



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2760

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

As owners of the historic Hotel Jacaranda, the South Florida State College (SFSC) Foundation seeks to upgrade critical components within the Hotel that are crucial to the continuation of services and operation. Funds will be used to prevent moisture intrusion with updates to the roof and drainage system, masonry repair, replacement of rooftop units, and installation of new ductwork from new units to existing ductwork on the roof.

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	950,000
Total State Funds Requested	950,000

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)	950,000	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	950,000	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)?

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?

SFSC Foundation is committed to the ongoing operations and maintenance of The Hotel Jacaranda. Through fundraising efforts and community support, we will continue addressing needs as they arise.

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 Foundation in partnership with SFSC.

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	Roof repairs with drainage updates, tuck pointing, sealing of brick and mortar with waterproofing sealant, replacement of wood frame windows and doors, reglazing and replacing windows, along with removal and replacement of two existing rooftop units, as well as furnish and install new control valves, specialties, and piping on the roof.	950,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		950,000

13. Program Performance

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

The Hotel Jacaranda provides space for testing and on-the-job training for Culinary students enrolled at South Florida State College, a dormitory for students enrolled at SFSC, functional hotel and restaurant, and leased spaces for businesses. Upgrades will provide necessary improvements to the emergent needs our students and citizens experience daily.



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

The Hotel Jacaranda is a 100-year-old historic hotel that is the centerpiece of downtown Avon Park and contains a restaurant, hotel, and commercial space that serves the community and provides classroom and dormitory space for SFSC students. Upgrades will provide necessary improvements to the emergent needs our citizens/guests and students experience daily.

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

The necessary improvements will ensure the safety and well-being of our citizens who will benefit through their dining experience, hotel stay, and patronage of the variety of commercial properties located within the Hotel. SFSC Culinary students will continue to advance their skills through the program offered at the Hotel. Student residents will experience improved living conditions.

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

Approximately 34,000 people visit the Hotel Jacaranda on an annual basis. This population includes elderly, local businesses, community members, visitors from out of the region/state/country, students, and children.

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

The necessary upgrades will ensure the Hotel Jacaranda will be able to sustain future issues and prolong its existence, allowing for it to remain in operation for generations to come. Increased tourism in the community provides additional revenue opportunities for the hotel.

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 revitalize the Hotel Jacaranda as requested would be related to the return of any funds not used for authorized 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



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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.