



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2087

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

SFSC seeks to create a multi-use driving training facility for the tri-county area to support law enforcement, logistical and commercial driving, electrical line worker, emergency vehicle operations to include fire and EMS, and public school transportation. This will not only provide skills needed for high-wage positions for the unemployed and underemployed in our community but also support the logistical transportation needs of Florida businesses.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	3,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,500,000

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)	3,500,000	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	3,500,000	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.

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)? No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction? 07/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction? 06/30/2026

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

South Florida State College is committed to maintaining the facility and providing ongoing operations.

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.

SFSC will be the primary owner of the Driver Training Facility.

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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	State-of-the-art driving course with approved FDLE lighting, DOT traffic signals, and additional critical incident training in Highlands County for night classes and collaborative workspaces, to include contracted services for construction. Proposed location will be on the SFSC Highlands Campus.	3,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,500,000

13. Program Performance

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

SFSC seeks to create a multi-use driver training facility to support law enforcement, commercial driving, electrical line workers, emergency vehicle operations (EMS and fire), and public school transportation. This will provide the skills needed for high-wage positions for unemployed and underemployed in our community while supporting the transportation needs of Florida businesses. The tri-county region served by SFSC is deemed economically disadvantaged.

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



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SFSC will provide training and testing for Class A, B, and C commercial driver's licenses, passenger endorsement, and law enforcement defensive driving. This driving course will provide introductory driving skills and refresher emergency vehicle operations, as well as instruction on traffic safety measures on inner and outer perimeters.

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

Citizens will benefit by receiving training necessary for employment in commercial vehicle driver's licensing, law enforcement, line worker, and public school transportation. Students and employees will gain experience through classroom settings, hands-on training, and practical experiences to include basic skills, backing maneuvers, high-speed pursuit driving, and on-the-road experience.

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

The target population to be served includes unemployed and underemployed residents in the College's service district, students in the College's commercial vehicle driving, electrical line worker programs, and law enforcement training, as well as local businesses seeking qualified and certified drivers. The number of individuals directly served is estimated at 401-800 annually who, in turn, will be able to positively impact not only our local, but the Florida economy.

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 of the project is to provide a realistic and enhanced educational setting to meet the needs of our growing economy and distribution needs of our economically disadvantaged tri-county area and throughout the state. The primary outcome of the project is the expansion and retention of the number of highly qualified and resilient certified drivers. Quantitative and qualitative methods will be utilized to measure the program's impact. The number of individuals served by the driver training facility's educational offerings will be documented in addition to employer and student state certifications.

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 penalty for failure to establish the driver training facility would be related to returning funds not utilized for the stated expenditures.

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#:



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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

a. Name



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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.