

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 eligibility for potential ideas of 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: Rocky Bayou Christian School
Proposal Title: STEM focused training w/ Certifications
Amount of Triumph Funds Requested: \$215,730.00
Total Estimated Project Cost: \$7,015,730.00

Brief Description of Individual/Entity/Organization:
Rocky Bayou Christian School is a K3-12 grade, college preparatory school, accredited through FACS. We currently enroll over 800 students on 2 campuses.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Christy Rowney
Title: Director of Business Development
Mailing Address: 2101 Parkin Dr. N
City: Niceville State: FL Zip Code: 32578
Telephone Number: 850 279 3730
Email Address: rowneyc@rbcs.org
Website: www.rbcs.org

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: HSU Educational Foundation and other Rocky Supporters (i.e. parents, grandparents, alumni, businesses)

REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In a maximum of two (2) pages, please describe the proposed project or program and anticipated outcomes 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 reviewed and then considered for award at the discretion of Triumph Gulf Coast Board.

Please Select the Proposal's Eligibility Category(s)

Pursuant to Section 288.8017, Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. was created to make awards from available funds to projects or programs that meet the priorities for economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties. The disproportionately affected counties are: Bay County, Escambia County, Franklin County, Gulf County, Okaloosa County, Santa Rosa County, Walton County, or Wakulla County. *See*, Section 288.08012.

1. From the choices below, please check the box that describes the purpose of the proposed project or program (check all that apply):

- Ad valorem tax rate reduction within disproportionately affected counties;
- Local match requirements of s. 288.0655 for projects in the disproportionately affected counties;
- Public infrastructure projects for construction, expansion, or maintenance which are shown to enhance economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties;
- Grants to local governments in the disproportionately affected counties to establish and maintain equipment and trained personnel for local action plans of response to respond to disasters, such as plans created for the Coastal Impacts Assistance Program;
- Grants to support programs that prepare students for future occupations and careers at K-20 institutions that have campuses in the disproportionately affected counties. Eligible programs include those that increase students' technology skills and knowledge; encourage industry certifications; provide rigorous, alternative pathways for students to meet high school graduation requirements; strengthen career readiness initiatives; fund high-demand programs of emphasis at the bachelor's and master's level designated by the Board of Governors; and, similar to or the same as talent retention programs created by the Chancellor of the State University System and the Commission of Education, encourage students with interest or aptitude for science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical disciplines to pursue postsecondary education at a state university or a Florida College System institution within the disproportionately affected counties;
- Grants to support programs that provide participants in the disproportionately affected counties with transferable, sustainable workforce skills that are not confined to a single employer; and
- Grants to the tourism entity created under s. 288.1226 for the purpose of advertising and promoting tourism and Fresh From Florida, and grants to promote workforce and infrastructure, on behalf of all of the disproportionately affected counties.

Please Select the Priorities this Proposal's Outcomes will Achieve

1. Please check the box if the proposed project or program will meet any of the following priorities (check all that apply):

- Generate maximum estimated economic benefits, based on tools and models not generally employed by economic input-output analyses, including cost-benefit, return-on-investment, or dynamic scoring techniques to determine how the long-term economic growth potential of the disproportionately affected counties may be enhanced by the investment.
- Increase household income in the disproportionately affected counties above national average household income.
- Leverage or further enhance key regional assets, including educational institutions, research facilities, and military bases.
- Partner with local governments to provide funds, infrastructure, land, or other assistance for the project.
- Benefit the environment, in addition to the economy.
- Provide outcome measures.
- Partner with K-20 educational institutions or school districts located within the disproportionately affected counties as of January 1, 2017.
- Are recommended by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the project or program will be located.
- Partner with convention and visitor bureaus, tourist development councils, or chambers of commerce located within the disproportionately affected counties.



To: Dr. Frank Fuller

From: Christy Rowney, Director of Business Development, Rocky Bayou Christian School

Date: July 15, 2019

Re: Funding Request for the Innovation of STEM Programs resulting in Certifications

Executive Summary

Rocky Bayou Christian School is a K3-12th grade educational institution working to implement STEM focused programs on their Niceville and Crestview campuses. These programs are designed to inspire students seeking a technical career path and move them through the steps needed to be successful in transitioning to the local area workforce.

Outcomes

The ultimate goal is to step interested students through a technical career plan that results in a guaranteed job interview upon graduation. All STEM courses (for grades 9-12) would lead to an industry certification or college certificate. Ideally, most courses would result in both an industry certification and college certificate through a partnership with a local college such as Northwest Florida State College.

The initial program coursework offered would include the following areas: cybersecurity, drone operations, CAD/3D printing, robotics, and aviation pilot certificates.

Students would have the ability to receive the following CAPE funded certifications:

- CERT1803- Computing Fundamentals
- CERT1804- Key Applications
- PROSO801- Database Essentials
- PROSO802- Gaming Essentials
- PROSO208- Cybersecurity Essentials
- ADESK002- Autodesk Certified User
- ADESK004- Autodesk Certified Inventor
- CISCO003- Cisco Certified Entry Network Technician
- CISCO004- Cisco Certified Network Professional
- USINS001- Small UAS Safety Certification

Requested Funding

Our proposed budget is two-fold. The first part clearly aligns with the eligibility categories selected on the pre-application. We are respectfully, requesting funding assistance for the equipment needed to launch several STEM focused programs. The HSU Educational Foundation has already agreed to assist us

with the implementation of the drone program. Other programs will be implemented immediately, as funding becomes available.

Part 1: Program Funding Request

Cybersecurity software and materials	\$ 400.00
3D Printer	\$ 1,500.00
3 AutoCAD Licenses (1 year)	\$ 4,830.00
5 First Lego League Challenge Kits	\$ 4,000.00
Microsoft Program Software	\$ 5,000.00
Total Program Funding Request	\$15,730.00

Part 2: Enhance Key Educational Institutions

In addition to the funding for the above programs, I would like to request assistance that will achieve the outcome “enhance key regional assets, including educational institutions, research facilities, and military bases.” As a private, educational institution we are uniquely positioned to offer specific training to students. The goal of the STEM Initiative is to provide interested students the certifications needed to gain employment in a technical career field within our local community. While we plan to launch the initiative this year, we realize that most types of technical training require the use of a STEM lab. This lab would comply with OSHA requirements and provide the space needed for testing and creation of many different types STEM courses. Phase 2 of this proposal requests funding for 1 STEM Labs.

Middle & High School Student STEM Lab	\$200,000.00
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Currently, we are working with DAG Construction to finalize a school master plan. The first part of the master plan is a high school classroom building that incorporates a Stem Lab. This building is projected to cost about \$6 million. The STEM Lab portion is approximately \$200,000. I am not sure whether or not this project is even eligible for Triumph Funds, but if so, we would be happy to work out a mutually beneficial donor recognition program should this be an option. We are hoping to break ground June 2020.

In conclusion, I have enclosed a proposal we are currently working with the HSU Educational Foundation on that not only supports the requests I have outlined here, but also gives a clear vision for the regional STEM Initiative we are pursuing as well.

Christy Rowney



Director of Business Development
Rocky Bayou Christian School
P: 850-279-3730 | rowneyc@rbcbs.org



To: Representative Mel Ponder

From: Amanda Negrón, Executive Director, HSU Educational Foundation

Christy Rowney, Director of Business Development, Rocky Bayou Christian School

Date: June 24, 2019

Re: Proposal for Non-public CTE Certification Pilot Program

Background

The funds associated with the Florida Career and Professional Education Act are currently not available to non-traditional learning entities. CAPE funds were designed to be used to build a partnership between local business and education communities, to expand and retain high-value industry, and sustain a vibrant state economy. That need is ongoing and increasing. Private schools, homeschool, and non-traditional learning programs, just like public schools, have the ability to prepare students for technical career fields, but this cannot be done without the proper certifications. Training for these certifications require a funding source to defray some operating costs of the programs.

Objective

Create a pilot program which spans across Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, and Bay counties designed to inspire students seeking a technical career path and move them through the steps needed to be successful in education. The ultimate goal is step students through a technical career plan that results in a guaranteed job interview upon graduation.

Structure

CAPE Funds made available to all non-public schools would allow interested students to receive training and certifications in the technical fields. While the official program would begin in 6th grade, STEM coursework would be introduced to students as young as 2nd grade.

“Imagine”- 6th and 7th grades

A video would be created and shown to all students focusing on the need to dream BIG and giving them an overview of what the world has to offer in regards to certified skills in the STEM world.

An introductory STEM course would be offered that includes 1 class/month for a total of 4 months (Jan-Apr) in the realm of:

- CyberSecurity
- Drone Operations
- CAD/3D Printing
- Robotics

“Invest” – 8th and 9th grades

Students are encouraged to try a variety of STEM classes at this phase. Students could choose to continue coursework in any of the previously addressed STEM areas or try a new class. The goal of this phase is that the student is starting to narrow down their area of interest.

“Inspire”- 10th -12th grades

This phase is where the magic happens. Students would select a specific area of interest and work towards a certificate. All courses would lead to an industry certification or college certificate. Ideally, most courses would result in both an industry certification and college certification through a partnership with a local college such as Northwest Florida State College.

Other Information

If approval is given for the expansion of entities able to use CAPE Funds, we would launch the pilot program with a plan to incorporate the use of the following, current CAPE certifications:

- CERT1803- Computing Fundamentals
- CERT1804- Key Applications
- PROSO801- Database Essentials
- PROSO802- Gaming Essentials
- PROSO208- Cybersecurity Essentials
- ADESK002- Autodesk Certified User
- ADESK004- Autodesk Certified Inventor
- CISCO003- Cisco Certified Entry Network Technician
- CISCO004- Cisco Certified Network Professional
- USINS001- Small UAS Safety Certification

As the program continues to grow, the number of certifications offered will increase as well. In addition, we will be working with participating schools and local businesses to add other relevant certifications to the existing list.

Next Step: Grant approval for CAPE Funds to be used by all non-public school entities to include private schools, homeschool students, and non-traditional learning centers.