



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3170

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

SEU Trades is a pioneering initiative aimed at equipping students to become skilled professionals in trades such as construction technology, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, welding, diesel mechanics, advanced manufacturing, and project management. Recognizing the growing demand in these industries, we seek state appropriations to acquire cutting-edge equipment and fund initial salaries, ensuring our students receive top-tier, industry-standard training from experienced educators. This investment not only advances education but also drives economic growth and fortifies the future workforce of our region and our nation.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>750,000</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	750,000	83%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	150,000	17%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>900,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future 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.**

Private donor funds during the start-up phase could be potentially tapped until enrollment revenue reaches a sustainability point. However, that will decrease the overall number of graduates from the programs and substantially increase the timeline for the startup phase.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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Yes

**If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.**

We received \$29,713,739 of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds. SEU used \$12,899,701 directly to students while \$16,814,038 was used to write off student accounts, pay for pandemic related health, safety and security needs, and as lost revenue.

## Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

### 11. 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?

12. 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.

### 13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Two years of salary and benefits for a program director to oversee experiential education component of the curriculum. The Program director will also be responsible for overseeing and equipment and coordinate the students academic programs. Salaries and benefits will ultimately be sustained through revenue from enrollment, once target cohort goals are achieved.	173,042
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Training equipment for plumbing, HVAC, electrical, Diesel Mechanics, welding, and advanced manufacturing programs.	576,958
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>750,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance



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

The specific purpose or goal to be achieved by the funds requested is to establish a solid foundation for the SEUTrades program by acquiring state-of-the-art equipment essential for hands-on training across various trades and to fund the initial salaries of experienced educators. This investment ensures that students receive industry-standard training, positioning them as skilled professionals ready to meet the demands of trades-based industries in Central Florida.

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

To meet the intended purpose of the requested funds, the SEUTrades program will undertake the following activities and services:

**Acquisition of Equipment:** Procure state-of-the-art tools and machinery essential for hands-on training in trades such as construction technology, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, welding, diesel mechanics, and advanced manufacturing. This ensures students are trained using equipment that mirrors real-world industry standards.

**Hiring of Educators:** Recruit, hire, and onboard seasoned professionals and educators in the respective trades. Their expertise will be invaluable in delivering a curriculum that is both theoretical and practical, ensuring students are job-ready upon completion of the program.

**On-Site Trades Training:** Conduct hands-on lab classes and practical sessions for students.

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

The appropriation project for SEUTrades will provide the following direct services to citizens:

**Access to Quality Trades Education:** Citizens of West Central Florida will have the opportunity to enroll in a program offering comprehensive training in trades such as construction technology, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, welding, diesel mechanics, and advanced manufacturing.

**Hands-on Training:** Through state-of-the-art labs and equipment funded by the appropriation, students will benefit from practical, hands-on training, ensuring they are job-ready and equipped with relevant skills upon program completion.

**Employment Opportunities:** Graduates of SEUTrades will be highly skilled and trained, making them attractive candidates for employers in the trades industries, thus boosting employment opportunities within the region.

**Community Development:** As more citizens become skilled in these trades, the community will benefit from the availability of local professionals for infrastructure projects.

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

The primary target population for the SEUTrades program is individuals aged 18 to 25. However, the program also recognizes the value of re-skilling and is open to individuals of any age looking to transition into a trades field. With each specific trade program having the capacity to host cohorts of 15-20 new students annually, the SEUTrades initiative anticipates a potential total enrollment of 320 students once all programs are operational and cohort capacities are reached.

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

Expected Benefit or Outcome of the SEUTrades Project

**Skilled Workforce:** A notable increase in trained professionals in key trades, addressing the industry's demand within West Central Florida.

**Economic Growth:** The program's graduates will contribute to local economic growth through increased employment rates in trades-based industries.

**Re-skilling Opportunities:** Offering individuals of any age a pathway to transition into trades, ensuring adaptability in a changing job market.

**Methodology to Measure Outcomes**

**Enrollment and Graduation Rates:** Monitor the number of students enrolling in and graduating from the program to measure its reach and efficacy.

**Skill Assessment Tests:** Regular evaluations of students' skills through assessments to ensure the quality and relevance of 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 the contract?



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The suggested penalty that the contracting agency may consider, in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures stipulated in the contract, is the return of the funds to the State.

#### 15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name   
b. Organization   
c. E-mail Address   
d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 16. 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

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name   
b. Firm Name   
c. E-mail Address   
d. Phone Number