



**2022-2023 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant
Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, November 16, 2022**

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.

Application stamp-in date and time

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, November 16, 2022**.

Grant period from **March 1, 2023-September 30, 2023**

Pre-award costs permitted from **Not Permitted**

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 **Premont Independent School District** CDN **125905** Campus **Premont Collegiate High School** ESC **2** UEI

Address **439 SW 4th Street** City **Premont** ZIP **78375** Vendor ID **74-6001943**

Primary Contact **Kristina Gonzalez** Email **kgonzalez@premontisd.net** Phone **361-348-3915**

Secondary Contact **Claudette Garcia** Email **claudette.garcia@premontisd.net** Phone **361-348-3915**

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 **Kristina Gonzalez** Title **Superintendent**

Email **kgonzalez@premontisd.net** Phone **361-348-3915**

Signature  Date **11/14/22**

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 2022-2023 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant Program Guidelines.
- 4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2022-2023 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.

N/A

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.

Our proposed summer program will support summer internships for students in the STEM Discovery Zone and Grow Your Own Educator Academies (each CTE academy is housed at Premont Collegiate High School and open to enrollment to any RSIZ student). Engineering students from the STEM Discovery Zone will be placed in summer internships with several engineering firms located in Corpus Christi who are business and industry partners for the district. Grow Your Own Educator Academy students will serve as interns for Premont ISD over the summer. Providing authentic, real-world experiences to our students supports the mission and vision of the RSIZ and will help to prepare our students for the workforce. We strive to serve 20 interns as part of the summer program (we will strive to enroll 10 students per academy). The program will last at least five weeks with the first week serving as a pre-internship bootcamp to help students be aware of, and develop, employability skills. The remaining weeks will be on-the-job training/internships for the students. The engineering students will travel daily to Corpus Christi to work at the engineering firms while Grow Your Own students will travel to Premont to learn about school and district operations and serve as classroom aides/tutors for our summer school program.

Premont ISD plans to offer a student internship program open to students from Brooks County ISD, Freer ISD, and Premont ISD. Premont ISD is a small, rural district in South Texas. Premont ISD is a district partner of the Rural Schools Innovation Zone (RSIZ). The RSIZ is a first-of-its-kind partnership made up of three school districts and two institutions of higher education (dual credit providers) in South Texas. The RSIZ is a nonprofit organization designed as a sustainable collaborative between Brooks County ISD, Freer ISD, and Premont ISD with a mission of providing rural students high-quality opportunities for postsecondary success. Our primary vision and goal is to reinvent the rural education experience by providing students in all three of our school districts more high-quality opportunities through shared partnership. Students in the RSIZ may attend academies at any of our district campuses, including the Ignite Technical Institute Career and Technical Academy (welding, building trades, electrical, heavy equipment) at Falfurrias High School, the Next Generation Medical Academy (health science/nursing science) at Freer High School, the Grow Your Own Educator (education and training/teaching and learning) and the STEM Discovery Zone Academies (STEM/engineering) at Premont Collegiate High School. Our proposed summer program will provide summer work-based learning experiences to students from across the RSIZ.

Our STEM Discovery Zone Academy has introduced cybersecurity and drone technology to our students. We will seek opportunities for students to complete projects of value in our community related to cybersecurity and/or drone technology.

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
N/A	
N/A	
N/A	
N/A	
N/A	

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
Velma Marin, Teacher at Premont Collegiate HS, will support teaching of pre-internship training program and supervise education interns (existing)	Certified teacher currently teaching Education and Training courses; Academy Director for Grow Your Own Educator Academy
Robert Ross, Teacher at Premont Collegiate HS, will support teaching of pre-internship training program and supervise engineering interns	STEM teacher who teaches cybersecurity and drone courses; Experience teaching Project Lead the Way courses; Experience supervising interns; Academy Director for STEM Discovery Zone
Claudette Garcia, Principal of Premont Collegiate HS, will oversee instructional delivery (existing position)	Experience implementing and monitoring state grant programs; Strong understanding of both Academy goals
Kristina Gonzalez, Superintendent of Premont ISD, will coordinate financial aspects of grant activities (existing position)	Experience implementing and monitoring state and federal grant programs; Experience strengthening programs and relationships
Michael Gonzalez, Executive Director at Rural Schools Innovation Zone, will coordinate logistics & support student recruitment (existing position)	Experienced intermediary; Understands scheduling, logistics, and student populations for all three RSIZ districts

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?

N/A

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?

Premont ISD will offer a work-based learning program with paid student internships. Premont ISD will support students from Premont ISD, Freer ISD and Brooks County ISD by placing students into summer internships with Corpus Christi-based engineering firms and at Premont ISD. Additionally, students studying cybersecurity and drone technology will complete projects of value for local community organizations in order to gain real-world industry experience. Interns will be paid a stipend as contracted service providers with Premont ISD as the employer of record.

By August 31, 2023, 20 students will be placed into internships at either an engineering firm, Premont ISD, or will complete projects of value for local businesses and organizations. All 20 interns (100%) will receive favorable marks from their internship supervisor/sponsor. To meet these goals and objectives, we will ensure that our teachers are equipped to support the CTE Summer Internship program. We will utilize our website and social media pages, along with RSIZ website and social media pages, to spread awareness about the objective, mission, and activities. We will ensure students are enrolled in the program in time to plan for summer activities by beginning recruitment and enrollment as soon as the grant award is announced. We will target recruiting/enrolling 11th grade students from Falfurrias HS (Brooks County ISD), Freer HS (Freer ISD), and Premont Collegiate HS (Premont ISD) who have taken at least two CTE courses related to STEM or Education and Training. We will procure any necessary materials and supplies in order to conduct an effective and meaningful pre-internship training for our students. The teachers will be supported by the Premont ISD administrators to ensure students master the content. The executive director of the RSIZ will also provide support for the program.

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.

N/A

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.

Our Summer 2023 Internship Program will be focused on student outcomes and evaluated based on several performance measures and data points. We will collect data on the demographics of students who enroll in, participate in, and complete the program, including grade level, race/ethnicity, and economically disadvantaged status, as well as whether they have been identified as in need of special education services. We will utilize other data collected for TSDS PEIMS to provide analysis numbers for district leadership teams, our school boards, and TEA grant reporting requirements. We seek for all 20 (100%) of students/interns to fulfill their internship responsibilities over the course of the summer program. A second priority goal is to have all 20 students (100%) of the students receive positive feedback from internship providers/sponsors regarding their on-the-job performance. A final goal is to receive indication from all internship providers/sponsors (100%) that they would be willing to host students again in future iterations of the program.

We will provide additional services to students who need additional support, such as tutoring and mentoring sessions with the course teacher. Wraparound services are provided in order to ensure an equitable setting for all students, the majority of whom are from economically disadvantaged households. Data on all of these services will be collected by the teachers and the Rural Schools Innovation Zone Executive Director to evaluate student need and intervention. Internship training plans will be evaluated (at a minimum) at the beginning and end of the internships. These assessments will be used to guide coaching to students, determine intervention needs, and evaluate TEKS mastery for course credit. To measure student learning objectives and outcomes in the internship experience, we will administer a feedback tool with our business partners regarding our students behavior and performance during the internship to gather and analyze this data. The data will be both qualitative and quantitative and will provide insight on whether our goals, learning objectives, and student outcomes were met.

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.

N/A

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.

\$14,300 has been budgeted in Payroll (6100). Funds will be utilized to provide extra duty pay to 3 CTE teachers who will serve as internship supervisors for their students across the span of the summer program. Funds will also be utilized to pay extra duty pay to a paraprofessional to drive a district Suburban to provide transportation to students to/from their work-based learning experiences in Corpus Christi. Funds for employee benefits contributions have also been budgeted.

\$30,200 has been budgeted in Professional/Contracted Services (6200). \$25,000 of this amount (50% of the total grant budget request) has been allocated to pay students/interns stipends as contracted service providers for their summer internships. The school district will serve as the employer/contractor of record. For budgeting purposes, we anticipate students earning \$1,250 stipends for up to 100 hours of internship experience. Funds have also been allocated for contracting for bus transportation (as needed) for work-based learning experiences. A small portion has been allocated to contract with a professional in Corpus Christi to assist with monitoring internship experiences occurring in that city.

\$2,700 has been budgeted in Supplies and Materials (6300). These funds will be utilized to procure needed items to conduct the pre-internship training.

\$2,800 has been budgeted in Other Operating Costs (6400). This money may be used to cover other operational costs associated with implementing the summer program.

\$0 was budgeted for Capital Outlay (6600). \$0 was budgeted for indirect costs.

Program Requirements

1a. Needs Assessment (Focus Area 1)

N/A

1b. Needs Assessment (Focus Area 2)

The Rural Schools Innovation Zone aims to provide our students with meaningful work-based learning opportunities while enrolled in our career-themed academies so that students develop employability skills. The summer months are ideal for our students because full days can be allocated for on-the-job experience compared to the traditional school day when only small chunks of time can be dedicated for on-the-job experience. During the school year many of our students participate on athletic teams which limits their ability to have part-time jobs. During the summer months, many of our students do not have those additional obligations which provides greater flexibility for on-the-job learning.

Premont is in a very rural area of South Texas. The concentration of most job opportunities in our workforce region is an hour away from our school. During the traditional school day, there is not enough time to transport students that distance in order to receive work-based learning training. However, during the summer months there is more time to transport students and still leave ample time for on-the-job training. This summer program will help to introduce students to a professional environment which may not be possible to experience during the traditional school calendar. A majority of students across Premont and the partner Rural Schools Innovation Schools district are Hispanic and many are classified as economically disadvantaged. Providing paid learning experiences for these students can help put students on a path to living wages in the future.

For our Grow Your Own Educator Academy interns, working over the summer months will provide opportunities for students to see more and do more than they could during the school day. For example, assisting with bus arrival.

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.

N/A

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.

The CTE Summer Grant will allow Premont ISD, and the Rural Schools Innovation Zone (Brooks County ISD, Freer ISD, Premont ISD), to offer a summer internship program which will support two specific academies, the Grow Your Own Educator Academy (Education and Training/Early Learning) and the STEM Discovery Zone Academy (STEM/Engineering). The summer internship program will last at least five weeks, including a pre-internship training/bootcamp. Students will work 100 hours during their internship experience. The internship program will directly support students enrolled in two programs of study: 1.) Early Learning, 2.) Engineering.

All internship positions will be paid experiences for our students. Internships are designed to provide students with real world experience and develop their resumes and deepen their skill sets. Premont ISD will serve as the internship provider for students in the Early Learning (Education and Training) program of study. The district aims to host 10 students for the experience. Students will intern for the school district by serving as classroom aides at the elementary school's summer program. At least two engineering firms in Corpus Christi will be internship providers for 10 students in the Engineering program of study. Specifically, International Consulting Engineers (ICE) and GPM Engineering, Inc. have previously hosted student interns and will host interns as part of this program.

A small group of students who are studying cybersecurity and drone technology may work with local businesses or community organizations to identify real world applications for the content they are studying.

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