

**PROPOSAL TO REQUEST DESIGNATION OF AN EXISTING FACILITY
LOCATED IN MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA AS A SPECIAL PURPOSE
CENTER OF CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

In accordance with the State Board of Education Rules 6A-14.0061, FAC, the Central Florida Community College District Board of Trustees desires to establish a new site and have it designated as a Special Purpose Center for instructional purposes. The Central Florida Community College District Board of Trustees approved the long term lease of this facility on January 28, 2003 and was accepted by the City Council of the City of Ocala on February 4, 2003. The site is located at the Ocala International Airport in Ocala, Florida. The site consists of approximately 10.20 acres+/- including a drivers training pad, area for training activities, access roads, parking lot, and classroom facilities. The College acquired these facilities through a multi-year lease with the City of Ocala for the specific purpose of instruction and does currently utilize this facility for the College's Commercial Driving Program and training for the Criminal Justice Program's Law Enforcement Students – Vehicle Operations, and EMT and Paramedic programs. This educational site continues to address and meet a critical industry need in the area of Commercial Driver Training. The following narrative explains how this request meets the criteria established by the State Board of Education for a Special Purpose Center.

- A. The proposed special purpose center is part of and consistent with the master plan of the community college.

To better serve our communities, Central Florida Community College has educational facilities located throughout Marion, Citrus and Levy counties including the Appleton Museum of Art. Within the College mission statement is a commitment to offer educational opportunities which are accessible, affordable and high quality. In a climate that nurtures excellence, Central Florida Community College provides undergraduate instruction and awards associate degrees and certificates; prepares students for careers requiring professional and technical training; encourages student success through a variety of support services; and promotes the economic, social and cultural development of the community. This request for the designation of this facility as a Special Purpose Center is a consistent and fits the college's Mission, Vision, and Goals and the college's long term strategic plan to increase enrollment and provide training opportunities for the communities we serve. The Special Purpose Center is designed to serve as a regional training center providing specialized training as noted in this proposal.

- B. The proposed services are necessary to adequately serve the community college district.

Central Florida Community College has provided driver training to commercial vehicle drivers, law enforcement recruits, officers, and emergency medical technicians since 1996. As part of the College's contractual agreement with the State of Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the college is required to own or lease 5 Commercial Motor Vehicles to be used for training and testing with respect to Class A licenses. The College does meet these criteria and

is certified and authorized by the State of Florida that our vehicles used for Class A testing are semi-tractor/trailers. The college's Institutional Goals and Major Directions support the purpose of this request: 'we will strive to continuously improve every aspect of the college' and 'to provide accessible, affordable, high quality learning opportunities which meet students' life-long learning needs'.

C. Projected enrollments justify expansion.

The program continues to see increased demand for instructional services in this geographical region. FTE enrollments generated at this site continue to show growth and increased demand. This program has experience a 9.6% increase in enrollment over prior year. The college does not have any adequate facilities to accommodate this program at any of its' current sites other than at this leased facility.

D. Proposed facility needs justify expansion.

The College recently agreed to a new contract for Third Party Administrators for Florida Commercial Driver License Testing with the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The current Commercial Driving License is specified by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. The American Association of Motor Vehicles Administrators has mandated a major update that will become the federally required standard. Florida will adopt this standard during 2007. In addition to refresher training, changes to basic skill test range layouts are required in addition to new scoring and related procedures.

E. Proposed expansion is in conjunction with the other educational agencies within the community college district.

The College's major business and education partners include the Citrus, Levy and Marion Workforce Connection, the heart of Florida Coalition, the Ocala/Marion Economic Development Corporation, the Public Policy Institute, the Ocala Marion County Chamber of Commerce, the Citrus County Economic Development Council, the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce, the Withlacoochee Technical Institute, Marion Technical Institute as well as the Citrus, Levy and Marion Public Schools Districts. The college is in a continuous improvement mode to enhance and advance the training and educational needs of all of our partners and our local communities.

F. Alternatives were considered by the board of trustees.

The College did consider alternative sites within the district as well as the availability of a training area at any off the college's current locations. This site was selected as it met all of the requirements and defined needs of the instructional programs and had become available land/facilities owned by City of Ocala and it was fiscally appropriate within the resources of the college. The location and available facilities at this site meet the needs of the program are satisfactory. If the college were to consider constructing such a facility, it would be cost prohibitive.

Central Florida Community College respectfully requests the designated of this facility as a Special Purpose Center.