



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3514

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

4. Project/Program Description

To introduce Middle School Students and Staff to Agriculture Technology with the use of Automated Farming Equipment. The FarmBot www.farm.bot. The Principal, Staff, Ag Department and FFA would like to combine Robotics and Farming as one to engage and inspire the next generation of farmers, engineers, plant scientist and coders.

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	250,000
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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)	250,000	83%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	50,000	17%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	300,000	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.
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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction



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Fiscal Year 2025-2026

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a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

09/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2028

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

Orange County Farm Bureau will contribute with materials and labor as requested by Agriculture Departments.

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.

Orange County Farm Bureau will receive the funds, then purchase all materials needed for the project. This is a cooperative project with Florida Farm Bureau, Orange County Farm Bureau, Orange County Public Schools, and Orange County FFA.

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	The purchase of over 40 Farmbots and the materials to build the planter boxes.	250,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

13. Program Performance

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

Will introduce all students in STEAM to the next chapter in Smart Agriculture.

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

Will provide the funding to purchase all the materials needed to build the Robotic Farm Bot Systems.

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



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Will provide a source of food for the local schools and community while teaching students and faculty the benefits of AI Farming.

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

Local Schools, Faculty and the surrounding communities. This will show everyone in these areas that farming can be done on a very small scale with very little physical labor required.

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

To show students in all STEAM related interest, that anyone can be a farmer and can do it in a very small space with AI. The outcome will be measured by the production of food to the local community and the interest that will be created in students that had no idea that farming can be done by Robots and AI.

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?

The return of all funds not used for the mission.

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



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Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3514

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

d. Phone Number

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