



MANATEE COUNTY INCENTIVES

QuEiP (Qualified Economic Impact Project) TEAM - www.manateeedc.com/permitting.aspx

The Qualified Economic Impact Project Team is a public/private partnership established to maintain and grow a strong economic base in Manatee County and consists of professionals who have the authority to make administrative decisions involved in various aspects of a qualified project. This concept has been in existence for over 20 years in Manatee County.

Customized Rapid Response Team Incentive

New and Existing Business Development is provided with an expedited review of all County related services. The Team is led by the Economic Development Manager. Potential customers contact the Economic Development Manager prior to submittal of new development or business expansion to review project elements. The Economic Development Manager establishes the team of County Departments inclusive of the Building Department, Utilities Department, Public Works Department and Planning Department for expedited review process for each project. This service includes the Qualified Economic Impact Service, Fast Track Service; County initiated Rezone Process, Streamlined Procurement Process and Individual Project Customization, when needed.

The company must:

- Export the majority (55% or more) of its products or services outside Manatee/Sarasota Counties (Manufacturers, corporate headquarters, telecommunication centers, distribution centers, etc.)
- And/or provides high-end training or research to a customer base of 65% from outside the two county region. (Research facilities, medical colleges, sports training complexes, etc.)
- Or, is a supplier to local targeted industry sectors where 75% of the company's clients are local targeted industry sectors.

The company must be environmentally compatible, represent an end-user, and will create or retain quality job opportunities meeting the following thresholds:

- **Existing local company** (Manatee/Sarasota) ... average annual wage at or above the 2008 local average annual wage **\$33,659 (\$16.18/Hour)**
- **Relocating/new company**... average annual wage that is 115% of the 2008 local average annual wage. **\$38,708 (\$18.61/hour)** In addition, the project must create a minimum of 5 new jobs for Manatee County. **Note: If the project is within an Enterprise Zone or Community redevelopment Area the thresholds may be lower**

Job Creation Incentives

Florida Qualified Target Industries Tax Refund

This program is available to qualified target industry businesses with average wages exceeding 115% of the state average for local wage, as in section 288.106 of the Florida Statutes, which create new high-wage employment opportunities in Florida either by expanding an existing business within the State or by bringing a new business to the State. Coordinated with the Economic Development Council and Enterprise Florida. Includes a local match.

Economic Development Incentive Grant (EDI)

Local incentive grant used when the QTI is not involved in a project but all other qualifications are met including wage and number of jobs created. It is offered to qualifying business regardless of location. Available to qualified applicants creating new high-wage job opportunities, with exceptionally high

wages and capital investment, either by expanding an existing business within the County or by bringing a new business to the County. This incentive is customized per business based on the number of jobs created and percent above 115% of the state average local wage as described above.

State Closing Fund Local Match

Local incentive grant used only in conjunction with State of Florida's Governor's Closing Fund and provided as local match to assist with state qualification. Available to qualified applicants creating new high-wage job opportunities, with exceptionally high wages and capital investment, either by expanding an existing business within the County or by bringing a new business to the County. Coordinated through the Economic Development Council and the State of Florida. Requires State and County approval.

Industrial Revenue Bonds

County reserves the right to review each application for financing and provide consent to issuance based upon the best interest of the County. The determination shall be based upon review of the application and such other information as may be requested or provided by the applicant for such financing and shall include, but not be limited to consideration of: 1) Environmental impacts; 2) Jobs created; 3) relationship to economic development programs; 4) additional economic impacts; 5) nature of commitment owners and developers of the project are prepared to make to secure the commitment to provide benefits to Manatee County; 6) impact on public service and facilities; and 7) consistency with the County's land development code and the likelihood of obtaining zoning and land use and development approvals. The County Administrator has the authority to provide procedures for the review of the application.

[PORT MANATEE - FOREIGN TRADE ZONE NO. 169 - www.foreign-trade-zone.com/benefits.htm](http://www.foreign-trade-zone.com/benefits.htm)

A subzone would need to be extended to the customer's site if not located on, but is near Port Manatee, to access these benefits. The below benefits have been identified, assuming that there will be no "value-added" while in the trade zone (if there is value-added, more benefits from the zone would apply)...

DUTY DEFERRAL: No duty is ever charged on merchandise while it is in a Foreign Trade Zone, and there is no limit on the length of time merchandise may be kept in a Foreign-Trade Zone. By deferring the duty, capital is freed for more important needs.

WEEKLY ENTRY SAVINGS: The zone user files only one Customs Entry per week, rather than filing one Customs Entry per shipment. Customs no longer has to process an entry for each and every shipment being imported into the zone, which results in not having to pay for the processing of each and every entry

ENCOURAGEMENT ZONE- www.portmanatee.com/encouragement.asp

A geographical area located from Tampa Bay inclusive of the Port Manatee east to I-75 and from the Manatee County line to Buckeye Road where port related business is created or expanded. Potential customers contact the Economic Development Manager prior to submittal of new development or business expansion to review project elements. The Economic Development Manager establishes the team of Port staff, County Departments inclusive of the Building Department, Utilities Department, Public Works Department and Planning Department for expedited review process for each project.

- Planning Department Review and Building Department Review guaranteed completion within 90 days of submittal to County

More information: [Manatee County Economic Development Incentive Program full details](#)