

Triumph Gulf Coast Pre-Application Form

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: Gulf Coast State College

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: Serving the community since 1957, Gulf Coast State College was the first public two-year institution to open after the 1957 Florida Legislature established a statewide network of community colleges. Located in Panama City on Florida's Emerald Coast, Gulf Coast is one of 28 public colleges in the state, all located within commuting distance of 96 percent of the population.

Throughout its history, the College has been committed to providing a first-class education to the students in its service district. This commitment is evidenced by the excellent performance of GCSC graduates who transfer to state universities as well as by consistently high grade point averages and graduation rates that are higher than the Florida college system averages. The College currently serves more than 11,000 credit, non-credit, workforce, and/or continuing education students (enrollment data taken from Summer 2016 – Spring 2017 semesters).

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Glen McDonald
Title: Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Economic Development
Mailing Address: 5230 West US Highway 98, Panama City, Florida 32401
Telephone Number: 850-872-3805
Email Address: gmcDonald@gulfcoast.edu
Website: www.gulfcoast.edu

Name of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: Florida State University Panama City, Bay District Schools, CareerSource Gulf Coast, Bay County Economic Development Alliance, Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City, GKN Aerospace, Doncasters, Huntington Ingalls, and the St Joe Company

REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Gulf Coast State College (GCSC) Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute (AMI²) will be a public-private partnership of industry, local/state/federal agencies, and higher education partners that work together and invest in the development of world class facilities, technologies, capabilities, educational programs and services, training, and workforce development/recruitment. Our stakeholders are working together to jointly design, acquire and equip world-class research, development, and limited production facilities – all with a goal of creating a global center for advanced manufacturing excellence in Northwest Florida! In addition, our stakeholders are working collectively to identify and recruit the best industry talent essential to drive innovation and ensure our success.

AMI² is designed to expand upon and integrate the work of current and developing Advanced Manufacturing partners - partners who make extensive use of computerized and highly automated, high precision technologies and techniques, combined with a high performance workforce, in furnishing a heterogeneous mix of products (in small or large volumes, and with both the efficiency of mass production and the flexibility of custom manufacturing), in order to quickly respond to customer demands.

The Gulf Coast State College (GCSC) Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute will provide state of the art skill training to individuals who are seeking future employment in advanced manufacturing. The training will include classroom instruction, in school laboratory experiences and significant on-the-job training opportunities through internships. Students participating in the Institute will be provided instruction in the basics of advanced manufacturing and will have extensive opportunities to participate in research and development activities regarding new manufacturing technologies and processes. These two components (on-the-job training and opportunities for research and development) are the major differences between the GCSC Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute and other advanced manufacturing training programs. With extensive on-the-job training and opportunities to participate in research and development, students will be well prepared for employment in the dynamic, ever changing field of advanced manufacturing. They will have the knowledge and skills needed to perform the basic processes that are required, operate state of the art equipment and identify new or improved processes and techniques.

The Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute will provide multiple enhanced learning opportunities/programs for prospective students and potential employees. These programs/learning activities will include Career Academies in Bay District Schools, Associate of Science degree in Engineering Technology (including several specializations in advanced manufacturing), college credit certificates in advanced manufacturing, and multiple industry certifications available at all instructional levels at GCSC, as well as, a new Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering at FSU PC. Development of the baccalaureate mechanical engineering program is critical to the recruitment and expansion of advanced manufacturing companies in the region who will utilize the benefits and services of the Institute. The Institute will also provide non-credit instruction in areas identified by manufacturing employers as needed for the training or retraining of current and new employees.

The Institute will be a collaborative partnership between GCSC, FSU-PC, Bay District Schools, CareerSource Gulf Coast, existing local manufacturing employers, local military institutions, the Bay County Economic Development Alliance, the St. Joe Company, and new businesses and industries attracted to the area.

- i) The amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast

The Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute program will cost approximately \$29.1M from all sources and will take about five years to become fully self-sustaining. Gulf Coast State College will request the majority of these funds from Triumph Gulf Coast for utilization over a 5 year period.

- ii) The amount and identity of other sources of funds for the project or program

Gulf Coast State College has requested \$3,361,875 from the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund and \$100,000 from the St. Joe Foundation. If we receive both of these funds, our Triumph request will be approximately \$25.6M over 5 years.

- iii) The location of the project or program

The described components of the AMI² project will be located in Bay County, FL. Facilities will be constructed and operated on the campus of Gulf Coast State College and on property available adjacent to the Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport.

- iv) Summary description of the proposed program, including how the program will be transformational and promote economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties

This proposal will promote transformational economic opportunity by expanding and enhancing workforce acquisition and training in advanced manufacturing, while developing (with partners) a world class center for research, development, and eventual deployment in clean, sustainable, advanced manufacturing techniques and methodologies. This Center of Global Excellence will ultimately serve as a magnet in the region, attracting not only new business and industry interested in exploring and taking advantage of cutting-edge manufacturing, but enticing and sustaining the workforce necessary to grow this region's manufacturing base. The Bay Economic Development Alliance, Florida's Great Northwest and Opportunity Florida have all identified Advanced Manufacturing as one of the "Targeted Industries" that is important to the diversification of the local economies and the availability of high skill/high wage employment opportunities. Recent developments in the local community (the arrival of GKN Aerospace, Eastern Shipbuilding's new Coast Guard contract and other opportunities with our military partners) have resulted in increased employment opportunities for individuals with expertise in advanced manufacturing and related fields. Based on this identified need for individuals with enhanced skills in advanced manufacturing, Gulf Coast State College determined, in conjunction with manufacturing partners, military partners, and other educational and economic development partners that it was essential that training be provided in this area. By expanding the existing Engineering Technology AS degree program at GCSC and expanding the engineering programs offered at FSU PC to include training in advanced manufacturing, this critical need will be met and individuals will have an opportunity locally to train for high skill/high wage employment opportunities.

- v) A summary of the timeline for the proposed project or program

Anticipated Timeline:

Phase I- Development and implementation of additive manufacturing and composites instructional labs in the college's Advanced Technology Center (2018-19)

Phase II- Construction of the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute in the new STEM Building (with AM-related labs) on GCSC Main Campus (2018-2020)

Phase III- Consortia building Advanced Technology Accelerator (training, development, and production) co-located at Venture Crossings with Advanced Manufacturing Industries (2020-2021)

4. How the Project is eligible for Triumph Funds (300 words)

The Gulf Coast State College (GCSC) Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute will provide state of the art skilled training to individuals who are seeking future employment in advanced manufacturing. This project meets all criteria for Triumph funding and will help create new advanced manufacturing jobs in several NWFL counties. The training will include classroom instruction, in school laboratory experiences and significant on-the-job training opportunities through internships. Students participating in the Institute will be provided instruction in the basics of advanced manufacturing and will have extensive opportunities to participate in research and development activities regarding new manufacturing technologies and processes. These two components (on-the-job training and opportunities for research and development) are the major differences between the GCSC Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute and other advanced manufacturing training programs.

This proposal will promote economic opportunity by expanding and enhancing the workforce training in advanced manufacturing that is available in Bay, Gulf and Franklin counties. Bay Economic Development Alliance, Florida's Great Northwest and Opportunity Florida have all identified Advanced Manufacturing as one of the "Targeted Industries" that is important to the diversification of the local economies and the availability of high skill/high wage employment opportunities. Recent developments in the local community (the arrival of GKN Aerospace, Eastern Shipbuilding's new Coast Guard contract and other opportunities with our military partners) have resulted in increased employment opportunities for individuals with expertise in advanced manufacturing. Based on this identified need for individuals with skills in advanced manufacturing, Gulf Coast State College, in conjunction with manufacturing partners, military partners, and economic development partners determined that it was essential that training be provided in this area.

The Institute will be a partnership between GCSC, FSU-PC, Bay District Schools, CareerSource Gulf Coast, local manufacturing employers, local military institutions, Bay County Economic Development Alliance and the St. Joe Company.

Bay County Priorities for Triumph Funds Based on Northwest Florida Forward Strategic Plan- Approved by the Bay County BoCC October 17, 2017

Gulf Coast State College and its AMI² team have reviewed the Bay County Priorities for Triumph Funds and have listed the following that match the AMI² project:

STRENGTHS- to defend

An emerging ecosystem of entrepreneurial programs, assets, and networks

WEAKNESSES- to strengthen

Lack of vibrant industry clusters with supply chains: high performing industry clusters are essentially a single firm or location

Insufficient funding for workforce development and training

OPPORTUNITIES- to exploit

Strengthening the regional economy beyond military and tourism

Creating a demand-driven workforce development initiative able to accommodate large employers

Intra-regional and interstate partnerships, especially connected to Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing

THREATS- to mitigate

Uncertainty surrounding state economic development funding and support

Reduced statewide incentives for economic development