



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2675

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Advanced Sacred Hope Academy is launching a vocational training and employment initiative designed to transition our neurodiverse students, including individuals on the autism spectrum, into sustainable employment opportunities. This program will integrate a handcrafted soap and bath bomb business that provides structured skill-building, hands-on work experience, and financial self-sufficiency for participants as they prepare to enter the workforce. This project is a community-driven initiative that fosters economic and social inclusion. By leveraging the growing demand for artisanal, eco-friendly products, this initiative will empower neurodiverse individuals to develop critical workforce skills, gain employment experience, and enhance their independence while also contributing to the local economy.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

**State Agency contacted?**  No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	45,800
Fixed Capital Outlay	40,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>85,800</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)	85,800	30%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	196,300	70%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>282,100</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**  No

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?**  No

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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## 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?

04/01/2026

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

Project will eventually self fund. In the interim, the project will receive supplemental income from Advanced Sacred Hope Academy and Advanced Behavioral Health Analysis when required.

### 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 facility located at 106 Racetrack Rd is owned by Ziad (Mike) Mubarak. Advanced Sacred Hope Academy will occupy the location on a 10 year lease and have the option to purchase at the conclusion of the lease.

### 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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	This funding will be used to purchase start up supplies such as molds, presses, scales, ventilation hoods, shelving and bins, packaging tables and supplies, shipping supplies, point of sale equipment and inventory systems, signage, fire safety equipment, and the raw materials for items produced and sold.	45,800
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	This funding will be used for ventilation system install, flooring, walls and partitions, additional electric and lighting, and plumbing modifications.	40,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>85,800</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



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The funds requested will be used to establish and operate a handcrafted soap and bath bomb business within Advanced Sacred Hope Academy, creating a structured vocational training and employment program for neurodiverse students. This initiative will: 1) Provide hands-on work experience and skill development in a supportive environment. 2) Empower neurodiverse individuals to achieve greater independence and prepare for future employment opportunities. 3) Generate a sustainable revenue stream to support the academy's educational programs and long-term financial stability. 4) Foster community engagement and social inclusion by connecting customers with a meaningful cause and promoting awareness of neurodiverse capabilities. This approach not only equips participants with valuable life and job skills but also integrates them into the local economy, thereby enhancing their quality of life and contributing to societal inclusion.

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

The initiative will offer business and entrepreneurial education, training participants in inventory management, packaging, sales, and customer service, along with financial literacy and small business management workshops. Employment and workforce development will also be a core component, ensuring structured employment opportunities for students both during and after their education while helping them build transferable skills for future job opportunities. The funds will also support product development and market expansion, enabling the business to design and launch new product lines, including soaps, bath bombs, body scrubs, and gift sets, while expanding sales through local markets, community events, and an e-commerce platform. Furthermore, the initiative will emphasize community engagement and inclusion by partnering with local businesses, organizations, and influencers to support the program and raise awareness about neurodiversity and employment inclusion through storytelling.

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

By integrating training, employment, and entrepreneurship, the project ensures that neurodiverse individuals receive meaningful support that enhances their independence, economic self-sufficiency, and overall well-being. At the same time, the community as a whole will gain from a workforce that is better prepared, educated, and equipped to contribute to the local economy.

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

The target population served by this project consists primarily of neurodiverse individuals, particularly those on the autism spectrum, who require vocational training and employment opportunities to transition successfully into the workforce. The program is designed to support students at Advanced Sacred Hope Academy by equipping them with essential job skills, hands-on experience, and financial independence. Additionally, families of neurodiverse individuals, local businesses, and the broader community will benefit from increased awareness and inclusion of neurodiverse workers in the local economy. The project is expected to directly serve approximately 50 individuals annually.

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

The project's success will be measured through a combination of qualitative and quantitative methodologies. Key performance indicators will include the number of individuals enrolled and trained in the program, the number of participants who secure employment either within the business or in external jobs, and the total revenue generated by product sales to support the sustainability of the initiative. Surveys and feedback from program participants, their families, and local businesses will provide insight into the effectiveness of training and skill development. Community engagement will be tracked through partnerships, outreach efforts, and participation in local events.

**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 suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider, in addition to its standard penalties, for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures include requiring a corrective action plan to address deficiencies and establish a timeline for compliance.

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)



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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#:**

**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



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- 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

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.*