



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2694

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

4. Project/Program Description

AMI, in partnership with Gulf Coast State College, will establish Industry 4.0 learning pathways for traditional and non-traditional learners that prepare them to meet the workforce challenges of the regional manufacturing community. Focus areas will include advanced, robotic, and autonomous welding, combined with the use of AI tools across this spectrum. These technologies and adjacent technologies are in high demand today with an expected growth curve in the future. The applied skill sets lead to high paying, fulfilling, family sustaining jobs that will have significant local and regional economic impact.

Florida has a goal to attract and increase manufacturing across the state. To reach this goal it is necessary for the workforce to be more productive. Florida has lagged behind the national average in productivity for many years. Advanced technology training has the greatest potential impact related to increasing productivity of the workforce.

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	2,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	2,000,000

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)	2,000,000	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	2,000,000	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.**



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State funding is necessary in this program. AMI is continuing to work with other organizations to provide additional funding for these programs. The outside funding will further enhance the program and not replace the need for state funding.

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	Project will be managed and led by the AMI team which has a proven record of delivering results within the career and technical education spaces in Florida. .	150,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Support personnel from the AMI finance, contracting, acquisition, and program management teams will be engaged.	150,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	On site travel as needed to ensure project excellence.	25,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	This effort will involve the procurement of manufacturing technology to be deployed at Gulf Coast State College. All necessary supporting equipment and delivery costs to be included in pricing.	1,100,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	AMI intends to engage the Bay County School District to deploy a Prime Program that has be piloted elsewhere in the state	575,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,000,000

13. Program Performance



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

AMI, in partnership with Gulf Coast State College, will help to prepare the community for the careers of tomorrow. Learners will learn these skills in a hands on environment where this knowledge is most easily consumed and retained.

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

Funds will be used for initial technology, software, and equipment purchases for the learning environment as well as the identification/creation of corresponding curricula. Other activities include partner recruitment, regional engagement, and PRIME School engagement.

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

It is intended that this funding pool will be used to support and partially underwrite camps and learning sessions for high school students and other populations. The learning sessions may be tied to industry recognized credentials that would immediately allow the learner to represent themselves as proficient within the defined subject area.

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

The target audience will come from both traditional and non-traditional student populations including undeserved communities, justice involved, and incumbent worker up-skilling. This adaptable program will promote micro-learning, credentialing, and conventional learning modules that can be delivered in both on-site and hybrid learning modalities.

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

Manufacturing wages and benefits are, on average, 21% higher than those in non-manufacturing jobs - with many not requiring a 4-year degree. Over 400,000 Floridians are employed in manufacturing with an average wage of \$61,735 – significantly above the state average. Providing advanced manufacturing skills to a previously unavailable workforce provides higher paying job opportunities to individuals in advanced manufacturing. Additionally, each added manufacturing job adds 6 to 7 ancillary jobs to a region.

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?

Penalties for failing to meet performance expectations shall include delay in invoice processing.

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
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply



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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
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.



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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.