

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: Gulf District Schools

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: Gulf District Schools is home to four public schools: two Pre-K through 6 elementary schools and two 7-12 high schools. There are approximately 1,900 students in the district. Over 60% are considered economically disadvantaged.

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Jim Norton
Title: Superintendent
Mailing Address: 150 Middle School Road, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456
Telephone Number: 850.229.8256
Email Address: jnorton@gulf.k12.fl.us
Website: www.gulf.k12.fl.us

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: not applicable

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.

TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC.

PRE-APPLICATION FORM

REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

(i) Funds being sought:

Gulf District Schools is requesting \$300,000 to be used to equip three adjoining classrooms at Port St. Joe High School to be used as a Culinary Arts Center and Electives Suite. This would include:

- 4 refrigerators
- 4 ranges
- Presentation area with overhead projector and cooktop
- Sinks
- Microwave ovens
- Separate dining area
- Sewing machines
- Murphy bed
- Cookware, dinnerware, utensils, etc.

(ii) Other funding sources:

There are two Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Grants which can be used to partially fund vocational programs in high schools. Perkins: Rural & Sparsely Populated Grant is approximately \$40,000. Perkins: Secondary Grant is less than \$20,000. While these grants are not substantial enough to cover the expense of initiating a new program, they can be utilized to sustain a program by providing funds for basic supplies. However, these funds must also be used to support every vocational program within the district which includes welding, agriculture, and digital information technologies.

The District will accept financial responsibility for the salary and benefit package of the Culinary Arts Instructor.

It is the hope of the District that additional funding can be obtained for this project by soliciting sponsors from within the business community. For example, each student workstation (mini-kitchen setups with ranges and refrigerators) could be sponsored by a local restaurant recognizing that doing so is an investment in a future workforce.

(iii) Location of program:

Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School
Port St. Joe, Florida

(iv) Summary description:

Gulf County experienced a tremendous economic blow with the closing of the Port St. Joe Papermill. In an effort to overcome this, the area began to emphasize tourism and, as a result, has experienced some growth. Several restaurants have opened in the area and created a demand for employees trained in culinary arts and the service industry. Triumph's commitment to the community is certain to result in accelerated growth and an intensified demand for such employees. Plans are underway for the construction of a state-designed deepwater port in the sheltered waters of St. Joseph Bay that will offer direct access to the U. S. Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. It will be adjacent to more than 5,000 acres of undeveloped land ripe for the development of new businesses.

Funds made available through this grant would be used to equip three adjoining classrooms to create a culinary arts center. The center would feature four small group workstations, each equipped with a refrigerator, range, sink, and microwave. It would also feature a teacher demonstration area equipped with a cooktop. This area would be instrumental in students achieving industry certification in culinary arts.

The suite would also have a dining area where students could learn table setting and serving etiquette. A Murphy bed and a bank of sewing machines would ensure the suite could be used for additional electives such as fabric construction, hospitality services, consumer science, and food & nutrition.

In addition to producing graduates with skills which will permit them to find employment in our area, the project will meet other needs. The versatility of the suite would allow the school to add some much needed electives to the curriculum offerings. It would also entice subgroups currently underserved in career technical courses like welding the opportunity to ear industry certification.

The classrooms selected for this project once housed a home economics program and lend themselves well for the intended purpose.

(v) Timeline:

The renovation and purchase process will be initiated immediately upon receipt of the needed funds.