



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1267

1. Project Title University of Central Florida-Intelligent Manufacturing & Autonomous Engineering

2. Senate Sponsor Jason Brodeur

3. Date of Request 11/17/2025

4. Project/Program Description

This facility will: drive economic growth, enhance workforce development and expand the talent pipeline to high-paying jobs in Florida's STEM industries; house cleanrooms and other lab facilities to support industry-sponsored projects, commercialization, cross-disciplinary collaborations, external funding; expand UCF's capabilities in nanofabrication, advanced materials, semiconductor research, photonics, biomedical engineering; support critical defense, and aerospace.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Board of Governors

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	58,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	58,000,000

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)	58,000,000	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 2026-2027	58,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 56,000,000

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

Total cost of the facility is \$114,641,250. Another year of funding (\$56,000,000) will be necessary to complete construction. UCF will seek additional contributions from industry to help with equipment.



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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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

1/1/2028

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

8/1/2029

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

UCF's base operational budget will need to cover plant, operations & maintenance as the state no longer funds PO&M for state buildings constructed on university campuses.

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.

Owner of building: State of Florida. Owner of land on which building is to be constructed: The State of Florida/Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The land and buildings are leased to the Board of Trustees of the University of Central Florida which is the entity responsible for operating and maintaining the building.

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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Funding the planning, design and partially covering the construction costs of the \$114.6 million facility.	58,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		58,000,000

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?

Planning, design and construction of the facility. Once completed, teaching and research activities will be provided for undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students, university faculty, and industry collaboration for the Colleges of Sciences, Engineering & Computer Science, Optics and Photonics, and the Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences.

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

As described in (a) above, the facility will: drive economic growth, enhance workforce development and expand the talent pipeline to high-paying jobs in Florida's STEM industries; house cleanrooms and other lab facilities to support industry-sponsored projects, commercialization, cross-disciplinary collaborations, external funding; expand UCF's capabilities in nanofabrication, advanced materials, semiconductor research, photonics, biomedical engineering; support critical defense, and aerospace.

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

College and university students and faculty, regional engineering and high-tech government and industry partners.

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

Benefits: New construction of state-of-the-art research labs for teaching and research activities; increase classroom and lab availability; facilities to engage in productive industry partnerships.
Outcomes: Increasing STEM enrollment and graduates for increasing the available talent pipeline and highly skilled workforce needed by Florida high-tech employers; increasing workforce in higher paying jobs; equipping graduates for innovation and start-ups; industry growth and expansion; higher median income levels.

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?

Return/reversion of funds to the state.

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



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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

- ☐ 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.



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19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name	Janet D. Owen
b. Firm Name	
c. E-mail Address	janet.owen@ucf.edu
d. Phone Number	(407)823-3733

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