



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2995

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

4. Project/Program Description

The National Flight Academy will continue to innovate and inspire students in STEM fields by using funding from the State of Florida to maintain and expand the educational programs and opportunities through the unique Naval Aviation themed immersive experience on board the simulated training carrier AMBITION. Funding will be used to update and enhance existing programs and technology, maintain critical IT infrastructure and equipment and fund salaries for personnel vital to program delivery.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	650,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	650,000

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)	650,000	18%
Matching Funds		
Federal	1,691,000	47%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	100,000	3%
Other	1,159,400	32%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	3,600,400	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2024-25	0	521,500	105	No

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

NFA would need to solicit additional private donations and pursue other grant opportunities.

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2995

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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Funding will be used to achieve program objectives through staffing of key positions directly responsible for program planning, execution, continuity, management, curriculum development and maintenance	235,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funding will be used to support delivery of program objectives through the purchase of key equipment and program materials.	50,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contracted service providers will be used in the enhancement of existing programs, development of new material, printing of educational materials and required on site medical support. Consultant for evaluation of options for large technology refresh of simulators.	365,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		650,000

13. Program Performance

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

The goal of the National Flight Academy's program is to inspire and engage students in STEM fields through the delivery of immersive and innovative educational programs that highlight the value of various technical career pathways. The funds will be used to enhance and update existing programming and ensure the viability of technology that supports program delivery.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2995

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

The project will involve the delivery of existing program offerings aboard NFA's simulated aircraft carrier AMBITION. The existing programming will be updated and refreshed to maintain its position as a unique world class immersive experience ensuring Florida students are exposed to a wide range of career and technical fields. The immersive experience is meant to inspire and challenge students to explore further education and careers in STEM fields.

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

Educational program services will be provided to Florida students and teachers through this project.

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

The target population is middle school and high school students (ages 11-17). with an added focus on at risk youth. NFA anticipates serving in excess of 1700 students in FY25-26.

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

The National Flight Academy performs educational assessments on all students participating in the 6-day Deployment program. NFA utilizes these assessments to determine students baseline STEM knowledge at the beginning and end of the program week to measure retention of knowledge and effectiveness of instructional content. Pre and post test data are compiled and analyzed to check for improved outcomes each week. Data is also collected through alumni surveys in an effort to track NFA graduate educational and career aspirations and outcomes.

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?

In addition to penalties stipulated in the contract, contracting agency will not be considered for future contracts if they fail to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract.

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#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2995

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

a. Name

b. Firm Name



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2995

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.