



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3494

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Fund a statewide law enforcement apprenticeship program already certified by the Florida Department of Education to recruit, select, train, certify and retain Florida deputies who lack the funds to attend a certified law enforcement academy with the State. This effort, while statewide, will focus primarily on fiscally constrained counties and areas of great need with the goal of building viable workforce for law enforcement in the State of Florida.

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	10,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
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?** Yes

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2024-25	0	750,000	1290	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** No

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	New Position: Program Administrator salary: \$50,000, Taxes \$4,500, Health Insurance \$18,000, Retirement \$2,500. FDSA anticipates a significant increase in administrative functions as the apprenticeship program gains in popularity. Through the pilot phase and a soft roll out, demand has increased and is anticipated to continuing a trend of utilization.	75,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Apprenti-scope Program Management Software. Computer, Phone, Travel Expenses, Workflow software.	11,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Salaries and benefits for an apprentice based on a base salary of \$48,300 and associated benefits for a FTE cost of \$81,497 annually. The apprenticeship period is projected to last approximately 9 months to include law enforcement academy and a field training program. This period's FTE cost for S/B is estimated to be \$61,123.20. Base salary is subject to change by agency.	7,925,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Each apprentice will need a minimum amount of equipment, IT expenses, and supplies to include but not limited to ballistic vest, firearms, ammunition, uniforms, BWC, laptop, software, cellphone, and other costs deemed necessary by each agency based on agency policy. FTEs will also require tuition. This cost is estimated to be \$15,224.97 per LEO but subject to change by agency.	1,988,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		10,000,000



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13. Program Performance

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

Fund a statewide law enforcement apprenticeship program already certified by the Florida Department of Education to recruit, select, train, certify and retain Florida deputies who lack the funds to attend a certified law enforcement academy within the State. This effort, while statewide, will focus primarily on fiscally constrained counties and areas of great need with a goal of building a viable workforce for law enforcement in the State of Florida.

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

Recruiting, vetting and training deputy sheriffs within the State of Florida. The long-term goal of this program is to support the mission of positioning the State of Florida as the safest state in the Union. As the state continues to grow, so must our law enforcement. This funding will enhance our ability to bolster a competent, highly trained workforce for years to come.

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

The program would identify Florida residents or those relocating to our state interested in serving fellow Floridians in law enforcement who lack the funding to attend a certified law enforcement academy. The program would allow the candidate to be recruited, trained, certified and hired with no cost to the candidate or the county sheriff for a specified period not to exceed 1 year.

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

This project is intended to serve the entire current Florida population and the over 137 million annual tourists who visit the great State of Florida. This project will also serve those who desire to call law enforcement their profession. Our state values low crime and strong law enforcement partnerships. This project invests in a workforce to support this mission for years to come.

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

Recruiting, vetting and training deputy sheriffs within the State of Florida. The long-term goal of this program is to support the mission of positioning the State of Florida as the safest state in the Union. As the state continues to grow, so must our law enforcement. This funding will enhance our ability to bolster a competent, highly trained workforce for years to come.

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?

Performance measures include having a full-time member of the FDSA staff implement, administer and monitor this program to include over-site on the recruitment, registration and monitoring of progress of identified candidates. Should failures to meet these measures arise, the candidate would be removed from the program.

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



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- 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.

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



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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.