



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2423

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

This program will recruit and train a Cohort of 15 historically underrepresented individuals per quarter (youth aging out of the foster care system, veterans, Native Americans, etc. for an Engineering/Maintenance Technician Program. Our unique work-study program is a 12 week interpersonal & technical skills training program. Upon successful completion of the IS & technical phase, Program participants will be interviewed at various manufacturing companies and gain employment.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

**State Agency contacted?**  No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	500,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**  No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?**  Yes

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

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

Company sales of services from instructing through program initiatives.

10. **Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**

No



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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

## Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

### 11. 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?

12. 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.

### 13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	The Project Director will continue to serve as the face of the program and provide representation and leadership of the program on a daily basis within the program, the community and at the state level. The Project Director will solicit manufacturing and other linked companies for joint venture to expand the program. The PD will closely collaborate w/ the team and monitor the program status.	100,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel, mileage, computers, Internet services, phones, printers, website, presentation supplies/staff training and back up equipment	25,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Bookkeeper, Auditor, and appropriations manager, data reviewer and Key Performance Indicator Data Analyst, administration assistant.	60,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Part-time mentors, part-time instructors will have the ability to use hybrid learning (must be in class for labs), some classes can be bi-lingual (English/Spanish), coach, pt time program manager, Canvas personnel, part-time admin assistant, Recruitment of 20 participants per quarter for attrition.	100,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Laptops, video equipment, external hard drives, Computers, Field trips tablets, Insurance, Liability Coverage, Transportation, Utilities and Misc., marketing/advertising recruiting, outreach, software for Z space computers and Mechatronics Training Systems from Bluegrass Technologies, these systems will be purchased and rented and educational material, including materials for projects, maintain and update website.	125,000



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Content Development (inclusive of behavioral counselor's insights) Webinars English/Spanish Consultant, Writing Group Consultant, Assessment & Evaluation Consultant, Skill Sets In Work Development, training on Z space software and Bluegrass Technologies Mechatronics Training Systems, these systems will allow for program sustainability, security and space at the NE FL Safety Council.	90,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>500,000</b>

#### 14. Program Performance

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

This program will recruit and train a Cohort of 15 historically underrepresented individuals per quarter (youth aging out of the foster care system, veterans, Native Americans, etc. for an Engineering/Maintenance Technician Program. Our unique work-study program is a 12 week interpersonal & technical skills training program. Upon successful completion of the IS & technical phase, Program participants will be interviewed at various manufacturing companies and gain employment.

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

BLT LLC. will provide services to train and develop quality manufacturing engineering/maintenance/production technicians. The curriculum is 144 total hours with the blending of interpersonal skills and technical skills to ensure sustainability. These services include working with manufacturing & trades industries to provide quality, living wage + jobs. Targeted sourcing will reach the underrepresented and the data retrieved will assist us to grow, evaluate and reach more people each year.

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

This Industrial Skills Initiative will provide interpersonal skills and technical skills activities including software & practical simulations, role plays, hands on labs and class room training. Resume writing & interviewing skills will also be practiced. The curriculum is 144 total hours with the cross between interpersonal skills and technical skills.

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

This program will recruit and train a Cohort of 15 historically underrepresented individuals per quarter (youth aging out of the foster care system, veterans, Native Americans, etc. for an Engineering/Maintenance Technician Program.

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

The expected benefit will be citizens will be more productive by using their newly gained knowledge and skills. Many of these types of positions pay more than minimum wage and participants will have access to housing, increased schooling, economic development and taking care of their families. 90% of the 60 participants are employed within the first 60 days of the end of program. 60% employed in the field of Production, Maintenance, ET data from the Mechatronics Training System and the Z Space Software Training. Use of surveys from companies regarding preparation with employees received from BLT trained employees vs. other employees received through their application process.

##### 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 the contract?

Penalties include restricted access for upskill manufacturing training to improve economic self-sufficiency, higher crime rate and stability. Statistics show that the lack of training and education for families lead to impoverished areas. The DoD shows lacking these skills are a threat to National Security. The McKinsey Opportunity Index shows a 5% decrease in optimism regarding upskill opportunities within the past 2 years, which will continue to grow without these upskill opportunities.



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#### 15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 16. 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

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number