



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2150

1. **Project Title** Saint Leo University Robotics Engineering Degree and Microcredentials Program2. **Senate Sponsor** Wilton Simpson3. **Date of Request** 01/09/20204. **Project/Program Description**

Funding is requested to establish a new Bachelor of Science program in Robotics that will prepare graduates for the intersection of electrical, computer, and mechanical engineering grounded in the principals, practices and applications of robotics. This new degree program will prepare students of the Tampa Bay area for jobs in the fast growing field of robotics engineering and science. Saint Leo University strives to be a top producer in educating the future workforce who will have the skill sets to lead and exceed in this field. Currently UWF has a Ph.D program, UF has a general mechanical engineering program. Neither USF, UT or UCF offer a Robotics degree. With Saint Leo University's new degree programs in software engineering, cybersecurity and computer science, robotics is a natural extension and much of the programming is done by software engineers. There are approximately 200 jobs currently open in this field and fewer programs than are needed to meet current/future demand.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Department of EducationState Agency contacted? ☐ Yes ☒ No6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	2,900,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	000
Total State Funds Requested	2,900,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2900000	100.0 %
Matching Funds		
Federal	00	0 %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	00	0 %
Local	00	0 %
Other	00	0 %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	2,900,000	100 %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

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

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2150

10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	2 Robotics Faculty (\$150K each and 36% benefits cost)	408,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Robotics Department Administrator (\$50K and 36 benefits)	68,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Robot Kits Industrial Robot Demonstrators Circuit Boards and Micro Controllers Electronic/engineering equipment Electronic components Fabrication facilities and 3D printers	1,125,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Curriculum design and development consultants Advisory Board	50,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	2 Laboratory Technicians (\$75K each and 36% benefits cost)	204,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Maintenance of laboratory equipment Supplies associated with robot kits	120,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Program startup, curriculum development and program evaluation tool development	60,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	2000 Square Foot Laboratory Build out of workspaces Testing spaces for Robots	865,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,900,000



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2150

11. Program Performance

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

Production of robotics trained engineering students to support the every growing robotics industry in Pasco County, and the state of Florida.

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

Students will be able to serve in robotics engineering internships in Pasco County and surrounding counties in Florida.

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

Citizens will have the opportunity to tour and experience a robotics laboratory and have experiential demonstrations by faculty and students on engineering of robotics.

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

College and high school students in Pasco County.

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

The direct, expected benefit is the production of highly skilled robotics engineering graduates. A secondary benefit will be the opportunity for Pasco area groves, orchards and other farming environments to employ skilled robotics students as interns and faculty members as externs to support this growing robotics environment in the Tampa Bay area. Saint Leo University will use enrollment data and career services data to measure outcomes.

- 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 in the contract?

Return of funding.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2150

12. **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.**

Saint Leo University is the owner.

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

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

14. **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

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

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