



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3441

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Haitian American-Florida Economic Connect Program will establish a multilingual broadcasting network that delivers crucial economic development information, job opportunities, and small business resources from the State of Florida's Commerce Department directly to the Haitian community. This initiative will create a weekly radio segments featuring success stories, grant opportunities, and direct connections to Florida's Small Business Development Centers with Creole-speaking advisors.

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	150,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>150,000</b>

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)	150,000	50%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	100,000	33%
Other	50,000	17%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.
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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)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

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.

#### 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	The Executive Director of the Haitian-Florida Economic Connect Program will serve as the strategic visionary and operational leader, building relationships with state agencies, Haitian community organizations, and business partners while overseeing all broadcasting initiatives and resource distribution channels.	0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	The subcontractor for the Haitian-Florida Economic Connect Program will be responsible for developing and maintaining the multilingual broadcasting infrastructure, including the mobile app, radio content production, and digital resource distribution channels with expertise in Haitian Creole communications and cultural context.	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Facility rentals, radio equipment, cameras, video editing software tools, and promotional items.	150,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>150,000</b>

#### 13. Program Performance

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



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

This initiative will create a weekly radio segments featuring success stories, grant opportunities, and direct connections to Florida's Small Business Development Centers with Creole-speaking advisors.

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

1. Broadcasting & Information Dissemination - including weekly bilingual radio programs, community information hubs, and moderated WhatsApp business groups, 2. Business Development Services - offering one-on-one consulting with Creole-speaking advisors, assistance navigating grants and loans, business plan competitions, and certification workshops 3. Workforce Development

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

Elderly, Jobless persons, Economically disadvantaged persons, High school students, University/College students, and Currently or formerly incarcerated persons. Target population are expected to be served: >800

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

The Haitian-Florida Economic Connect Program will increase business ownership in Florida by 15% within its first three years through targeted resource distribution and mentorship opportunities. The initiative expects to connect at least 500 Haitian entrepreneurs with over \$2 million in small business loans and grants annually, with a projected economic impact of \$25 million for business owners.

**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?**

Recapturing of funds and disqualification from future funding opportunities.

**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#:**



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LFIR # 3441

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)?

- ☐ 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



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a. Name	<input type="text" value="None"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text"/>

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