



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2063

1. Project Title Aviation Maintenance Technician School at SRQ Airport

2. Senate Sponsor Joe Gruters

3. Date of Request 01/03/2022

4. Project/Program Description

Design and construct an Aviation Maintenance Technician School at the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport to supply the workforce that keeps the industry up and running. The workforce training will be a joint effort. If the construction and equipment is funded by the Legislature, the School District of Manatee County will build an Aviation Maintenance Technician School at SRQ Airport. Manatee Technical College and Suncoast Technical College will provide the workforce training to prepare students for high skill/wage/demand careers as Aviation Maintenance Technicians with Airframe and/or Powerplant ratings from the Federal Aviation Administration. University of South Florida, Sarasota-Bradenton, will provide opportunities for additional certifications in Aviation Business and Aviation Management.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Education

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	5,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	5,500,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	5,500,000	77%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,613,000	23%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	7,113,000	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. 2,000,000

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

None.

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



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Yes

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

Direct post-secondary student financial assistance, laptops and related technology for distance learning, personal protective equipment, thermometers, and disinfecting supplies.

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	Design/Plan/Construct Aviation Maintenance Technician School at SRQ Airport	5,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		5,500,000

12. Program Performance

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

The creation of a world-class Aviation Maintenance Technician School at SRQ, the fastest growing airport in the USA. With an estimated 1,474 openings per year for Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians in the State of Florida, the demand for training is high. The Aviation industry was hit hard by the Covid-19 pandemic. Industry reports say more aviation mechanics are retiring than are entering the field. There are over 50 aviation/aerospace employers in this workforce region alone.

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

To plan, design, and construct an Aviation Maintenance Technician School to be certified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Manatee Technical College (Bradenton) and Suncoast Technical College (Sarasota) and the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee campus will join forces to prepare students for FAA licenses in aviation maintenance and employment and advanced training in the aviation industry.

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

Career certificate workforce training in Aviation Airframe Mechanic and Aviation Powerplant Mechanic. In alignment with FAA Part 147 requirements for Aviation Maintenance Technician Schools, instruction will prepare students for FAA license exams for Aviation Maintenance Technician with Airframe and/or Powerplant ratings. The University of South Florida will provide modules for additional certifications in Management (Aviation Focus), Cybersecurity, Analytics/Big Data, Safety Management, and Logistics and Supply Chain Management.

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



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Target population is individuals who wish to prepare for a high wage, high demand career as an Aviation Maintenance Technician. While the majority of students are expected to come from Manatee and Sarasota counties, it is anticipated that 10-20% of the students will come from other counties to take advantage of the high quality education being offered. The Aviation Maintenance Technician School will be able to serve 100 or more students per year.

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

The School Board of Manatee County will construct and open an Aviation Maintenance Technician School (AMTS) at the Sarasota-Bradenton Int'l Airport (SRQ) in partnership with Suncoast Technical College and the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee. The expected benefit to the state is a trained workforce pipeline into the targeted aviation industry. Outcomes will be measured in training completions, job placements, and employer feedback.

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 the funds to the State if adequate funding is not obtained to construct, equip, and open the AMT School.

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.

The School Board would construct the facility. The facility would be located at the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport. Both the School Board and the Airport Authority are state agencies. The two agencies have a signed letter of understanding for a 20-year ground lease with four 5-year renewals.



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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