



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1125

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

The new CITE building will be constructed on Eastern Florida State College's main campus in the heart of Florida's Space Coast in Melbourne, Florida. The CITE facility will be able to serve up to 200-250 new students annually enrolled in courses focusing on business and technology skill sets needed immediately in the county to satisfy local workforce needs. Enhanced STEM education and corporate training will be made possible due to the ability of CITE to reconfigure labs for short-term courses requiring specialized software, and to offer hands-on training to seasoned engineers and technicians who are vital to Florida's economy while maintaining Florida's competitive edge in the highly technical career fields to include aviation, space related industries and other highly technical fields. The College is providing an extremely prominent parcel of land on Eastern Florida State College's main campus in Melbourne, Florida.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?** No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,830,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,830,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,830,000	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 2021-2022	1,830,000	100%

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?** Yes
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**
- b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**



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None. This funding is being exclusively requested for a State of Florida asset needed to provide critical state public services. The Center for Innovative Technology Education (C.I.T.E.) which will be a specialized educational facility located on the State College property of Eastern Florida State College serving the high-tech industries on Florida's Space Coast.

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.

Eastern Florida State College was awarded \$9,247,137 to be used as: 1. Direct grants for students who incurred expenses due to the pandemic 2. Costs associated with the changing of delivery of instruction. 3. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to protect students, staff and faculty while on campus 4. Expanding online access and capabilities 5. Implementing social distancing standards 6. Reimbursement for expenses incurred as a result of dealing with the pandemic.

11. 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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction of a new building on Eastern Florida State College's main campus	1,830,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,830,000

12. Program Performance

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

The primary objective of the Center for Innovative Technology Education (CITE) is to provide extensive technology and science training and education in the many disciplines needed to support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) related to high technology business operations on Florida's unique Space Coast. Brevard County provides a key high-tech corridor for the state. The impetus behind moving this initiative to the top priority of the College projects in our Capital Improvement Plan came from local firms, primarily in the aerospace and technology sectors, that are experiencing explosive growth here in Brevard County and have expressed concern they may have to leave the State or expand operations elsewhere if the State of Florida cannot provide the needed trained and educated human resources to support their operations.

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



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While the State of Florida and our region does an outstanding job providing the number of engineers needed, it is these support technicians that can mean the difference between success and failure for Space Coast companies and corporations. If we continue to ignore their needs for work ready employees, it is very possible many of them will not only cease to expand, they may have no choice but to leave our region and very possibly the state to seek a higher level of support. The difficulties of our area to provide the support staff needed is becoming common knowledge among the various high-tech industries and may serve as a deterrent for future companies to relocate to Florida. Florida must maintain its national presence as a technical powerhouse, and Florida's Space Coast has the potential to lead the way with this initiative to make lives better and more prosperous for all Floridians.

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

The training to be provided in the CITE facility is vitally important to the success of area employers, particularly those in the aerospace, big data and manufacturing sectors. These sectors are prominently featured in the State's Gap Analysis/Areas of Strategic Emphasis Report. These areas also meet local workforce needs as defined by the recent local CareerSource data for this region. This data indicates an annual need for more than 1,500 new and additional employees every year which includes more than 200 new employees skilled in advanced manufacturing, 130 more employees in aerospace and aircraft maintenance, and more than 1,200 new employees in computer programming and I.T. system specialties.

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

Besides providing improved critical lab areas for hundreds of STEM students, the CITE facility will serve an additional 250 new students its first year, all of whom will be studying the science/technology skills needed to satisfy immediate demands from the aerospace industry, a sector exploding with growth in the area. Students completing this training are virtually guaranteed offers for high paying positions from one or more of the country's top aerospace employers. Short-term/noncredit certificates, which typically lead to immediate employment, will also be offered as well as 1, 2, and 4-year degree programs. Retention and completion in these programs will increase due to the direct connection to excellent employment opportunities on Florida's Space Coast. It can be easily argued that not only will hundreds of additional students benefit by the project each year, all Floridians will benefit as a result of a higher level of success of the high tech industry on Florida's Space Coast.

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

Numerous new partnerships are expected with organizations such as the Kennedy Space Center, Harris Corporation, Knight's Armament, Embraer, SpaceX, RUAG and Blue Origin to name just a few. There are approximately 550 manufacturers in our region of the State of Florida, many of which will benefit greatly from this project. A main priority of the College is not simply to provide the education and training our students need, but to introduce students to our business partners through the use of internships and networking resulting in getting our students into a career field on the Space Coast that they will love. It is not only good for the student seeking quality employment, it will be critical in the long run to Florida's financial future.

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?

As a State College and a direct asset of the State of Florida, the State always possesses the option to decrease operational funding or demand closure or restructuring of programs if not in the best interests of its citizens.

13. 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.

This project consists of a new capital facility designed to serve students by better preparing them for the high-tech employment career fields. This facility once constructed will be an asset of the State of Florida. No private individual will have any or all ownership in this public property.



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14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

15. 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

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number