



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1677

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Aerospace Center for Excellence (ACE) and SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo Long Term Resiliency Plan for both our Youth Aviation Educational Programming and the evolution of the SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo campus located on the Lakeland Linder International Airport.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

**State Agency contacted?**  No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	450,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>450,000</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	450,000	75%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	50,000	8%
Other	100,000	17%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>600,000</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

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



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\$776,720 for employee salaries.

### 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

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	Director and Manager level ACE/Sun 'n Fun staff and volunteers will commit significant staff time in planning and development of the plan and will attend dozens of meetings and planning sessions to execute on the elements of the project.	50,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contracted consultants will be tasked with developing a long range master site plan for the Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo Fly-in's 800 acre campus that is congruent with the Lakeland Linder International Airport's 20 year Master Plan, as well as long range planning for the Youth Aviation Educational Programming at ACE.	400,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
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>450,000</b>

**14. Program Performance**

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



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ACE and the SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo are rapidly approaching the 50th Anniversary of our organization's success in 2024. In order to plan for the organization's resiliency over the next 50 years, we must develop a long range Strategic Plan for both our Youth Aviation Educational Programming and the evolution of the SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo campus located on the Lakeland Linder International Airport.

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

With these funds, ACE will be able to better serve the Polk County students who are seeking a STEM-focused education at the Central Florida Aerospace Academy as well as students and adults seeking vocational training. In addition, the long-range strategic plan will provide for a greater experience for the 200,000+ visitors to the annual Sun 'n Fun event, which contributes an economic impact of over \$250,000,000 to Polk County and the central Florida area.

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

While there will not be direct services to citizens, the long-range strategic plan will provide direction for improvements to both the Sun 'n Fun event and the academic offerings on ACE's campus.

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

In addition to the general public who attend the second largest airshow in America each year (more than 200,000 visitors in 2022), the long range strategic plan will provide a comprehensive plan to effectively, and efficiently, provide a STEM-focused education to K-12 students, as well as an expanded vocational training program for both students and adults pursuing Airframe and Powerplant training. ACE serves over 20,000 students annually through events, onsite programming, outreach efforts, and field trip opportunities.

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

Increase the annual domestic and international attendance to the Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo, the largest convention in the state of Florida, through the resilient planning and development of the future event site layout. Aerospace educational programming for K-12 and post-secondary students focused on filling targeted workforce demand. Economic Impact Study and surveys conducted during the event each year, as well as Program graduates and subsequent job placement data.

**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?**

ACE and Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo will remit payment for the proportionate share of funding that failed to meet deliverable and performance measures.

**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



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- 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