



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** Technology Foundation of the Americas – eMerge Conference

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Jeff Brandes

3. **Date of Submission:** 01/16/2018

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The eMerge Americas Conference is an annual 2-day international technology conference that takes place in Miami. The conference connects innovators and technological advancements to advance trade between Florida and emerging markets in Central, and South America. The funds will be expended promoting of the event, registration, speakers, etc.

5. **State Agency Contacted?** No

a. If yes, which state agency?

b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested?  
Department of Economic Opportunity

6. **Amount of Non-recurring Requested for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Amount Requested for Operations	Amount Requested for Fixed Capital Outlay	Total Amount of Requested State Funds
1,000,000		1,000,000

7. **Type, amount and percent of matching funds available for this project for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Type	Amount	Percent
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	550,000	10.9%
Other	3,495,000	69.3%
TOTAL	4,045,000	80.2 %

8. **Total Project Cost for fiscal year 2018-19 (including the Total Amount of Requested State Funds):** 5,045,000

9. **Previous Year Funding Details:**

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? Yes  
b. In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional)  
c. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded? 2017-18



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d. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No

e. Complete the following Worksheet.

FY:	Input Prior FY Appropriation for this project for FY 2017-18 (If appropriated in FY 2017-18 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)		
	Column:	A	B
Funds Description:		Prior Year Recurring Funds *	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds *
Input Amounts:			

### 10. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

Yes

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year.

\$1,000,000

### 11. Program Performance:

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

Continue to grow eMerge Americas into a world renowned event, attracting attendees to Miami, and continue to grow Miami as a technology hub connecting North America, South America and Europe

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

eMerge Americas will host an annual event that brings sponsor companies to Miami to attract over 13,000 persons over 2.5 days.

c. How will the funds be expended?

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	CEO Salary	150,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		



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Operational Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	A/V Services, Registration Services, Registration Supplies, Sales Prospecting Travel, and Marketing.	750,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Meeting Planner, Special Projects Contractor, and Temporary Staff.	100,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
TOTAL		1,000,000

**d. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?**

eMerge Americas serves as a global platform to help establish South Florida as the technology hub of the Americas. The event attracts thousands of attendees from around the world looking to connect with business leaders to explore new opportunities. The event also attracts large companies, startup and investors all related to the technology and innovation sector. These organizations provide opportunities for employment and investment to help citizens throughout the State of Florida.

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

eMerge Americas' target population includes corporate executives, technology sector leaders, entrepreneurs, investors and government officials. The event's economic impact could result in thousands of high-paying jobs in the technology industry.

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

eMerge Americas' mission is to help establish the State of Florida, and South Florida in particular, as the technology hub of the Americas. We measure success by several metrics, including total attendees, startup companies participating in the event and the number of large technology companies participating and subsequently establishing or expanding operations in Florida.

**g. 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?**

Withholding of funds.



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12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

N/A

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. Name: Xavier Gonzalez
- b. Organization: emerge Americas
- c. Email: xgonzalez@emergeamericas.org
- d. Phone Number: (305)340-2587

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. Organization: Technology Foundation of the Americas
- b. County: Miami-Dade
- c. Organization Type:
  - ☐ For Profit
  - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (3)
  - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (4)
  - ☐ Local Entity
  - ☐ University or College
  - ☒ Other (Please specify) Non Profit 501(c) (6)
- d. Contact Name: Xavier Gonzalez
- e. E-mail Address: xgonzalez@emergeamericas.org
- f. Phone Number: (305)340-2587

15. If there is a registered lobbyist, fill out the lobbyist information below.

- a. Name: Mike Abrams
- b. Firm: Ballard Partners
- c. Email: mike@ballardfl.com
- d. Phone Number: (305)904-4083