



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2632

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Renovation and expansion of the North FL Research & Education (NFREC) facilities and equipment in Marianna. This project will increase the space for graduate student training, research and provide a state of the art lab and faculty. It will also enable UF/IFAS to be more competitive and increase the amount of grants awarded and private industry investment in the center.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,000,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,000,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	2,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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#### 10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

☒ Planning ☐ Design ☐ Construction ☐ N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

12/17/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

11/18/2026

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

11. 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.

UF/IFAS

#### 12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	State-of-the-art "clean labs" and "dirty labs"; Feed Efficiency facility; Methane facility; increase space for grad student training and education; community education facility.	2,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,000,000</b>

#### 13. Program Performance

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

Renovation and expansion of the North FL Research & Education (NFREC) facilities and equipment in Marianna. This project will increase the space for graduate student training, research, faculty, and provide a state-of-the-art lab. It will also enable UF/IFAS to be more competitive and increase the amount of grants awarded and private industry investment in the center.

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



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Research in a number of areas including removing nitrogen from the atmosphere to the soil to reduce the need for fertilization; cattle feed consumed, and methane produced; advancements in protecting water quality; develop, evaluate and promote an integrated livestock/ feed/ fiber/ food/biofuels farming system; study of green house gas production by cattle.

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

Provide education and training for farmers translating research findings into the latest technology and new farm management techniques for more efficient food production with less need for water and fertilizer.

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

Agriculture industry, rural economy, and graduate students.

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

Increase knowledge and advancement in removing nitrogen from the atmosphere to the soil to reduce the need for fertilization; cattle feed consumed, and methane produced; advancements in protecting water quality; develop, evaluate and promote an integrated livestock/ feed/ fiber/ food/biofuels farming system; study of green house gas production by cattle. Increase in capacity for grad student training and community education.

**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?**

Standard penalties for state universities.

**14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?**

**a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?**

- ☐ Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- ☐ Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- ☐ Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

**b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):**

**15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?**

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

**a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:**

**b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:**

**16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?**



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- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

#### 17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 18. 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  Ext.

#### 19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number



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*The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.*