



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3564

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Provide for the purchase of virtual reality software to recruit and train Floridians, ensuring they go on to be employed in in-demand jobs across the state, shrinking the state's workforce shortage each year. Transfr will provide this training via virtual reality headsets, equipped with 350+ simulations that span multiple in-demand industries. These are designed by industry experts to align with national standards/credentialing bodies. This simulation training system would directly contribute to the pool of job-ready candidates supporting Florida in its mission to by 2030:

- At least 80% of Florida's workforce obtain essential employability skills
- 60% of working-age Floridians hold a high-value postsecondary credential

This program has the capacity to create accessible education opportunity pathways for individuals interested in a variety of in-demand fields. The virtual simulation training system will produce more graduates that can be placed into high-demand jobs.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

| Type of Funding | Amount |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Operations | 2,000,000 |
| Fixed Capital Outlay | 0 |
| Total State Funds Requested | 2,000,000 |

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) | 2,000,000 | 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 2024-2025 | 2,000,000 | 100% |

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

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

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 |
|--|--|------------------|
| 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: Other | | |
| Salary and Benefits | | 0 |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | Purchase virtual reality software (hardware included) to be used by state agency personnel and private job-seeking Floridians for career exploration and job training. This spans the multiple career clusters, including but not limited to manufacturing, healthcare and construction. | 2,000,000 |
| 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) | | 2,000,000 |

14. Program Performance



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

Transfr will work to recruit and train Floridians, ensuring they go on to be employed in in-demand jobs across the state, shrinking the state's workforce shortage each year. Transfr will provide this training via virtual reality headsets, equipped with 350+ simulations that span multiple in-demand industries. These are designed by industry experts to align with national standards/credentialing bodies to ensure the immersion into these work environments mimics the realities of being on the job

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

Educating Floridians in a virtual environment regarding in-demand career pathways, technical education opportunities, and job-training skills.

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

Transfr's virtual reality simulations have two tracks: The Virtual Training Facility (VTF)'s hands-on simulations teach skills that allow people to get on a path to a well-paying job, and the Career Exploration Facility (CEF)'s hands-on simulations showcase different career paths. Learners will gain insight into an in demand career path and gain needed skills to enter that industry for work.

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

Jobless persons, economically disadvantaged persons, at-risk youth, high school students, and/or currently or formerly incarcerated persons

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

Complete an efficacy study (no additional cost to State) measuring learning outcomes using VR vs traditional environments. Transfr has proven this in a variety of efficacy studies, including other state agencies and credentialing bodies. Transfr's Learning Sciences Department will conduct a formal efficacy study to scientifically prove the programmatic benefits of VR.

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?

Transfr is committed to addressing Florida's workforce shortage by ensuring more Floridians obtain essential employability skills and increase the number of working age Floridians within in-demand job sectors. In the event that performance measures are not met, we would ask for a 30-day performance improvement plan.

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)



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- 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