



**Florida Job Growth Grant Fund
Public Infrastructure Grant Proposal**

Proposal Instructions: The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Proposal (this document) must be completed by the governmental entity applying for the grant and signed by either the chief elected official, the administrator for the governmental entity or their designee. Please read the proposal carefully as some questions may require a separate narrative to be completed.

Governmental Entity Information

Name of Governmental Entity: Orange County Government

Government Federal Employer Identification Number: [REDACTED]

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Name: Eric Ushkowitz

Title: Economic Development Administrator

Mailing Address: 201 South Rosalind Ave., 5th Fl
Orlando, FL 32802-1393

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Public Infrastructure Grant Eligibility

Pursuant to section 288.101, F.S., the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund was created to promote economic opportunity by improving public infrastructure and enhancing workforce training. Eligible governmental entities that wish to access this grant fund must submit public infrastructure proposals that:

- Promote economic recovery in specific regions of the state, economic diversification or economic enhancement in a targeted industry. (View Florida's [Targeted Industries here.](#))
- Are not for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation or business entity.
- Are for infrastructure that is owned by the public and is for public use or predominately benefits the public.



1. Program Requirements:

Each proposal must include the following information describing how the project satisfies eligibility requirements listed on page 1.

A. Provide the title and a detailed description of the public infrastructure improvements.

National Entrepreneur Center's Expansion and Improvement of Delivery Systems for Small Business Development Services.

B. Is this infrastructure owned by the public?

Yes No

C. Is this infrastructure for public use or does it predominately benefit the public?

Yes No

D. Will the public infrastructure improvements be for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation or business entity?

Yes No

E. Provide a detailed explanation of how the public infrastructure improvements will connect to a broader economic development vision for the community and benefit additional current or future businesses.

Small businesses are critical to our entrepreneurial ecosystem. Since almost all new "net jobs" are produced by small businesses less than 5 years old and The National Entrepreneur Center serves a critical need in Florida's economic future because economic dynamism is critical to new firm formation and job creation. The objective of this proposal is to secure \$450,000.00 to continue the established "best in class" delivery of programming, business coaching, and educational resources offered by the 14 non-profit business support organizations who reside at the NEC.

Expanding and upgrading the existing infrastructure of the NEC will continue to improve the quality and delivery of services but also provide needed resources for increasing state-wide awareness of the available assistance and resources available at the National Entrepreneur Center.

F. Provide a detailed description of, and quantitative evidence demonstrating, how the proposed public infrastructure project will promote:

- Economic recovery in specific regions of the state;
- Economic diversification; or
- Economic enhancement of a Targeted Industry (View Florida's [Targeted Industries here.](#))
 - As part of this response, describe how the project will promote specific job growth. Include a description of the number of jobs that will be retained or created, the average wages of such jobs, and in which industry(ies) the jobs will be created using the North American Industry Classification System ([NAICS](#)) codes. Where applicable, you may list specific businesses that will retain or grow jobs or make capital investment.
 - Further, include the economic impact on the community, region, or state and the associated metrics used to measure the success of the proposed project.

Research indicates that all new “net jobs” are produced by small businesses less than 5 years old. Over the last 15 years, the NEC has established a national model for efficiency and effectiveness in serving the needs of entrepreneurs and small businesses. With 14 non-profit business support organizations working together under one roof the results of the NEC impact can be seen in the continual recognition that Central Florida receives as an engine of job growth, innovation, and collaborative leadership to accelerate economic growth in all industry sectors.

If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.



2. Additional Information:

A. Is this project an expansion of an existing infrastructure project?

Yes No

B. Provide the proposed commencement date and number of days required to complete construction of the public infrastructure project.

No construction required

C. What is the location of the public infrastructure? (Provide the road number, if applicable.)

3201 E. Colonial Drive, Suite A20, Orlando, FL 32803

D. Who is responsible for maintenance and upkeep? (Indicate if more than one are applicable.)

Federal State County City Other^{NEC}_____

E. What permits are necessary for the public infrastructure project?

None anticipated

F. Detail whether required permits have been secured, and if not, detail the timeline for securing these permits. Additionally, if any required permits are local permits, will these permits be prioritized?

No permits are required.

G. What is the future land use and zoning designation on the proposed site of the infrastructure improvements, and will the improvements conform to those uses?

N/A



H. Will an amendment to the local comprehensive plan or a development order be required on the site of the proposed project or on adjacent property to accommodate the infrastructure and potential current or future job creation opportunities? If yes, please detail the timeline.

Yes No

If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.

I. Is the project ready to commence upon grant fund approval and contract execution? If no, please explain.

Yes No

Ready immediately

J. Does this project have a local match amount?

Yes No

If yes, please describe the entity providing the match and the amount.

The ongoing operating budget of the NEC is solely provided by local investors from the public, and private sector.

K. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal.

*Please see attached proposal



3. Program Budget

Estimated Costs and Sources of Funding: Include all applicable public infrastructure costs and other funding sources available to support the proposal.

A. Public Infrastructure Project Costs:

Construction	\$ _____		
Reconstruction	\$ _____		
Design & Engineering	\$ _____		
Land Acquisition	\$ _____		
Land Improvement	\$ _____		
Other	\$ 450,000.00	Please Specify:	<u>*see attached</u>
Total Project Costs	\$ _____		

B. Other Public Infrastructure Project Funding Sources:

City/County	\$ _____		
Private Sources	\$ _____		
Other (grants, etc.)	\$ _____	Please Specify:	_____
Total Other Funding	\$ _____		
Total Amount Requested	\$ 450,000.00		

Note: The total amount requested must equal the difference between the public infrastructure project costs in 3.A. and the other public infrastructure project funding sources in 3.B.

C. Provide a detailed budget narrative, including the timing and steps necessary to obtain the funding and any other pertinent budget-related information.

Enter the 15th year of operation, the NEC requires ongoing updates, and upgrades of equipment, furniture, and technology to serve the growing needs of the 14 resident non-profit organizations, and the thousands of clients that they serve each year.

Last year alone, the NEC hosted over 400 business seminars at the facility, and the Resource Partners personally coached and trained over 15,000 business people. This model of efficiency and leverage needs to continuously upgrade and improve the facility or risk a deteriorating level of service to visiting clients.



4. Approvals and Authority

- A. If the governmental entity is awarded grant funds based on this proposal, what approvals must be obtained before it can execute a grant agreement with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (e.g., approval of a board, commission or council)?

Approval by Orange County Government Economic Development Administrator and the NEC Executive Board.

- B. If approval of a board, commission, council or other group is needed prior to execution of an agreement between the governmental entity and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity:

- i. Provide the schedule of upcoming meetings for the group for a period of at least six months.

Executive Board of the National Entrepreneur Center meets Bi-Monthly

- ii. State whether that group can hold special meetings, and if so, upon how many days' notice.

NEC Executive Board can arrange special meetings withing 48 hours.

- C. Attach evidence that the undersigned has all necessary authority to execute this proposal on behalf of the governmental entity. This evidence may take a variety of forms, including but not limited to: a delegation of authority, citation to relevant laws or codes, policy documents, etc.



I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I have express authority to sign this proposal on behalf of the above-described governmental entity.

Name of Governmental Entity: Orange County Government

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: Ajit Lalchandani, County Administrator

Representative Signature: *Ajit Lalchandani*

Signature Date: 11.29.17