



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1458

1. Project Title Tallahassee State College (TSC) Applied Learning Center for Health & Hospitality

2. Senate Sponsor Corey Simon

3. Date of Request 11/5/2025

4. Project/Program Description

This request is for construction of a new building on TSC main campus to provide academic space for expansion of the College's dental hygiene program and the creation of a new culinary and hospitality program. This will provide advanced academic programming and high-tech simulation labs for the dental hygienist and dental assistant programs and will allow TSC to increase enrollment to meet local demand. It will also provide for the creation of a commercial kitchen and applied learning laboratories for a new culinary program. Both programs have a 7% job growth rate.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Education

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	10,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	10,000,000

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)	10,000,000	33%
Matching Funds		
Federal	20,000,000	67%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	30,000,000	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? No

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

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?

09/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

08/01/2027

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

Operating expenses for the new building and related programs will be funded by revenue generated by increased student enrollment.

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.

Tallahassee State College

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	Planning, engineering, design, and construction of a 24,000 SF facility.	10,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		10,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

This 24,000 sf building will house the TSC Dental Hygiene Program and new Culinary Program. Our region is designated as a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area. The dental programs will greatly improve access to care and both programs will strengthen the economic vitality of our community. Dental hygiene and dental assisting are all high-wage (average \$67,946 dental) and high demand (7% growth) jobs.

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



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These funds will be used to construct a new 24,000 sf building on the TSC main campus, for expansion of the dental hygiene program and a new culinary arts program.

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

These programs will provide educational opportunity to citizens in the region and will make high-wage and high-demand jobs available to them. It will produce qualified individuals to fulfill a great need in the community. According to a study by the Health Resources and Services Administration, Florida ranks at the bottom in percentage of children receiving dental care and 25% of third-graders have untreated cavities. Gadsden, Wakulla and Jefferson Counties (all part of our service region) are designated shortage areas. In addition, TSC Dental hygiene clinics are opened to the public and provide dental cleanings and limited services at no to low cost. This expansion will allow TSC to serve more individuals.

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

Creation of the new TSC Applied Learning Center for Health & Hospitality will serve individuals looking for stable careers with potential for high wages (average \$67,946 dental and \$60,990 culinary). It will also serve the dental community and hospitality industry by providing qualified employees - both have a 7% growth rate and cannot fill vacancies. It will also serve the greater community by filling this void and by providing services to low income individuals and families at the on campus dental health clinic.

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

Provide dental care to low income and limited access individuals - Report on the number served through the clinic. Improve economic opportunity for hundreds of students by providing workforce training and quick employment - Track the number of students enrolled in the program, graduates and employment data. The commercial kitchen applied learning laboratory will be available to provide high quality services to cultural events in the community at low cost - Track all services provided for College and community events.

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?

This project is for construction of a new building on TSC main campus to provide academic space for expansion of the dental hygiene program and a new program in culinary and hospitality. Metrics for success over a multi-year period would include successful completion of design documents to include architecture and engineering approval, selection of a contract manager, negotiation of a contract, permitting, construction, and substantial completion. If metrics are not met, funding may be delayed.

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



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☐ 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

☐ 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



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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.