



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2442

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The project proposes to equip Freeport High School with a new Aquaculture Career Pathway. Aquaculture is the rearing of aquatic animals or the cultivation of aquatic plants for food. The program will provide hands-on, rigorous career and technical education (CTE) where students earn industry certifications and prepare for the growing workforce. Numerous partners will be involved, including the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance, Walton County Commissioners, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	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)	500,000	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 2022-2023	500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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

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.

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.

The Walton County School District has received federal assistance, such as the Elementary Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, totaling approximately \$30 million. This money focuses on supports to close the achievement gap and to maintain school operations during and after the COVID-19 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	Aquaculture equipment will be purchased, such as tanks, greenhouse materials, pools, aerators, aquatic vegetation, species for tanks, lights, pumps, computers, and lab equipment. Certification costs, including curriculum and exams, will also be included. Exploratory travel, professional development for instructors/leaders and field trips for students, will be included as well.	500,000
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)		500,000

12. Program Performance

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

The project proposes to equip Freeport High School with a new Aquaculture Career Pathway. Aquaculture is the rearing of aquatic animals or the cultivation of aquatic plants for food. The program will provide hands-on, rigorous career and technical education (CTE) where students earn industry certifications and prepare for the growing workforce. Numerous partners will be involved, including the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance, Walton County Commissioners, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

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

The program offers a sequence of courses to high school students that provide coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, career cluster. This proposed project will also support and aid in recovery of the Eastern Oyster in Choctawhatchee Bay.

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

The content includes but is not limited to instruction in the planning, management, finance, technical and production skills, underlying principles of technology, labor issues, community issues, health and safety, and environmental issues in the aquaculture industry.

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

401-800 high school students



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

- * Increase industry certifications in Aquaculture
- * Increase in graduation rate of career and technical education (CTE) students
- * Increase in post-secondary attendance of CTE students
- * Increase in the number of subtidal reefs in the Choctawhatchee Bay
- * Increase in the number of subtidal reefs constructed

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?

Proposed penalties for failure to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract include withholding of funds and liquidation of damages.

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.

N/A



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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) School District

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