insufficient during the year, the remainder of unconsumed funds would be returned and the program would be discontinued.

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



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- 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 **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



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Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

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.