



2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant
Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, January 29, 2024

NOGA ID

Authorizing legislation

General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, Article IX, Section 18.114(c)(v)

This LOI application must be submitted via email to loiapplications@tea.texas.gov.

The LOI application may be signed with a digital ID or it may be signed by hand. Both forms of signature are acceptable.

TEA must receive the application by **11:59 p.m. CT, January 29, 2024**.Grant period from **March 20, 2024-September 30, 2024**Pre-award costs permitted from **Not Permitted**

Application stamp-in date and time

Required Attachments

1. Excel workbook with the grant's budget schedules (linked along with this form on the TEA Grants Opportunities page)

See the Program Guidelines for for additional attachment information.

Select Focus Area (Applicants May Select One or Both Focus Areas)

- Focus Area 1: Career and Technical Education Course
- Focus Area 2: Work-Based Learning Experiences

Amendment Number

Amendment number (For amendments only; enter N/A when completing this form to apply for grant funds):

N/A

Applicant Information

Organization Cotulla ISD CDN 142-901 ESC 20 UEI QU5KZAASLYS4

Address 310 N Main Street City Cotulla ZIP 78014 Vendor ID 746003466

Primary Contact Heather Ramirez Email heather.ramirez@cotullaisd.net Phone 830-879-3073

Secondary Contact Frank Guerra Email frank.guerra@cotullaisd.net Phone 830-879-3073

Certification and Incorporation

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by TEA or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance and compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

I further certify my acceptance of the requirements conveyed in the following portions of the LOI application, as applicable, and that these documents are incorporated by reference as part of the LOI application and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA):

- LOI application, guidelines, and instructions Debarment and Suspension Certification
- General and application-specific Provisions and Assurances Lobbying Certification

Authorized Official Name Dr. Ramiro Nava

Title Superintendent

Email ramiro.nava@cotullaisd.net

Phone 830-879-3073

Signature *Dr. Ramiro Nava*

Date 1/25/2024

RFA # 701-24-121

S # 473-24

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Shared Services Arrangements

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) are permitted for this grant. **Check the box below if applying as fiscal agent.**

The LEA or ESC submitting this application is the fiscal agent of a planned SSA. All participating agencies will enter into a written SSA agreement describing the fiscal agent and SSA member responsibilities. All participants understand that the "Shared Services Arrangement Attachment" must be completed and signed by all SSA members, and submitted to TEA before the NOGA is issued.

Statutory/Program Assurances

The following assurances apply to this program. In order to meet the requirements of the program, the applicant must comply with these assurances.

Check each of the following boxes to indicate your compliance.

- 1. The applicant provides assurance that program funds will supplement (increase the level of service), and not supplant (replace) state mandates, State Board of Education rules, and activities previously conducted with state or local funds. The applicant provides assurance that state or local funds may not be decreased or diverted for other purposes merely because of the availability of these funds. The applicant provides assurance that program services and activities to be funded from this LOI will be supplementary to existing services and activities and will not be used for any services or activities required by state law, State Board of Education rules, or local policy.
- 2. The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain any information that would be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general release to the public.
- 3. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Statutory and TEA Program requirements as noted in the 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant Program Guidelines.
- 4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant Program Guidelines, and shall provide to TEA, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.
- 5. The applicant provides assurance that curriculum will be appropriately aligned to regional labor market supported CTE programs of study.
- 6. The applicant provides assurance to provide data to TEA on student completion of courses through a special collection process run by TEA.
- 7. The applicant assures that any Electronic Information Resources (EIR) produced as part of this agreement will comply with the State of Texas Accessibility requirements as specified in 1 TAC 206, 1 TAC Chapter 213, Federal Section 508 standards, and the WCAG 2.0 AA Accessibility Guidelines.

Summary of Program (Focus Area 1)

Provide an overview of the program to be implemented with grant funds. Include the overall mission and specific needs of the organization. Describe how the program will address the mission and needs.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW FOR 2023-2024 SUMMER CTE GRANT FOCUS AREA 1: In alignment with Cotulla ISD's (CISD) mission to ensure meaningful and challenging learning experiences for every student, especially those facing the challenges of poverty, CISD's summer bridge program will focus on five targeted Programs of Study (POS) in Focus Area 1 which includes: 1) Animal Science (Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources); 2) Plant Science (Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources); 3) Construction Management and Inspection (Architecture and Construction); 4) Accounting and Financial Services (Business, Marketing, and Finance); and 5) Exercise Science and Wellness (Health Science). This 6-week CTE summer bridge program will held by the district's CTE Teachers for incoming 8th graders and 9th graders. CISD aims to engage up to 50 students, introducing them to the various Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs mentioned above.

SPECIFIC NEEDS: Based on the 2022-2023 District Type Data from TEA, CISD qualifies as a remote town, with compelling demographic statistics. The student population is 84.9% Economically Disadvantaged (ED) and 58.1% identified as at-risk. Additionally, with 92.7% identifying as Hispanic, CISD recognizes the impact that culture plays on student success. This is evident with the district's College, Career and Military Ready rate, which falls BELOW the state's average. (Source: Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) for 2022-2023.)

ADDRESSING STUDENT NEEDS: To address these challenges, Focus Area 1 aims to widen students' awareness of post-high school career options in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; Business, Marketing, and Finance; and Health Science. The goal is to give students an early glimpse into various career pathways, enhancing their decision-making abilities and putting them on a fast-track to post-secondary and workforce readiness. Considering the 31.8% poverty rate in La Salle County (where Cotulla ISD is located), and that only 4.7% of residents have a bachelor's degree or higher, this is essential for an area like CISDs. (Source: 2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates)

Summary of Program (Focus Area 2)

Provide an overview of the program to be implemented with grant funds. Include the overall mission and specific needs of the organization. Describe how the program will address the mission and needs.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW FOR 2023-2024 SUMMER CTE GRANT FOCUS AREA 2: In alignment with Cotulla ISD's mission to ensure meaningful and challenging learning experiences for every student, especially those facing the challenges of poverty, the summer program will focus on three targeted pathways with paid internships in Focus Area 2: 1) Business Management; 2) Construction Management and Inspection; and 3) Nursing Science. This 6-week work-based learning initiative aims to engage up to 30 students, introducing them to various Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. The program includes PAID internships, allowing: 1) Students in Business Management to enhance their skills in office management, finance, and business; 2) Students in Construction management and Inspection POS to experience and practice skills related to carpentry (i.e. using power tools, reading blueprints, measuring building materials and building and remodeling structures); and 3) Students interning for Nursing Science to gain real-world experience at a local medical facility, assisting with patient intake, vital signs, and medication monitoring.

SPECIFIC NEEDS: Based on the 2022-2023 District Type Data from TEA, CISD qualifies as a remote town, with compelling demographic statistics. The student population is 84.9% Economically Disadvantaged (ED) and 58.1% identified as at-risk. Additionally, with 92.7% identifying as Hispanic, CISD recognizes the impact that culture plays on student success. This is evident with the district's College, Career and Military Ready rate, which falls BELOW the state's average. (Source: Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) for 2022-2023.)

ADDRESSING STUDENT NEEDS: To address these challenges, Focus Area 2 aims to expose students to in-demand CTE programs, specifically in Business Management, Construction Management and Inspection, and Health Science. The goal is to provide students with a firsthand experience of the workforce, fostering economic, career, and post-secondary readiness. This approach accelerates their path to post-secondary education and positions them as competitive applicants for employment opportunities (Source: 2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates).

Qualifications and Experience for Key Personnel (Focus Area 1)

Outline the required qualifications and experience for primary project personnel and any external consultants projected to be involved in the implementation and delivery of the program. Include whether the position is existing or proposed.

Title and Responsibilities of Position	Required Qualifications and Experience
PROGRAM DIRECTOR – Will supervise grant implementation, manage data collection, and assist with program evaluation. (Proposed)	Minimum Qualifications of a Bachelor's Degree in Education or related field. Experience: 3 years of experience in CTE and knowledge of grant components, data collection, and budgeting.
CAMPUS COUNSELOR – Will promote the grant program, aid with enrollment, and offer advice to help students choose a CTE pathway. (Existing)	Minimum Qualifications of a Master's Degree in School Counseling or related field. Experience: 2 years of experience in assisting students in selecting career pathways.
CAMPUS TEACHERS/STAFF – Will introduce incoming 8th and 9th graders to CTE courses through a bridge program. (Existing)	Minimum Qualifications of a Bachelor's Degree in Education or related field and/or a Level-3 Educational Aide Certification in the targeted CTE Programs of Study. Experience: 4 years of experience in providing CTE education.
CAMPUS PRINCIPAL – Will oversee day-to-day activities and staff during curriculum delivery. (Existing)	Minimum Qualifications of a Master's Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: 2 years of experience in managing day-to-day school activities, overseeing faculty/staff, and assisting students in selecting careers.
NOT APPLICABLE	NOT APPLICABLE

Qualifications and Experience for Key Personnel (Focus Area 2)

Outline the required qualifications and experience for primary project personnel and any external consultants projected to be involved in the implementation and delivery of the program. Include whether the position is existing or proposed.

Title and Responsibilities of Position	Required Qualifications and Experience
BUSINESS/INDUSTRY PARTNER– Will be responsible for overseeing students as they receive work-based learning opportunities. (PROPOSED)	Minimum Qualifications necessary are ability/knowledge to offer the targeted CTE training and oversight in work-based activities. Experience: Must have at least 4 years of experience in the targeted industry.
DISTRICT DEPARTMENT LIAISON - These individuals will be responsible for implementing the selected work-based learning opportunities. (PROPOSED)	Minimum Qualifications necessary to work in the targeted CTE POS. Experience: Must have at least 3 years of proven knowledge in conducting work-based activities.
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - Responsible for overseeing the program and ensuring all performance measures are monitored. (PROPOSED)	Minimum Qualifications of a Bachelor's Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: Has 1 year of experience with managing programs, grants, personnel, and budgets.
PRINCIPAL - Responsible for managing day-to-day activities and overseeing faculty and staff. (EXISTING)	Minimum Qualifications of a Master's Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: Has 1 year of experience with managing programs, grants, personnel, and budgets.
COUNSELOR - To teach, support, and communicate the opportunities to participate in work-based learning experiences. (EXISTING)	Minimum Qualifications of a Master's Degree in Education or a related field; Experience: At least 2 years of experience being a School or Career Counselor.

Goals, Objectives, and Strategies (Focus Area 1)

Describe the major goals/objectives of the proposed program. What activities/strategies will be implemented to meet those goals/objectives?

FOCUS AREA 1: CISD’s primary GOAL for the 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education (CTE) grant is two-fold. Firstly, the district aims to attract high school students to actively participate in the program. Secondly, CISD intends to introduce these students to the diverse academic opportunities within CTE programs. To achieve these goals, CISD has outlined the following OBJECTIVES: 1. Provide up to 50 students with a CTE summer bridge program; 2. Expose students to a range of career options, enhancing their decision-making abilities; and 3. Equip students with enhanced knowledge and practical skills to better prepare them for post-secondary education.

ACTIVITIES/STRATEGIES: To ensure the above goals and objectives are met, CISD will implement the following key activities and strategies as integral components of the work-based learning program: 1. Student Orientation- Host an orientation specifically for CISD's incoming 8th and 9th graders. This session will provide an opportunity for students to explore the facilities, familiarize themselves with the environment, and meet the educators and staff; 2. Course Exploration Sessions- These sessions will offer detailed information about each Program of Study (POS) available in the program. Students will be guided to select studies that align with their interests and future career goals; 3. Parental Involvement Sessions- Parents will receive a special segment to understand the program's benefits and how they can support their child’s educational journey; and 4. Introduction to High School CTE Courses - Offer TEA-approved CTE introductory courses within the designated Programs of Study. This will enable incoming 8th and 9th graders to get a taste of the foundational elements of various career paths, acquaint themselves with necessary skills, and potentially earn course credits under Animal Science, Plant Science, Construction Management and Inspection, Accounting and Financial Service, and Exercise Science and Wellness.

In summary, the Focus Area 1 Summer CTE Grant from SDISD will not only boost students' academic and technical skills but also encourage them to pursue higher education and rewarding careers, effectively addressing the community's economic and workforce needs, as well as enhancing post-secondary readiness.

Goals, Objectives, and Strategies (Focus Area 2)

Describe the major goals/objectives of the proposed program. What activities/strategies will be implemented to meet those goals/objectives?

FOCUS AREA 2: CISD’s primary GOAL for the 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education (CTE) grant is two-fold. Firstly, the district aims to attract high school students to actively participate in the program. Secondly, CISD intends to introduce these students to the diverse academic opportunities within CTE programs. To achieve these goals, CISD has outlined the following OBJECTIVES: 1. Provide up to 30 students with hands-on work-based learning experience; and 2. Equip students with enhanced knowledge and practical skills to better prepare them for post-secondary education.

ACTIVITIES/STRATEGIES: To realize the above goals and objectives, CISD will implement the following key activities and strategies as integral components of the work-based learning program: 1. Collaborate with local business partners to create a flexible learning schedule that accommodates both students and partners. 2. Provide compensation to students for their active participation in the program. 3. Guide students in developing a comprehensive long-term plan to achieve their career goals.

Throughout the work-based learning program, students will engage in PRACTICAL, REAL-WORLD ACTIVITIES tailored to their respective fields: 1. Construction Management students will collaborate with the CISD Architecture and Construction Department, contributing to the remodeling and maintenance of CISD Agriculture facilities; 2. Business Management students will actively participate in the day-to-day operations of the City of Cotulla, gaining exposure to finance, accounting, and business management aspects of local city administration; 3. Nursing Science students will work with real clients at a local medical facility (South Texas Rural Health), gaining valuable insights into high-demand careers and developing practical employability skills in authentic settings.

Performance and Evaluation Measures (Focus Area 1)

Describe the performance measures identified for this program which are related to student outcomes and are consistent with the purpose of the program. Include the tools used to measure performance, as well as the processes that will be used to ensure the effectiveness of project objectives and strategies.

FOCUS AREA 1 PERFORMANCE MEASURES: Cotulla ISD has carefully examined the guidelines for the 2023-2024 Summer CTE grant and has identified specific metrics to assess performance. These metrics include:

- Student Diversity: Student information to determine the demographics of the students served;
- Number Served: Number of students enrolled in the summer program;
- Program Completion: Number of students completing the summer program; and
- Course (s) Completed: Collection of data related to PEIMS.

TOOLS USED TO MEASURE PERFORMANCE AND ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS OF OBJECTIVES/STRATEGIES: To ensure the effectiveness of the objectives and strategies being implemented, the grant program manager will gather and assess several pieces of data during the grant funding period. These items include but are not limited to, feedback from CTE teachers, student intake forms, questionnaires, progress reports, grades, attendance sheets, and student products (e.g., career directories, student poster presentations).

ENSURING EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES: The data collected will help the district determine whether the students in this program are meeting the goals and objectives and how effective the strategies for student success are.

Performance and Evaluation Measures (Focus Area 2)

Describe the performance measures identified for this program which are related to student outcomes and are consistent with the purpose of the program. Include the tools used to measure performance, as well as the processes that will be used to ensure the effectiveness of project objectives and strategies.

FOCUS AREA 2 PERFORMANCE MEASURES: Cotulla ISD has carefully examined the guidelines for the 2023-2024 Summer CTE grant and has identified specific metrics to assess performance. These metrics include:

- Student Diversity: Gathering student information to understand the demographics of those benefiting from the program;
- Number Served: Tracking student participation in internship training within the program;
- Business Participation: Counting the number of businesses and industry partners providing work-based learning experiences;
- Hours Completed: Documenting total and average hours worked by students in the program;
- Hourly Earnings: Recording total and average hourly earnings of program-enrolled students;
- Training Plan(s) Developed: Providing evidence of training plans for each participating student;
- Partnership Agreements: Offering evidence of established partnership agreements;
- Assessment and Recognition: Providing evidence of culminating assessments or recognition of skills achieved by each student; and
- Course(s) Completed: Collecting data related to courses completed, as per the PEIMS.

TOOLS USED TO MEASURE PERFORMANCE AND ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS OF OBJECTIVES/STRATEGIES: CISD plans to utilize various performance tools for monitoring the specified measures. These tools include:

- Student/Stakeholder Surveys;
- Work-based Application assessments;
- Attendance Records; and
- PEIMS data.

Success indicators will be gauged by enrollment figures in CTE classes, and the count of after-school and summer jobs secured by students aligned with their chosen field of study.

PROCESSES USED TO ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES: To guarantee the efficacy of CISD's program in achieving its goals, the following procedures will be conducted for data collection: daily scrutiny of attendance records, administration of pre- and post-program completion surveys, weekly review of student work-based applications to ensure ongoing advancement, and pre- and post-program examination of PEIMS data and the TAPR report.

Budget Narrative (Focus Area 1)

Describe how the proposed budget will meet the needs and goals of the program, including for staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, travel, etc. If applicable, include a high-level snapshot of funds currently allocated to similar programs. Include a short narrative describing how adjustments will be made in the future to meet needs.

Cotulla ISD has meticulously assessed staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, and travel requirements to effectively address the objectives of the 2023-2024 Summer CTE grant. The proposed budget is outlined as follows:
1. PAYROLL 6100 (\$16,875): - Employment of a Program Director and professional staff to administer the program. - Inclusion of Employee Benefits within the payroll section. 2. CONTRACTED SERVICES 6200 (\$3,890): - Funding designated for data collection and analysis of course completion. 3. SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS 6300 (\$5,625): -Procurement of supplies and materials for their projects and their coursework during their hands-on training opportunities
4. OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES 6400 (\$2,000): - Allocation of funds for transportation for college campus tours. 5. CAPITAL OUTLAY (\$19,500): - Allocation of funding for interactive panels that can be used during course administration.
6. INDIRECT COSTS (\$2,110): - Based on the approved indirect rate for Cotulla ISD, this covers associated overhead costs.
HIGH-LEVEL SNAPSHOT: Cotulla ISD currently does not offer a summer bridge program. However, existing funds cover facilities, buses, cafeteria personnel, computers/software, and classrooms. Local funds cover facilities and maintenance, state transportation funds cover transportation-related expenses, state funds are allocated for summer food, and state allotment is utilized for hardware/software products.
ADJUSTMENTS TO MEET FUTURE NEEDS: Recognizing the importance of sustaining the work-based learning program, Cotulla ISD commits to: - Applying for additional grant funds. - Seeking business donations. - Requesting continued support from the board and community. - Reviewing current funding streams to align with grant goals.

Budget Narrative (Focus Area 2)

Describe how the proposed budget will meet the needs and goals of the program, including for staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, travel, etc. If applicable, include a high-level snapshot of funds currently allocated to similar programs. Include a short narrative describing how adjustments will be made in the future to meet needs.

Cotulla ISD has meticulously assessed staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, and travel requirements to effectively address the objectives of the 2023-2024 Summer CTE grant. The proposed budget is outlined as follows:
1. PAYROLL 6100 (\$15,000): - Employment of a Program Director and professional staff to administer the program. - Inclusion of Employee Benefits within the payroll section. 2. CONTRACTED SERVICES 6200 (\$2,540): - Funding designated for data collection and analysis of work-based learning activities. 3. SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS 6300 (\$4,000): - Procurement of supplies and materials for students in the Focus 2 Area. - Provision of resources for hands-on training opportunities. - Covering gasoline costs for transportation. 4. OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES 6400 (\$25,000): - Allocation of funds to support the paid internship programs. - Allocation for bus drivers transporting students to work sites. 5. INDIRECT COSTS (\$3,460): - Based on the approved indirect rate for Cotulla ISD, this covers associated overhead costs.
HIGH-LEVEL SNAPSHOT: Cotulla ISD currently does not offer paid internships. However, existing funds cover facilities, buses, cafeteria personnel, computers/software, and classrooms. Local funds cover facilities and maintenance, state transportation funds cover transportation-related expenses, state funds are allocated for summer food, and state allotment is utilized for hardware/software products.
ADJUSTMENTS TO MEET FUTURE NEEDS: Recognizing the importance of sustaining the work-based learning program, Cotulla ISD commits to: - Applying for additional grant funds. - Seeking business donations. - Requesting continued support from the board and community. - Reviewing current funding streams to align with grant goals.

Program Requirements

1a. Needs Assessment (Focus Area 1): Applicants must complete a Needs Assessment Summary indicating specific area of need the LEA has that hinders the completion of courses within programs of study. (For example: describing scheduling conflicts, specific program of study teacher availability, etc.)

NEEDS ASSESSMENT HIGHLIGHTING SPECIFIC AREAS OF NEED: Cotulla Independent School District (CISD) has conducted a thorough needs assessment, utilizing data from the Texas Education Agency and the US Census, supplemented by firsthand observations from school staff. The findings underscore the district's critical need for support through the upcoming 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education (CTE) grant. Examining key indicators reveals pressing needs, with 84.9% of students classified as Economically Disadvantaged (ED) and 58.1% identified as at-risk. Moreover, CISD lags behind the state average in the percentage of students deemed College, Career, and Military Ready, hindering their pursuit of lucrative, in-demand jobs and perpetuating local poverty. Early exposure to career paths is crucial for empowering students to plan effectively for their post-high school endeavors, ultimately elevating median household incomes and reducing poverty rates.

ADDRESSING IDENTIFIED NEEDS: To meet the specific requirements outlined in the needs assessment, the district has created a grant budget. This budget comprehensively covers essential expenses, including travel to and from the campus, as well as costs associated with supplies and materials. The strategic allocation of funds is designed to strengthen students' success by enhancing their experience with this program. It bridges the gap between middle school and high school, preparing students for a future full of opportunities. This, in turn, will facilitate a smooth transition into post-secondary education, aligning with the overarching goals of the CTE summer grant program.

1b. Needs Assessment (Focus Area 2): Applicants must complete a Needs Assessment Summary indicating specific area of needs the LEA has to offer work-based learning opportunities. (For example: describing transportation limitations, describing scheduling conflicts, specific program of study teacher availability, etc.)

NEEDS ASSESSMENT HIGHLIGHTING SPECIFIC AREAS OF NEED: Cotulla Independent School District (CISD) has conducted a thorough needs assessment, utilizing data from the Texas Education Agency and the US Census, supplemented by firsthand observations from school staff. The findings underscore the district's critical need for support through the upcoming 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education (CTE) grant. Examining key indicators reveals pressing needs, with 84.9% of students classified as Economically Disadvantaged (ED) and 58.1% identified as at-risk. Moreover, CISD lags behind the state average in the percentage of students deemed College, Career, and Military Ready, hindering their pursuit of lucrative, in-demand jobs and perpetuating local poverty. Early exposure to career paths is crucial for empowering students to plan effectively for their post-high school endeavors, ultimately elevating median household incomes and reducing poverty rates.

ADDRESSING IDENTIFIED NEEDS: To meet the specific requirements outlined in the needs assessment, the district has created a grant budget. This budget comprehensively covers essential expenses, including travel to and from business partners, as well as costs associated with supplies and materials. The strategic allocation of funds aims to bolster students' success in acquiring valuable workforce experience and employability skills. This, in turn, will facilitate a smooth transition into post-secondary education or the workforce, aligning with the overarching goals of the CTE summer grant program.

Program Requirements, cont'd.

2. **Focus Area 1:** Applicants must specify which program(s) of study and the CTE course(s) in the program(s) of study that will be offered (see <https://tea.texas.gov/academics/college-career-and-military-prep/career-and-technical-education/cte-programs-of-study> for a list of the approved statewide programs of study). Include the number of students who be engaged and supported in this focus area.

PROGRAM(S) OF STUDENT AND CTE COURSES: Through funding under the 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education (CTE) grant Focus Area 1, CISD will implement a summer bridge program. This program will focus on five targeted Programs of Study (POS) in Focus Area 1 which includes: 1) Animal Science (Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources); 2) Plant Science (Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources); 3) Construction Management and Inspection (Architecture and Construction); 4) Accounting and Financial Services (Business, Marketing, and Finance); and 5) Exercise Science and Wellness (Health Science). Through the CTE POS students can receive credit for the following CTE courses:

- Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources,
- Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance,
- Introduction to Culinary Arts.

This 6-week CTE summer bridge program will held by the district’s CTE Teachers for incoming 8th graders and 9th graders. CISD aims to engage up to 50 students, introducing them to the various Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs mentioned above. The district’s focus is on providing meaningful learning experiences to CISD students to enable students to get a jump start on their post-secondary education and secure well-paying careers. Students will develop essential attributes such as effective communication, enthusiasm, teamwork, problem-solving, and critical thinking.

3. **Focus Area 2:** Applicants must specify business and industry partners who will be involved in the program. Additionally, specify the work-based learning model(s) which will be utilized and the number of students who will be engaged and supported.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY PARTNERS INVOLVED: An integral part of the 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education (CTE) grant is the active participation of business and industry partners. CISD is situated in a remote town, distanced from major businesses and metropolitan areas. As significant local employers, the district Architecture and Construction Department, South Texas Rural Health and Cotulla City Hall are dedicated to providing valuable opportunities for up to 30 students to engage in work-based learning modules and experiences. These opportunities will be focused on three career pathways: Business Management, Construction Management and Inspection, and Health Science. The district is aligned with the goals and objectives of Focus Area 2. To strengthen the grant application, CISD has secured two signed letters of support, earning 2 priority points. These letters are from Mr. Javier Garcia of the City of Cotulla and Mr. Jose Gonzalez of CISD Architecture and Construction Department. Their support underscores the community’s backing for the district’s initiative. For the 2023-2024 Summer CTE grant, CISD focus is on providing meaningful work-based learning experiences to CISD students. We aim to empower them through practical exposure in various fields, enhancing both their skills and marketability in the workforce. Here's a breakdown of the initiatives: 1. Construction Management: - Collaborate with the CISD Architecture and Construction Department. - Contribute to remodeling and maintenance of CISD Agriculture facilities. 2. Business Management: - Actively participate in day-to-day operations of the City of Cotulla. - Gain exposure to finance, accounting, and business management in local city administration. 3. Nursing Science: - Work with real clients at a local medical facility. - Gain insights into high-demand careers and develop employability skills in authentic medical settings. This immersive experience goes beyond traditional learning, focusing on practical skills acquisition. Students will develop essential attributes such as effective communication, enthusiasm, teamwork, networking, problem-solving, critical thinking, and professionalism. These skills will provide them with a competitive edge as they pursue their career aspirations. The grant's impact extends beyond the classroom, preparing students for success in the dynamic world of work.

Appendix I: Amendment Description and Purpose (leave this section blank when completing the initial application for funding)

An amendment must be submitted when the program plan or budget is altered for the reasons described in the "When to Amend the Application" document posted on the [Administering a Grant](#) page. The following are required to be submitted for an amendment: (1) Page 1 of the application with updated contact information and current authorized official's signature and date, (2) Appendix I with changes identified and described, (3) all updated sections of the application or budget affected by the changes identified below, and, if applicable, (4) Amended Budget Request. Amendment Instructions with more details can be found on the last tab of the budget template.

You may duplicate this page

Amended Section

Reason for Amendment