



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1502

1. Project Title Lively Technical College Welding Special Project

2. Senate Sponsor Corey Simon

3. Date of Request 11/17/2025

4. Project/Program Description

Lively Technical College seeks to modernize welding and pipefitting infrastructure to address critical workforce needs. Upgraded labs and facilities will train students in advanced welding techniques and pipe fabrication skills essential for Florida's manufacturing sectors. The funding supports hands-on training, industry certifications, and partnerships that prepare students for high-demand manufacturing jobs, aligning with Florida's economic growth and workforce.

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	2,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,000,000

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)	2,000,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	2,000,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	4,000,000	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. 2,000,000

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

Grant funding at the state level could be requested in lieu of a special appropriations.

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?

10/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

01/01/2029

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

Our sustainability plan will utilize state and federal funding to maintain the facility and to purchase equipment for the expanded instructional spaces.

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.

Leon County School Board will receive the funds and Lively Technical College will be a sub-recipient.

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	Building a workforce equipped to meet the demands of advanced manufacturing sectors, including aerospace, industrial fabrication, and infrastructure construction, fueling local talent pipelines with skilled welders and pipefitters prepared for evolving technology and industry standards is the specific purpose of special appropriations request.	2,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

Building a workforce equipped to meet the demands of advanced manufacturing sectors, including aerospace, industrial fabrication, and infrastructure construction, fueling local talent pipelines with skilled welders and pipefitters prepared for evolving technology and industry standards is the specific purpose of special appropriations request.



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

By establishing state-of-the-art welding and pipefitting labs, we aim to enhance student preparedness for high-wage manufacturing jobs through rigorous technical skill proficiency and real-world practice; support accelerated workforce credentialing by providing pathways to nationally recognized certifications such as AWS Certified Welder in multiple welding processes and pipe welding.

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

Expand access to hands-on training for diverse populations including veterans, underemployed workers, and high school dual enrollment students, addressing Florida's critical labor shortages in manufacturing trades. Foster strategic industry partnerships facilitating apprenticeships, internships, and direct employment pipelines within Florida's growing manufacturing economy.

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

Jobless person, economically disadvantages persons, at-risk youth, homeless, high school students, college students, formerly incarcerated persons will be served by this project. 50-100 persons are expected to be served each year.

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

The appropriation request is critical for preparing a highly skilled manufacturing workforce in Florida. Modernizing our welding labs with industry-standard equipment and expanding pipefitting fabrication facilities will provide students hands-on training in high-demand skills such as SMAW, GTAW, and advanced pipe welding techniques essential for the manufacturing and construction industries.

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?

Failure to meet specified deliverables or performance measures could result in payment Withholds or Reductions where a percentage of payment is withheld until full compliance is achieved. Or a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) requiring Leon County Schools to submit and implement a formal CAP within a specified timeframe for continued funding.

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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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="Jessica Janasiewicz"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Rutledge Ecenia PA"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="jessica@rutledge-ecenia.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(850)681-6788"/>

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