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

LFIR # 2552

Project Title	First Coast Technical College - Firefighter & EMT Program Enhancement/Expansion	
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2. Senate Sponsor Thomas Leek

3. Date of Request 2/19/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The funding from this request will go to First Coast Technical College and be used to increase the number of students that FCTC can serve with its Firefighter/EMT program. In 2024, the program served 105 students, but were unable to serve 85 additional applicants dues to lack of equipment. Funds will also replace outdated technology and furniture providing students with a modern classroom learning environment.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

Department of Education

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	760,285
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	760,285

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)	760,285	39%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,200,000	61%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	1,960,285	100%

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

Fiscal Year	Amount		Specific	Vetoed	
(уууу-уу)	Recurring Nonrecurring		Appropriation #		
Is future-year funding likely to be requested?			No		
a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.					
b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in l			eu of state funding		

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

No

	Loc	The Flori cal Funding I Fiscal Yea	nitiati	ive Request		LFIR # 2552
10. Status of Constr a. What is the cu		ne project?				
O Planning	🔵 Design	Construction	O N/A			
b. Is the project '	'shovel ready" (i	i.e permitted)?				
c. What is the es	timated start dat	e of construction?				
d. What is the es	timated complet	ion date of construc	ction?			
e. What funding	stream will be us	sed for ongoing ope	rations 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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	Purchase of modern Breathing Apparatuses for Firefighter Training including: 33 MSA G-1 SCBA Breathing Apparatuses, 48 SCBA Bottles, and 96 MSA G-1 SCBA Masks. Purchase of Personal Protective Equipment for Additional Instructors. Purchase of 1 RIT Pack Emergency Air Supply System Purchase of 60 computers to replace outdated computers and increase the number of student stations in the firefighter/EMT program. Purchase of the associated furniture for the additional student computer stations.	760,285
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Majo	r Renovation:	
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (m	ust equal total from question #6)	760,285

13. Program Performance

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

Increase the number of students that FCTC can serve with its Firefighter/EMT program. In 2024, the program served 105 students, but were unable to serve 85 additional applicants dues to lack of equipment. Funds will also replace outdated technology and furniture providing students with a modern classroom learning environment.



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

Training for Firefighters/EMTs to serve in St. Johns County and surrounding areas. The population of Northeast Florida continues to increase, resulting in the need for additional Firefighters and EMTs. The funds will increase the number of students FCTC's Public Safety Campus can serve, benefiting citizens of the community.

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

The available seats in FCTC's Firefighter/EMT program will increase to serve additional applicants. Equipment and classroom limitations have the acceptance rate at 55%, these additional resources will greatly increase that rate.

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

101-200 college/university students, and jobless persons are expected to be served with this project.

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

be measured?

The project is expected to improve quality of education, by allowing FCTC's Firefighter/EMT program to be able to serve additional applicants. Public Safety Campus students will benefit from a modern learning environment. This will be measured by tracking the number of students completing FCTC Public Safety Campus programs. The project is expected to protect the general public from harm by providing for additional trained firefighters/EMTs to fill workforce vacancies in St. Johns and surrounding counties. To measure this, the number of firefighters/EMTs earning certification through FCTC will be tracked.

The project will enhance specific individual's economic self sufficiency by training certified firefighters/EMTs which are in demand in the local area. These careers offer high paying jobs with great benefits.

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?

Reduction in state funding not to exceed 7.5% of total state contribution.

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#:



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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	Tim	Last Name	Forson
b. Organization	St. Johns County School I	District	
c. E-mail Address	tim.forson@stjohns.k12.fl.	us	
d. Phone Number	(904)547-7502	Ext.	

18. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization	First Coast Technical College
a. Organization	First Coast Technical College

b. Municipality and County Saint Johns

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	Dan	Last Name	Talbert
e. E-mail Address	daniel.talbert@fctc.edu		
f. Phone Number	(904)547-3540	Ext.	

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

Wendy M. Dodge



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b. Firm Name	The Southern Group	
c. E-mail Address	dodge@thesoutherngroup.com	
d. Phone Number	(863)838-3632	

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