



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3062

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Northwest Florida State College requests 10M to create a Workforce Innovation Training Center at its Niceville Campus to serve as a hub that directly links business and industry with high-performing workforce development training opportunities. This project supports Governor DeSantis's goal to become number 1 in the nation in workforce education by 2030 by ensuring that working-age adults have a high-value certificate, degree, or training experience.

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	10,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	10,000,000

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)	10,000,000	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	10,000,000	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.

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?

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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	To further develop the workforce talent pipeline, the College seeks funds to renovate an existing facility to support the Workforce Innovation Center. The facility (Building 320) is ideally located at the front entrance of the College's main campus in Niceville, Florida, providing a prominent, convenient, and accessible location.	10,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		10,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

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



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Providing employer services in partnership with CareerSource, opportunities to connect students and employers through recruitment events, job fairs, internships, military transitions. Provides for career education and workforce training in a variety of fields in the technology, real estate, education, and business management industries.

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

Short-Term IT Certificate Training, Industry-Based Continuing Education, Customized & Contracted Training, Small Business Development Center, Digital Badging, Virtual Reality/Simulations, and Synergistic Labs.

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

In the two counties served by NWFSC, Okaloosa and Walton, the number of jobs available from 2018 - 2023 increased by 13.4% from 139,961 to 158,700. This change outpaced the national growth rate of 4.5%. The area's unemployment rate sits at 3.23%, an increase from 2.81% five years prior. The Workforce Innovation Center will work to address these needs with certificates and training to meet the area workforce demands.

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

Providing short-term IT certificate training to serve a broad array of industry sectors impacted by technological developments, industry-based continuing education, and customized contracted training to address specific skills gaps and address competitive advantages through specialized training initiatives tailored to the needs of local employers. Measuring the number of certificates issued, continued education courses, and customized employee training.

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?

Failure to meet deliverables may result in return of funds to administering agency.

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

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

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



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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

c. 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.