



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2032

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This program serves Florida's K-12 students and the aerospace industry ecosystem by helping fill the aerospace workforce gap, specifically at Kennedy Space Center. Our goal is to inspire students to pursue studies in STEM, to increase career awareness and access to career opportunities within the aerospace industry. Our goal is to prepare students in grades 9-12 to accept positions within the workforce after graduation. This will also provide the aerospace industry with prepared and highly skilled individuals from both academic and technical backgrounds.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?  Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	668,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	52,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>720,000</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)	720,000	65%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	170,000	15%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	227,700	20%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>1,117,700</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?  No

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

9. Is future 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.

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

Yes



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

The funds received were for the Paycheck Protection Plan (PPP), for employee retention during the pandemic. Programs at the AMF facility were shut down due to federal regulations. Details are listed below:  
 PPP1 of \$101,221.30 was disbursed on 28 Apr 2020, and was forgiven on 8 Mar 2021.  
 PPP2 of \$101,221.30 was disbursed on 05 Feb 2021, and was forgiven on 23 Nov 2021.

## 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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

08/01/2024

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

10/01/2024

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.

The facility (known as The Center for Space Education) is owned and operated by The Astronauts Memorial Foundation. The entity and facility owner are the same.

### 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	Operational costs include the salaries and benefits of three education specialists, education director, CTE interns, facilities support staff for classroom renovation and audio-video support staff for the program.	449,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Includes classroom technology and equipment upgrades for the program classrooms and common spaces, as well as materials for hands-on activities. Also includes travel funding allocation to bus participating students from their school district to Kennedy Space Center.	219,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Includes renovation to existing classrooms and common areas within The Center for Space Education.	52,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>720,000</b>



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#### 14. Program Performance

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

This program aims to serve over 25,000 students throughout the State of Florida. The funds requested will allow our team to expand the existing program infrastructure and serve more students. The goal is to significantly increase student's awareness of the space program, as well as career opportunities at Kennedy Space Center. Through this program, students will learn about current aerospace missions and initiatives, engage in hands-on activities, and interact with subject matter experts and industry professionals to learn a variety of career pathways for them to pursue.

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

K-12 students and educators work with STEM Education Specialists to engage in a full-day experience at Kennedy Space Center, including a 60-minute hands-on lesson. Students 9-12 will also attend educational and developmental programs at KSC for industry career awareness. Students will meet face-to-face with major aerospace organizations about internships, apprenticeships, and job opportunities.

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

Direct services include hands-on STEM activities, facilitated networking sessions, career panels, and one-to-one introductions to aerospace professionals and recruiters, including those hiring students from high school CTE programs. Students will also receive complimentary access to the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex, through partnership between The Astronauts Memorial Foundation and NASA.

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

The target audience is Florida students in grades K-12, across the state. The expected impact is over 25,000 students.

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

Outcome 1: This initiative seeks to Improve Quality of Education by increasing education of the aerospace industry missions and programs at Kennedy Space Center, and awareness and career preparedness, of participants by 80%. This program seeks to inspire students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math, and increase interest by >50%. This program also seeks to help educators bolster their space and STEM curriculum. Outcome 2: Students who attend career awareness and preparedness programs will interact with aerospace industry professionals, including existing workforce and human resources professionals or recruiters. We expect that their interactions result in an increase in immediate job offers (incl. internships, apprenticeships, careers). Methodology: Participants will be tracked quantitatively and qualitatively before and after participation in the program via survey. Participating space industry partners will also be surveyed.

**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?**

If this program fails to meet deliverables funding can be decreased incrementally and meetings with coordinators, the Foundation Board of Directors, and community stakeholders can be held to determine if corrective action is necessary. If corrective action is not considered a possibility, all funding can be removed.

#### 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**



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**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**