



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 3094

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This program will support and expand shellfish aquaculture in Florida by creating a grant program within the Division of Aquaculture, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, that will reimburse shellfish farmers, wholesalers, nurseries and hatcheries for the purchase of equipment.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	3,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	3,000,000

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)	3,000,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	3,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
				No

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.

There is no funding available that directly addresses this need. While federal funds are available in emergency situations, funding that is specifically designed to help grow the clam and oyster industry in Florida is generally not available.

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



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

Department of Agriculture and Consumer services served as a pass-thru for federal funding during the pandemic, as did many other state agencies. The agency itself did not receive federal aide. Individual farmers may have received PPP loans or other small business assistance.

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
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: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	All \$3 million will be administered to Aquaculture leaseholders in the form of grants, including grants to nurseries, hatcheries, farms, or wholesalers.	3,000,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,000,000

14. Program Performance

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

The grants provided to aquaculture leaseholders via this program will achieve two goals: assist with the overall growth of the clam and oyster industry in Florida and also help to increase the availability of good quality clam and oyster seed throughout the state.



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

Services will be grants that are administered via DACS that will go directly to farmers, wholesalers, nurseries, and hatcheries

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

Direct services will be provided to aquaculture farmers, and also to the citizens of Florida as a whole by increasing the availability of good quality clams and oysters in the state.

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

The target population is clam and oyster farmers in the state. The total number of individuals served will vary based on the size of the grant awards. However, the 500+ leaseholders in the state will likely all benefit in some way by the increased availability of clam and oyster seed that will likely result from these grants.

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

The expected benefit of this project is the increased growth of the clam and oyster industry and the increased availability of good quality clam and oyster seed. Individual farmers are required to report their yields to DACS, so the department will be able to measure the impact of the grants based on information that is already collected.

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?

Return of funds.

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) State Agency

d. First Name Last Name



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e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number