



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1083

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The School District of Palm Beach County is dedicated to academic excellence and workforce readiness, especially in the Glades Region. West Technical Education Center (WTEC) is key to this mission, preparing students for post-secondary education and high-demand careers. A \$944,841.65 appropriation for FY 2026–2027 will strengthen WTEC's programs, facilities, and capacity to produce industry-certified, job-ready graduates. This investment will close critical gaps in secondary and adult education, align training with business and industry needs, and position WTEC as a regional hub for high-wage, high-demand career preparation, advancing Florida's workforce and economic growth goals.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	372,867
Fixed Capital Outlay	571,975
Total State Funds Requested	944,842

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	944,842	75%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	315,000	25%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	1,259,842	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		
2025-26	0	988,129		Yes

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.

Alternative funding may include Perkins V and WIOA grants, U.S. Department of Education or Labor grants, private partnerships, philanthropic support, and local business or industry sponsorships that advance workforce development initiatives.



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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

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?

07/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2027

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

Ongoing operations and maintenance will be supported through a combination of state and federal education allocations, district operational budgets, tuition and fee revenue from adult programs, and partnerships with local industries and community organizations.

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.

The School District of Palm Beach County is the sole owner of the West Technical Education Center, including all land and structures. The District maintains full operational and administrative control of the facility, and no other entity holds ownership or financial interest in the property.

12. 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		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds will support Culinary, Automotive/Diesel, and Adult Education programs. \$34,057.20 funds culinary equipment, \$149,672.11 upgrades automotive labs, \$116,637.48 adds simulators, and \$72,500 provides scholarships—advancing workforce readiness and industry alignment.	372,867
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	\$571,974.86 is allocated to expand the Commercial Driving Range, including earthwork, asphalt, lighting, and signage. This key infrastructure investment supports high-demand Commercial Driver's License programs and enhances training capacity for in-demand transportation careers.	571,975
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		944,842



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13. Program Performance

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

The School District of Palm Beach County seeks \$944,841.65 for FY 2026-27 to expand West Technical Education Center's role in workforce preparation. Funds will enhance Secondary (Culinary, Automotive/Diesel) and Adult Education (Welding, CDL, Health Science) through equipment, simulators, infrastructure, and \$72,500 in scholarships—aligning programs with industry demands for job-ready, certified graduates.

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

Funds will support career development and workforce training in culinary, automotive/diesel maintenance, welding, health sciences, and commercial vehicle driving, providing citizens with hands-on education and industry certifications for immediate employment and career advancement.

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

Funds will provide citizens with hands-on training, industry certifications, and job placement support in culinary arts, automotive/diesel maintenance, welding, health sciences, and commercial vehicle driving, equipping them with skills for immediate employment and career advancement in high-demand industries.

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

The majority of the funds requested will serve jobless persons, economically disadvantaged individuals, at-risk youth, and homeless populations. Additionally, the program will extend its support to students at both the high school and university or college levels. These target groups have been identified as those most in need of resources and opportunities to improve their economic stability, educational attainment, and overall well-being. It is expected that 200 to 400 individuals will be served.

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

1. Improve Quality of Education

Measure: Program completion rate — 60% of students must complete their program.

Impact: Meeting or exceeding this benchmark demonstrates effective instruction, student engagement, and curriculum relevance, reflecting overall improvement in educational quality and program success.

2. Increase Economic Activity

Measure: Job placement rate — 70% of graduates must secure training-related employment, military service, or continue their education.

Impact: Higher placement rates indicate stronger workforce participation, contributing to local employment growth, increased household income, and regional economic development.

3. Enhance Economic Self-Sufficiency

Measure: Certification attainment — 70% of graduates in licensure-required programs must pass certification or licensing exams.

Impact: Achieving this benchmark signifies higher job readiness, leading to greater employment stability, wage growth, and long-term economic independence.

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?

Suggested penalties may include reimbursement of unspent funds, enhanced agency oversight through more frequent progress reviews, technical assistance visits, and required corrective action plans. Additional support such as mentoring, training, and resource sharing may be provided to help the program meet performance goals.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? ☐ No

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

- ☐ Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)



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- ☐ 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)?

- ☐ 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**



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- ☐ 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

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