

LFIR # 2564

Project Title Senate Sponsor	for High Schools Thomas Leek		akeoff: Rural Aviation	n STEM Program	
3. Date of Request	2/11/2025				
4. Project/Program De	<u> </u>				
Engineering STEM a that are plagued by	academy with clear unfilled professiona Jniversity Space Re	alignment from K-1 I positions. This pro esearch Consortium	aram would serve as	order to meet the de a feeder program to	emands of service areas
5. State Agency to re-	ceive requested fu	nds Departm	ent of Education		
State Agency conta	acted? No				
6. Amount of the Non	recurring Request	for Fiscal Year 20	25-2026		
Type of Funding			Amo	unt	1
Operating				337,200	
Fixed Capital Outlay				0	
Total State Funds	Requested			337,200	
7. Total Project Cost f	or Fiscal Year 202	5-2026 (including	matching funds ava	ilable for this proje	ect)
Type of Funding			Amount	Percentage	
Total State Funds R	equested (from que	estion #6)	337,200	89%	
Matching Funds			Т		
Federal			0	0%	
State (excluding the	amount of this requ	uest)	0	0%	
Local			43,000	11%	
Other			0	0%	
Total Project Costs	s for Fiscal Year 20)25-2026	380,200	100%	
8. Has this project pro If yes, provide the	•	•	No		
Fiscal Year		ount	Specific 4	Vetoed	
(уууу-уу)	Recurring	Nonrecurring	Appropriation #		
9. Is future-year fund	ing likely to be req	uested?	No		
a. If yes, indicate n	onrecurring amou	nt per year.			
• .	· ·		iou of state funding		
b. Describe the SO	urce of funding tha	at can be used in II	ieu of state funding.	· 	
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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

	"shovel ready" (stimated start da	(i.e permitted)? In the of construction?		
		etion date of construc	tion?	
. What funding	stream will be u	ised for ongoing oper	ations and mainten	ance of the project?

12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Project Head portion of salary	33,720
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	Start up costs for equipment and supplies for the aviation academy including aviation supplies, simulators and travel expenses for students.	103,480
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contract services for flight hours for students as well as aviation instruction and training.	200,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Majo	r Renovation:	
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (m	ust equal total from question #6)	337,200

13. Program Performance

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

The goal is to create an Aviation Engineering Academy to be located at Jr.-Sr. High Schools in Putnam County with clear alignment from K-12 to the workforce in order to meet the demands of service areas that are plagued by unfilled professional positions. This program would serve as a feeder program for Florida University Space Research Consortium, a partnership between KSC, the University of Florida, University of Central Florida and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.



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

A 7th-12th grade Aviation Engineering Academy will be located in Putnam County and will include courses in general aviation in conjunction with the Florida University Space Research Consortium / Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University as well as Florida State standards. Equipment and supplies will be purchased to start the program as well as flight hours and travel.

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

Students will be trained in the high-demand aviation field so that students are prepared to enter postsecondary programs and the workforce, meeting the professional needs of Putnam County and the Space Coast area of Florida

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?	
Approximately 401 - 800 students will be highly trained to fill the aviation needs.	

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

The expected outcome is that students will attain industry certification and/or credit in high-demand service areas aligned to State of Florida career and technical pathways and Embry-Riddle aeronautics standards.

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?

The contracting agency may consider asking for financial reimbursement if students are not enrolled in the academy

du	ıring a three year period.
14. Is 1	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. N	lame of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):
15. Ha	s 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#:
b. P	rovide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:



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16. Has the entity app	lied for or received state	assistance f	or this projec	t (other tha	n this request)?
☐ Yes, Applied					
☐ Yes, Received					
□ No					
☐ No, but intends t	o apply				
a. If yes, specify th	e program and state ager	ncy (ex. Loca	al Governmen	t Emergenc	y Bridge Loan, Department of
Commerce):					
17. Requester Contact	t Information				_
a. First Name	Cathleen	Last Name	Holzknecht		
b. Organization	Education Foundation of F	Putnam Cour	ity		
c. E-mail Address	cholzknecht@gotgamepro	ducts.com			
d. Phone Number	(386)983-4395	Ext.			
18. Recipient Contact					
a. Organization	Education Foundation of F	outnam Cour	ity	1	
b. Municipality and	d County Putnam				
c. Organization Ty	pe				
□For Profit Entity					
☑Non Profit 501(d	c)(3)				
□Non Profit 501(d	c)(4)				
□Local Entity					
□University or Co	llege				
□Other (please sp	pecify)				
d. First Name	Cathleen	Last Name	Holzknecht		
e. E-mail Address	cholzknecht@gotgamepro	oducts.com			
f. Phone Number	(386)983-4395	Ext.			
19. Lobbyist Contact I	nformation				
a. Name	None				
b. Firm Name					
a E mail Address]	



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d. Phone Number	

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