



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3399

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Florida Advanced Technological Education Center (FLATE) is a state-wide center aimed at enhancing STEM education to meet the technician workforce needs of Florida's advanced manufacturing industries. The funds will support pipeline development, professional development for educators, and curriculum support. Activities include maintaining the Manufacturing Matters FL dashboard, developing STEM career curricula, and increasing college enrollment in manufacturing education. These efforts will benefit Florida's workforce and manufacturing sector.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	500,000	50%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	1,000,000	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.

In lieu of state funding, FLATE can seek federal grants from national programs such as the National Science Foundation (NSF) or the Department of Education.



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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)?

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	Curriculum development and support: All staff will directly work with the educational community, students, and teachers to support advanced manufacturing education and awareness in Florida. Working closely with Space FL, UF, and Cyber FL to develop and evaluate new and existing Engineering Technology and Manufacturing secondary and postsecondary programs. FLATE will provide direct technical assistance to school districts & colleges	198,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	FLATE will facilitate two statewide forums with manufacturing educators and industry to advance best practices and host a statewide manufacturing business advisory committee for advanced manufacturing programs. Funding will also be used to support outreach activities, professional development, and other resource for Florida's school districts, technical centers/colleges, and state colleges.	119,000



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Professional and Pipeline Development: FLATE will create Summer Institutes for high school teachers and college faculty to up-skill professional development with intensive hands-on manufacturing-related activities to increase instructors' skills in manufacturing. Regional Education Ambassadors will be deployed across Florida to provide enhanced local outreach to students teachers and parents. FLATE will develop Professional Development sessions that support manufacturing faculty recruitment.	183,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

13. Program Performance

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

The funds requested for the Florida Advanced Technological Education Center (FLATE) will achieve the goal of enhancing STEM education to meet the workforce needs of Florida's advanced manufacturing industries. Specifically, the funds will support pipeline development, professional development for educators, and curriculum support. These efforts aim to increase student enrollment in manufacturing education, improve the quality of education, and enhance the skills and knowledge of Florida's workforce, benefiting the state's manufacturing sector and overall economic growth.

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

The funds will support FLATE by maintaining the Manufacturing Matters FL dashboard (<https://fl-ate.org/dashboard>), developing STEM career curricula, increasing college enrollment in manufacturing education, offering professional development for educators, and providing curriculum support. These services aim to enhance the skills and knowledge of Florida's workforce, benefiting the manufacturing sector.

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

The funds will provide direct services to Florida citizens, including maintaining the Manufacturing Matters FL dashboard, developing STEM career awareness curricula, and increasing college enrollment in manufacturing education. The dashboard helps individuals understand demand for manufacturing jobs, top hiring companies, essential skills, as well as a resource on available programs to allow individuals to obtain the training and certifications needed to attain these careers. Additionally, FLATE offers professional development for educators, hands-on training, and curriculum support through the Engineering Technology forum, Manufacturing Month engagement activities and other programming. These services collectively enhance the skills and knowledge of Florida's workforce, benefiting the manufacturing sector and Florida's citizens.

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

The target population served by the FLATE project includes grade school students, high school students, university/college students, and economically disadvantaged persons. Approximately 20,000 students and thousands of educators are expected to benefit from the project, totaling over 30,000 individuals.

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

The FLATE project aims to improve STEM education quality and enhance Florida's workforce skills in advanced manufacturing.
 Methodology:

- Monitor student enrollment and completion rates.
- Track participation and feedback from professional development activities.
- Measure economic impact through surveys and financial reports.

Address identified skills gaps by building talent and recruitment pipeline strategies and scaling work-based learning and apprenticeship opportunities.

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?



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The contracting agency may consider the following penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures:

- Termination of Contract: Early termination of the contract and seeking alternative service providers.
- Non-Payment: Withholding payments for services not satisfactorily delivered or completed.

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:

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.



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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

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.