

TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. PRE-APPLICATION FORM

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. ("Triumph Gulf Coast") has created a pre-application process to provide initial consideration of potential ideas for projects or programs that may seek an award of funding. Applicants are required to participate in the pre-application process.

Notwithstanding the response from Triumph Gulf Coast on the pre-application form, an Applicant may still elect to submit an Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: Town of Jay, Florida

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: The town of Jay was incorporated in 1951. With agriculture as its main source of income, Jay's population is around 600 people.

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Eric Seib, (850) 675-4557, ericseibtoj@bellsouth.net

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Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program:

REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In a maximum of three (3) pages, please describe the proposed project or program, including (i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast; (ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program; (iii) the location of the project or program; (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, and (v) a summary timeline for the proposed project or program.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This pre-application process will not result in an award of funding by Triumph Gulf Coast. Rather, this process is designed to facilitate submission of ideas for potential projects or programs before the Applicant expends time and/or resources to complete a full Application. All Applicants for funding are required to complete an Application, which will be scored, and then considered for award in the discretion of Triumph Gulf Coast Board.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Town of Jay and Jay High School Makerspace Initiative

The Town of Jay has created a partnership with Jay High School to build a \$1,125,000 industrial building containing multiple Fabrication Labs, also known as Fab Labs, in support of the high school's Makerspace Initiative to prepare students for future occupations and careers in the disproportionately affected Census County Division. With a Rural Economic Development Initiative designation, the Town of Jay will utilize a Rural Infrastructure Fund Grant to fund \$750,000, or 67% of the project cost. We are requesting a \$375,000 match of Triumph funds to complete the project funding.

Project Overview and Description

The theory of Makerspace is built upon the principle that students construct their own understanding through experiencing and reflecting. To expand upon the standardized teaching process created in our schools, today's students need alternative methods of study and education. Makerspace allows students to build problem solving skills through trial and error. The mindset of students creating something out of nothing and exploring their own interests, is at the core of Makerspace. These spaces also help prepare those who need critical 21st century skills in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

The Makerspace theory of instruction is a natural expansion on Santa Rosa County School District's STEAM Innovate. Now in its third year, the STEAM Innovate trains teachers to better educate students for the world they will face in the future. Makerspace provides students a laboratory to learn, observe, ask questions, conduct research, plan, create, present and then reflect. This process is the alternative way of study and education that can prepare students for the information technology, online productivity and cybersecurity services industries. There are more than 13,000 cybersecurity jobs in the state of Florida that hire high school graduates with the certifications and thinking skills showcased in FabLabs.

The Jay Industrial Park, located on Higdon Drive in the limits of the Town of Jay, currently contains shovel ready lots capable to support a 10,000-square foot building that can be built to house multiple open classrooms serving all schools in the northern Santa Rosa county area. The estimated cost of the industrial building is \$1,125,000. With a Rural Economic Development Initiative designation, the Town of Jay will utilize a Rural Infrastructure Fund Grant to fund \$750,000, or 67% of the project cost. We are requesting a \$375,000 match of Triumph funds to complete the project funding.

Community Benefits

In parallel with building a training center for future employees of Santa Rosa and Escambia County, The Town of Jay leadership will also look to market the partnership of businesses with the FabLabs. By pairing the Santa Rosa and Escambia county information technology, cybersecurity, and online application industrial leaders with the enterprising students, the local business leaders can help shape their future industrial sector employees early in their lives, greatly reducing training program costs. One of the focus areas of Northwest Florida Forward is to partner with cradle to career education system to expand the promotion of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs and technical skills development as early as grade school to build long-term talent supply in the region.

In addition, the Town of Jay leadership will look to increase the job base within the city limits by promoting businesses to construct their operational centers in close proximity to the FabLabs, strengthening the partnership with local pool of talented students. These businesses will increase the town's tax base, support the local businesses through daily interaction, and possibly promote an increase in the construction of new residential homes.

Student Benefits

The Jay High School Makerspace Initiative supports students that may not have the means to attend college, but provide a pathway to increase their technology skills, knowledge and encourage industry certifications during high school. The Town of Jay will construct a building to house fabrication labs to create an alternative learning center where students can explore, learn, build, and innovate. Then, that student base can be linked to mentors in the information technology online productivity and cybersecurity service industries to expand on the Jay High School Makerspace Initiative curriculum. The Town of Jay leadership will promote businesses to build in close proximity of this high school makerspace lab to strengthen career readiness initiatives for rural students and long term economic benefits to rural towns.

Measurement for Success

Jay High School plans to expand their Makerspace programs over the next two to three years so that all instructional faculty will be using Project Based Learning in their curriculum. The graduation rate of Jay High School will provide a feedback for success. Also, the number of students who become employed in the Information Technology industry after high school will provide a good measure of the Makerspace program.

Summary Timeline

The town of Jay is currently working all grant funding sources to secure the \$750,000 portion of the project. Our engineering team is building plans for the project. Once in receipt of the matching funds, we would start construction within _____. The building would require y months to build. We plan to start student use of our Makerspace Fabrication Labs in the _____ school year.

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jay respectfully requests that Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. considers our project for award of matching funds.