## **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: Okaloosa County School District Proposal Title: Building Trades and Applied Welding Expansion Amount of Triumph Funds Requested: \$2,990,000 Total Estimated Project Cost: \$8,794,200

## Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization:

The Okaloosa County School District (OCSD) serves approximately 32,000 students from pre-kindergarten to adult education. Each of our schools has its own distinct characteristics while sharing the unified mission and vision of the District—"Placing students on a pathway to success by providing high quality instruction, a wide array of marketable experiences, and unparalleled extracurricular opportunities while developing relationships that meet both their academic and emotional needs." With 66 schools, homeschool and online school options, OCSD provides high standard of education to all students in Okaloosa County. This is seen in the professional culture that exists at each facility where a high level of performance is expected of OCSD students. As a result, all students engage in rigorous, standards-based curriculum that promotes critical thinking and application of learning across content areas with the ultimate purpose of inspiring a lifelong passion for learning. Because of this high-performance level, the OCSD was one of only three districts in the state that earned a grade of A for two years in a row under the state of Florida's new grading system and the only school district in northwest Florida to earn this accomplishment.

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

## **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

## Executive Summary for Launching the Health Academy of Northwest Florida

Okaloosa County School District (OCSD) seeks funding to support **Building Trades and Applied Welding Expansion**, a proposal that will help to provide more hands-on experiences for Okaloosa County students. This request reflects the cost of constructing awnings at eight area schools to house the Building Trades and Applied Welding Programs. It also reflects supporting Seat Management costs for the eight Building Trades and one Applied Welding Programs.

# (i) Funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast: \$2,990,000

This request seeks funding to support the Building Trades program in Okaloosa County Schools. This specific project would help to build nine awnings to house the program at eight district schools—Baker School, Choctawhatchee HS, Crestview HS (2), Fort Walton Beach HS, Laurel Hill School, Davidson MS, Meigs MS, and Shoal River MS. The awnings will house all of the equipment and materials needed to support the robust Building Trades and Applied Welding programs that are emerging in Okaloosa County Schools. The funding would also support the Seat Management required for all eight Building Trades programs and one Applied Welding program. Seat Management includes the hardware and software support for a class set of computers for all nine programs. This would lead to better preparation and completion of industry certifications.

Funding Request	Cost
9 Building Trades & Welding Awnings (\$250,000 each)	\$2,250,000
Seat Management for 9 programs	\$500,000
Grant/Project Manager	\$240,000
Total Requested Funds	\$2,990,000

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

The success of the Building Trades and Applied Welding programs is to provide adequate support and space for programs that requires large consumable training. OCSD is dedicated to supporting these programs and will provide matching funds to cover the salary plus fringe for all nine instructors. In addition to this, the CTE department will partner with area business for donations for concrete and steel for the outdoor classroom space. CTE will also provide matching funds for materials and supplies for the Building Trades and Applied Welding programs from the federal Perkins allocation.

Matching Funds	Cost
OCSD	
Instructional Salary + Fringe for 9 programs at \$79,000 each (per year)	\$4,977,000
CTE	
Supplies and Materials	\$500,000
Community Partners	
Concrete and Steel	\$10,000
Classroom lumber supplies	\$10,000
Other Funding	
Legislative Funding	\$307,200
Total Matching Funds	\$5,804,200

## (iii) Location of the project

Okaloosa County School District (OCSD) is ready to expand the Building Trades and Applied Welding programs to eight secondary school programs. The Building Trades program requires a lot of space for lumber, saws, varying tools, and ongoing projects. The Applied Welding program also continues to grow 11/10/2023 11:26 AM

at Crestview High School, and constructing an awning will provide the students with outdoor work space so students will have the ability to work outside no matter the weather conditions. The Building Trades and Applied Welding programs are not possible in the space of a traditional classroom. The limitations of the walls, ventilation and capacity require an outdoor awning for successful implementation of quality instruction. At eight Okaloosa County Schools, outdoor awning spaces will house innovative learning space for all Building Trades and Applied Welding courses. These spaces will be a collaborative area where students can carry out full projects that mirror the workforce skills needed in this specific field. Administration at each school and at the district level have already mapped out the space where each of these outdoor classrooms can be constructed.

Below is a list of where each of the awnings will be constructed.

School	Level	Location
Baker School	Middle and High	Baker, FL- Okaloosa County
Choctawhatchee High School	High	Fort Walton Beach, FL-Okaloosa
Crestview High School (2)	High	Crestview, FL-Okaloosa
Fort Walton Beach High School	High	Fort Walton Beach, FL-Okaloosa
Laurel Hill School	Middle and High	Laurel Hill, FL-Okaloosa
Davidson Middle School	Middle	Crestview, FL-Okaloosa
Meigs Middle School	Middle	Crestview, FL-Okaloosa
Shoal River Middle School	Middle	Crestview, FL-Okaloosa

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

OCSD is looking for support to enhance the Building Trades and Applied Welding Expansion project. The Building Trades and Applied Welding programs expose students to a range of construction, electrical and HVAC opportunities, as well as MIG and TIG welding opportunities. As can be imagined, this type of instruction does not fit into the typical four-walled classroom. With the use of saws, lumber, other large pieces of construction equipment, along with metal grinding and metal fabrication welding equipment, the current classroom spaces for the programs at eight schools is not sufficient to replicate industry standards for instruction. This funding would help to support the construction of nine awnings at eight different secondary schools (Baker School, Choctawhatchee HS, Crestview HS (2), Fort Walton Beach HS, Laurel Hill School, Davidson MS, Meigs MS, and Shoal River MS). These programs range from the middle to the high school level. The awnings would provide an outdoor classroom. Students, and teachers alike, can gather under the awnings in all weather conditions to practice their industry skills. Much of these skills require cutting, sawing, grinding, etc. which can kick up a lot of dust and debris, along with welding sparks. This type of instruction requires special ventilation if kept inside a tradition, four-walled space. With an awning, no additional costs would be needed to revitalize the instructional space for special ventilation. These outdoor classrooms will serve as an innovative location where students can collaborate on real-world projects that that provides the career-ready training students need.

In addition to providing an outdoor working space, this funding would support the cost of seat management for the nine Building Trades and Applied Welding programs. Seat Management is the invoiced lease of a seat in a lab (including bundled hardware and services). Seat management is how OCSD handles computer purchases and services in the school labs. Building Trades and Applied Welding programs have online platforms that help to prepare students for their industry certification tests. It is the goal that through this new technology, students will not only be working toward earning future industry certifications but also taking these certifications on the new devices.

This project will provide around 1,200 students with an industry-grade work space for Building Trades and Applied Welding careers. These innovative, hand-on spaces will increase the number of industry certifications to 700 between all eight programs. This would bring the cost per certification to \$3,929. By doing this, the CTE programs are increasing their sustainability. This project would set up the Build Trades and Applied Welding programs and its graduates for years of success.

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

This pre-application process will <u>not</u> 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.

## 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.