

FLORIDA IS MISSION-CRITICAL

FOR THE MILITARY & DEFENSE INDUSTRY



Florida is the key player in the military and defense industry, boasting 20 major military installations and three unified combatant commands.

Florida's second largest industry and has attracted numerous industry leaders – including virtually every major defense contractor from the U.S. and abroad. With a labor force ranked fourth in the nation for high-tech employment, Florida is well-positioned to continue driving innovation in defense aviation, biometrics, cybersecurity, and other critical areas of expertise.



LEARN MORE:
SelectFlorida.org

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With a vast network of major contractors and suppliers, Florida stands out as a leader in the military and defense industry. From ammunition to cybersecurity, Florida's diverse range of defense-related industries are well-positioned to continue driving innovation and growth in the years ahead.

Florida has
MORE THAN 20
major military
installations

*Florida Department of
Transportation*

Florida ranks
2ND IN THE U.S.
for the largest
aerospace cluster

*with 640+ establishments as
of 2023.*

Florida ranks
4TH IN THE U.S.
best undergrad aerospace
engineering program

at Embry-Riddle University.

LEVEL UP YOUR COMPANY'S TRAJECTORY WITH THESE PROGRAMS & TOOLS FOR

Florida's Military & Defense Industry

GRANT PROGRAMS AND INCENTIVES

The [Space Flight Activities Tax Exemption](#) is for the sale, lease, use, storage, consumption, or distribution of any orbital space facility, space propulsion system, space vehicle, satellite or station that possesses space flight capacity and the tangible personal property on-or-used aboard. Exemptions are also available for properties that are used or occupied predominantly for space flight business purposes, space launch vehicle fuels, space laboratories and carriers and direct and overhead materials.

The [Aircraft Repair and Maintenance Sales Tax Exemption](#) applies to labor, parts and equipment related to the repair and maintenance of qualified aircraft.

A [Fixed Wing Aircraft Sales Tax Exemption](#) is applicable to the sale or lease of an eligible aircraft. To qualify, the aircraft must have a maximum certified takeoff weight exceeding 15,000 pounds and be utilized by a "common carrier," as defined in the regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration.

The [Semiconductor, Defense and Space Technology Tax Exemption](#) supports technology-based companies as they continue to invest in critical advanced technology machinery and equipment. Businesses involved in semiconductor, defense and space technology production are eligible to apply for a sales and use tax exemption permit for the purchase of machinery and equipment that is valid for two years.

The [Defense Infrastructure Grant Program](#) supports local infrastructure projects deemed to have a positive impact on the military value of installations within the state.

A [Defense Reinvestment Grant Program](#) offers assistance for community-based activities that focus on addressing one of three specific issues: safeguarding existing military installations, promoting diversification in defense-dependent communities, or creating plans for the repurposing of closed or realigned military installations.

[Florida Defense Support Commission Grants](#) are available to help military communities address key issues including economic and product research and development, collaborative planning with host communities to ensure military mission accommodation and prevent base encroachment, advocacy to federal civilian and military officials on behalf of the state, support to school districts in facilitating a seamless transition for an increased number of military-related students, job training and placement for military spouses in communities with a significant presence of active-duty military personnel, and promotion of the state to military contractors and employers.

The [Florida Job Growth Grant Fund](#) awards grants to support local public infrastructure and workforce training proposals that promote economic opportunities across the state.



High Impact Performance Incentive is a program that awards grants to spur capital investment and job creation. These grants are reserved for major facilities operating in designated high-impact sectors.

The **Capital Investment Tax Credit** is for capital-intensive industries operating in a designated high-impact portion of the following sectors in Florida: advanced manufacturing, clean energy, financial services, life sciences, information technology, transportation, semiconductors or a corporate headquarters facility. Annual credit against the corporate income or premium tax liability is provided for up to 20 years. Businesses must make a cumulative investment of at least \$25 million and create a minimum of 100 new full-time jobs to receive this credit.

TAX EXEMPTIONS

The **Manufacturing Machinery and Equipment Sales Tax Exemption** is available to all businesses that conduct their primary operations in specific industry classifications, utilizing industrial machinery and equipment to manufacture, process, compound or create tangible personal property.

SERVICES

The **Florida Aerospace and Defense (FAD) Portal** connects Florida's defense companies, local governments and corporations and provides opportunities for organiza-

tions to review defense contract and grant opportunities located in Florida; find and connect with Florida defense manufacturers, vendors and suppliers; and discover additional resources including manufacturing, cybersecurity training, export assistance, workforce assistance and resources to help them apply for, win and manage contracts.

WORKFORCE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The **Work Opportunity Tax Credit Program** provides employers with the opportunity to earn a federal tax credit ranging from \$1,200 to \$9,600 per employee when they hire individuals who qualify as members of specific target groups.

Quick Response Training is a state-funded grant program that provides funding for customized training to support both new and expanding businesses within Florida's targeted industries.

The **Incumbent Worker Training Program** provides grant funding to incumbent employees at established Florida businesses to undergo 12 months of continuing education and training.



Learn More About These Programs and Others

Other incentive programs may be available for qualified projects/ investors and should be evaluated on a project by project basis.

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