



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1902

1. Project Title Lake-Sumter State College Creation of an Agricultural Workforce Program

2. Senate Sponsor Keith Truenow

3. Date of Request 11/3/2025

4. Project/Program Description

Lake and Sumter Counties share a long and successful history of agricultural endeavors making LSSC the perfect place to train a workforce for modern agricultural sciences to further strengthen the agricultural history in our area. This program will offer AS degrees and certifications and will serve as a pathway to bachelor's degrees in agricultural sciences at the University of Florida and the State University System.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Education

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	400,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	400,000

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)	400,000	80%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	100,000	20%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	500,000	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.

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
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	Support the launch of a new program in Agriculture with necessary equipment and materials.	400,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		400,000

13. Program Performance

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

This project includes a \$100,000 contribution from Lake-Sumter State College for a total project cost of \$500,000. This program will offer associate degrees and certifications and will serve as a pathway to bachelor's degrees in agricultural sciences at the University of Florida and the State University System.

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

Following research into labor market demands and workforce availability in Lake and Sumter Counties, these funds will support the launch of a new associate degree program in agriculture. This program will establish a seamless educational pathway, allowing students to transition from related career and technical education programs at local high schools, then transfer to the State University System to complete their bachelor's degrees.



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

This program will directly serve Lake and Sumter County citizens by training the next generation of agricultural professionals for our region's thriving \$86+ million agricultural economy. Students will gain accessible, affordable AS degrees and certifications close to home, with seamless pathways to University of Florida and State University System bachelor's programs.

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

The target population is Lake and Sumter Counties. As the fastest growing college in the FCS for two straight years, Lake-Sumter currently serves 11,500 students each year and continues to expand its enrollment to serve additional learners throughout the community.

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

This program will prepare students on an agricultural career's pathway toward high-demand fields in Florida's agricultural economy.

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?

Funds would need to be returned or repaid for failing to meet the deliverables.

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#:

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



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- ☐ 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

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number



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