



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3127

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

**4. Project/Program Description**

Agricultural Education Academy for students in Kindergarten through postsecondary. Educational aspect to include farm visits for elementary school students to learn about and stimulate an interest in agricultural education, agriscience and agribusiness. Students in grades 6 to 12 would be eligible to work on the farm and earn credits and hands-on experience growing crops, farming animals, and running the farm stand. Would include a venue for Adult Education seminars/workshops. Internships for Secondary and Post-Secondary students would be offered through the district and various community partners, including UF/IFAS, local industry professionals, commodity groups (Cattlemen's Association, FNGLA, etc.), Polk County Farm Bureau and Florida Ag in the Classroom. Future operational costs would be offset by revenue generated through leases on other areas of the property for cattle and hunting.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**  Yes

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

| Type of Funding                    | Amount           |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Operations                         | 0                |
| Fixed Capital Outlay               | 3,500,000        |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested</b> | <b>3,500,000</b> |

**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)       | 3,500,000        | 66%         |
| <b>Matching Funds</b>                                |                  |             |
| Federal  | 0                | 0%          |
| State (excluding the amount of this request)         | 0                | 0%          |
| Local  | 1,800,000        | 34%         |
| Other  | 0                | 0%          |
| <b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b> | <b>5,300,000</b> | <b>100%</b> |

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**  Yes

| Fiscal Year<br>(yyyy-yy) | Amount    |              | Specific<br>Appropriation # | Vetoed |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------|
|                          | Recurring | Nonrecurring |                             |        |
| 2023-24                  | 0         | 3,500,000    | 23B                         | No     |

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



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

PCPS received \$30,682,166 in federal funding from the CARES Act to strengthen our response to the pandemic with programs to support student academic achievement. PCPS also received \$122,495,839 from CRRSA and \$287,570,472 from the ARP Act for programs to address improving our response to the pandemic through improvements in indoor air-quality and through academic programs to address learning loss in accordance with applications submitted and approved by FDOE.

## 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.

Polk County Public Schools

### 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                    |                                    | 0                |
| Other Salary and Benefits  |                                    | 0                |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other                                |                                    | 0                |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study                                  |                                    | 0                |
| <b>Operational Costs: Other</b>  |                                    |                  |
| Salary and Benefits  |                                    | 0                |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other                                |                                    | 0                |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study                                  |                                    | 0                |
| <b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>                    |                                    |                  |
| Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering                      | Construction/Renovation - Phase II | 3,500,000        |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b> |                                    | <b>3,500,000</b> |

### 14. Program Performance

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



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Development of additional career and technical education programs for Polk County Public Schools focusing on the importance of agriculture, agriscience and agribusiness to Polk County and the State of Florida.

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

Elementary, secondary and postsecondary education. Community education and an additional community venue for agricultural activities.

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

In addition to student educational services, 20% of produce grown will be donated to community organizations and students will also periodically conduct seed disbursements. Cattle and hunting leases will allow local citizens access to public lands.

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

Students in Kindergarten through 12th grade, adult students, citizens of Polk, DeSoto and Highlands counties. 20,000 individuals or above.

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

Quality education for students K through 12 in the importance of agriculture to Polk, DeSoto and Highlands counties and the State of Florida. Strengthening partnerships with the agriculture community and local citizens groups. Measurable outcomes will be developed by the lead agency (Florida Department of Education).

**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?**

Financial penalty not to exceed 5% of state funding.

**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)



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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