

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: Santa Rosa County District Schools

Proposal Title: Santa Rosa Center for Innovation

Amount of Triumph Funds Requested: \$7,000,000

Total Estimated Project Cost: \$11,000,000

Brief Description of Individual/Entity/Organization: Santa Rosa County District Schools (SRCDS) is a public educational institution serving approximately 31,000 students who collectively attend 19 elementary schools, 10 middle schools, 7 high schools and a postsecondary technical college. SRCDS strives to be the number one preferred education destination in Northwest Florida. Our mission is to love, educate, and prepare ALL students for graduation and a successful future and is committed to providing students with a high-quality education that prepares them for success in college, career, and life. We believe that hands-on, project-based learning from kindergarten to graduation is essential for developing critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration skills. Overall, SRCDS strong commitment to Career and Technical Education (CTE) provides our students with valuable skills and experiences to help them succeed in their chosen paths after graduation.

Contact Information:

Primary Contact: Charlin Knight

Title: Director of Workforce Education

Secondary Contact: Jennifer Hines

Title: Coordinator of Workforce Education

Mailing Address: 6032 Hwy. 90, Milton, FL 32570

Telephone Number: (850) 983-5058

Email Address: knightc@santarosa.k12.fl.us or hinesj@santarosa.k12.fl.us

Website: <https://www.santarosacareerpathways.com> and <https://www.santarosaschools.org/en-US>

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: Santa Rosa Economic Development, Santa Rosa Career and Technical Education Business and Industry Partners, Locklin Technical College, Santa Rosa County.

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.

(i) Amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast: \$7,000,000

(ii) Amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program:

Santa Rosa County School District operating budget, District portion of CAPE funding, In-kind contributions from partnering business and industry, Department of Defense Education (DoDEA) grant funds (to be applied for 2024), Santa Rosa Community School budget.

(iii) The location of the project or program: 6447 US Highway 90, Milton, FL 32570

(iv) A 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:

SRCDs is committed to building strong partnerships within our community and preparing students for career pathways beyond high school. This pre-application proposes a project to transform the dynamic of how we offer career and technical educational experiences and STEAM learning opportunities for all students in SRCDs. The goal of this project is to expand the industry certification earning opportunities for all students.

Our request for funding spans across a five-year period and will allow us to acquire a long-term lease of a centrally located building in our community, to be transformed into an innovation center for not only students but also business and industry. This proposed innovation center will offer hands-on activities from kindergarten to 12th grade as well as provide a venue for business and industry partners to collaborate with our school district creating a reciprocal experience for students and the community to engage in career and technical experiences and gain industry credentials for those students who participate. This proposed innovation center will serve as the hub for the district's STEAM ecosystem.

Our mission is to inspire the next generation of leaders by creating an immersive and inclusive environment where students can explore, experiment, and innovate. This innovation center will provide a safe and dynamic space for students to engage in hands-on activities that support learning and industry certification attainment in areas such as robotics, engineering, technology, artificial intelligence, healthcare, agriculture, automotive, energy, construction/trades. We recognize that programming available at this innovation center will change based on the demands of our regional industry and industry certification earning opportunities may be expanded based on changes to the Master Credentials List.

Currently there are limited opportunities for elementary and middle school students to engage in hands-on career and technical education learning opportunities and earn certifications due to time restrictions during their instructional day. Opportunities for students to engage in hands-on career and technical education learning opportunities outside of the classroom are also limited. SRCDs believes that a dedicated innovation center, that emphasizes inclusion and diversity, will help us provide the same opportunities to students who may not otherwise participate in CTE during the school day.

Our vision is that this innovation center will serve as a hub for the following activities:

- Place-based learning for robotics, engineering, technology, artificial intelligence, healthcare, agriculture, energy, construction/trades
- After school CTE and STEM experiences for elementary school students where they can earn digital tool certifications such as ICT, IC3, Coding in Minecraft, and Python Coding Apprentice
- After school experiences for middle school students to earn digital tool and industry certifications such as but not limited to Linux, Python, Robotics Education and Competition Foundation, Unmanned Safety Institute, Agriculture Unmanned Aircraft Systems Specialist
- Weekend and Summer camps leading to industry certification attainment in various programs
- Common learning space for students in teacher academies and other leadership roles to host and facilitate hands-on learning experiences that excite students for future CTE opportunities
- An environment for immersive CTE and STEAM focused teacher professional development
- A regional STEAM ecosystem
- A space providing valuable time for project-based learning
- Workshops, courses, and other events that help students develop workforce skills and connect with business and industry partners who can offer mentorship and support.

This innovation center will offer a wide range of equipment and tools such as 3D printers, drones, robotics kits, coding stations, woodworking tools, virtual reality equipment, science kits, and a variety of other materials that will help students create, innovate, and ideate. The goal of this project is to increase career awareness, improve collaboration among business, industry, and education to increase CTE enrollment and industry certification attainment among all programs in SRCDs. The innovation center will provide students with access to cutting-edge technology, tools, and resources to explore, create and innovate, while creating a

pipeline of future talent to supply regional workforce. These programs will spark learning and ignite interest by allowing youth to experiment with real world situations, prepare for the future and support economic growth and workforce development across our region.

SRCDS seeks funding to cover the lease, with intent to purchase, an industrial space centrally located in Santa Rosa County. Funding will not only be used for acquisition of the space, but also retrofitting and staffing to serve as the innovation hub for a minimum of 5-7 years. We estimate the total cost of the project to be \$11,000,000 which covers lease, retrofitting the space, the necessary equipment and supplies, industry certification curriculum and testing materials, as well as staffing costs for part-time educators. We plan to supplement this grant and will seek partnerships with local businesses and organizations to provide additional support. SRCDS anticipates this project to be self-sustaining within 5-7 years.

We believe this project has the potential to transform Career and Technical Education and STEAM in Santa Rosa County and provide students will the skills and experiences they need to succeed in the 21st century while also having a positive impact on economic and workforce development. We are committed to using the funds in a responsible and effective manner, and to providing regular updates on the progress of the project. We hope that you will consider our proposal and help us to create a safe and inclusive innovative space for the students in our community that fosters creativity, innovation, and learning.

(v) A summary timeline for the proposed project or program.

A letter of intent to lease the property was executed on June 6, 2023. Upon receipt of funds, approximately 60 days to secure a lease, 180 days to retrofit the space and acquire all of the equipment and supplies (based on availability of labor and supplies), and 30 days to advertise and hire staff. For example, if we got the funds for this project in July or August, we are confident we could begin offering student experiences at the start of 24/25 school year.

Thank you for considering our grant proposal. We look forward to the opportunity to partner with your organization to create an innovation center that will benefit the students, educators, community members, and industry partners in Santa Rosa County.

| Santa Rosa County District Schools Santa Rosa Center for Innovation Proposed Budget & Timeline | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | 2023-2024 Planning Year | 2024-2025 Year 1 | 2025-2026 Year 2 | 2026-2027 Year 3 | 2027-2028 Year 4 | 2028-2029 Year 5 | Total |
| Triumph Funding Request | | | | | | | |
| Lease Building | 111,384 | 112,498 | 113,623 | 114,759 | 115,907 | - | 568,171 |
| Renovations (\$375/sf) | 3,775,500 | 200,000 | | - | - | - | 3,975,500 |
| Purchase Building *est pending appraisals | - | - | - | - | - | 1,050,000 | 1,050,000 |
| Staffing (1 instruct/1 office) | 68,636 | 110,882 | 116,426 | 122,247 | 128,360 | 134,778 | 681,329 |
| Supplies/Equipment | 350,000 | 150,000 | 100,000 | 75,000 | 50,000 | - | 625,000 |
| | | | | | | | 7,000,000 |
| Santa Rosa County District Schools Match | | | | | | | |
| Salaries (25%-4 staff) | 75,000 | 78,700 | 82,600 | 86,700 | 91,000 | 95,600 | 509,600 |
| Professional Development | 15,000 | 50,200 | 52,500 | 55,125 | 57,881 | 60,775 | 291,481 |
| Industry Cert Curriculum/Testing | 75,000 | 125,000 | 187,500 | 275,000 | 325,000 | 325,000 | 1,312,500 |
| Software | 375,000 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 2,250,000 |
| Supplies/Equipment | 130,000 | 136,500 | 143,325 | 150,491 | 158,015 | 165,917 | 884,248 |
| Mobile Innovation Lab | 110,000 | 80,000 | 84,000 | 88,200 | 92,610 | 97,241 | 552,051 |
| Transportation | - | 109,000 | 114,450 | 120,173 | 126,181 | 132,490 | 602,294 |
| | | | | | | | 6,402,174 |
| Other In-Kind Donations / Grants | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Estimated Enrollment | 0 | 300 | 500 | 750 | 1100 | 1300 | 3,950 |
| Estimated Industry Certifications Earned | 0 | 200 | 450 | 650 | 1000 | 1200 | 3,500 |

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
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- 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.