



**2021-2023 CCRSM P-TECH Planning and Implementation  
Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, March 23, 2021**

NOGA ID

Authorizing legislation **General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 66, 86th Texas Legislature**

This LOI application must be submitted via email to [loiapplications@tea.texas.gov](mailto: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, March 23, 2021**.

Application stamp-in date and time

Grant period from **April 19, 2021 to June 15, 2023**

Pre-award costs permitted from **the date of the award announcement**

**Required Attachments**

1. Excel workbook with the grant's budget schedules (linked along with this form on the TEA Grants Opportunities page)
2. Attachment #1: Document of Collaboration with Local Regional Workforce Board
3. Attachment #2: "Program of Study" Crosswalk template

**Amendment Number**

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

**Applicant Information**

Organization  CDN  Campus  ESC  DUNS

Address  City  ZIP  Vendor ID

Primary Contact  Email  Phone

Secondary Contact  Email  Phone

**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  Title

Email  Phone

Signature  Digitally signed by Dr. Rene Gutierrez  
DN: cn=Dr. Rene Gutierrez, o=Brownsville ISD, ou, email=rene.gutierrez@bisd.us, c=US  
Date: 2021.03.10 08:46:33 -0600 Date

**Shared Services Arrangements**

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) are **not** permitted for this grant.

**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 2021-2023 CCRSM P-TECH Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines.
- 4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2021-2023 CCRSM P-TECH Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines, and shall provide to TEA, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.
- 5. Required by statute: P-TECH campuses will provide participating students with flexibility in class scheduling and academic mentoring.
- 6. Required by statute: P-TECH campuses will be open enrollment. Enrollment decisions will not be based on state assessment scores, discipline, history, teacher recommendations, minimum grade point average (GPA) or any other criteria that create barriers for student enrollment.
- 7. Required by statute: P-TECH campuses will allow participating students to complete high school and, on or before the sixth anniversary of the date of the student's first day of high school: receive a high school diploma and an associate degree, a two-year postsecondary certificate, or industry certification; and complete work-based education through an internship, apprenticeship, or other job training program.
- 8. Required by statute: P-TECH campuses will be provided at no cost to participating students.
- 9. Required by statute: P-TECH campuses will ensure that a student is entitled to the benefits of the Foundation School Program in proportion to the amount of time spent by the student on high school courses, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, while completing the program/course of study established by the applicable IHE articulation agreement or Industry/Business Partner memorandum of understanding.
- 10. The P-TECH campus will implement the design elements included within the 6 benchmarks of the [P-TECH Blueprint](#) and strive to fulfill the state standard for student success as measured by the outcomes-based measures.

**Summary of Program**

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.

**BISD SPECIFIC NEEDS:**

Based on a recent BISD Needs Assessment Bilingual Survey, 'Understanding the College and Career Process' was #1 response for BISD student's top challenge (601N). In alignment with the CCRSM PTECH proposal, CTE Design Team notes identified and addressed needs to include a high standard of AA services as BISD is trailing in AA degrees (0%) as compared to other Regional ESC 1 (4.6%) while Mercedes ISD is at 17%, Sharlyland ISD at 12%, Edinburg ISD at 7% and La Joya ISD at 8%. BISD Strategic Plan ( Parameter#1) states that BISD will not tolerate educational Apathy. BISD is an A rated School District with 4 Blue Ribbons Awards, 20 NCUST winners, selected for TEA's Systems of Great Schools and a finalist for the 2021 Holdsworth Award. However, the magnitude and severity of the problem to be addressed by the proposed program is strong and clearly articulated as BISD ranked #1 ISD in Texas (pop.>44K) and 5th in nation in Poverty Indicators. The racial/ethnic minority is at 99% with 100% Eligible for free/reduced lunch (PII). Economically Disadvantaged 39,260 (88.5% compared to TX 60.6%); Section 504 Students 3,848 (8.7% compared to TX 6.5%); English Learners (EL) 15,352 (34.6% compared to TX 19.5%); Students w/ Disciplinary Placements 476 (1.0%); Students w/ Dyslexia 2,376 (5.4% compared to TX 3.6%) Immigrants/refugees-3%; SPED 5,364 students, and Homeless (1 %).

**BISD MISSION GOALS:**

The CCRSM PTECH Grant will allow BISD to meet some mission goals to include: 80% of students will have completed 3 dual credit college courses and be enrolled at TSTC; 100% will have participated in internship visits in a cybersecurity business or a job such as a bank; 60% of students will have the opportunity to interact with cybersecurity professional mentors four times throughout the school year and will have taken a college entrance exam such as the SAT or ACT; 80% of students will have participated in a college visit for a transfer to a BA/BS in cybersecurity; 100% of students will complete a basic cybersecurity training certificate in Certified Information Security; 100% of students will be prepared to protect institutions and analyze and recommend counter measures to mitigate security threats to systems/networks; 80% of students will meet all grade level requirements, pass all tests and transfer enrollment into TSTC; 60% of selected students will meet grade level requirement in Algebra I EOC while 45% will reach master's level to include tutoring, college mentoring, study groups, counseling, and parent engagement; 60 % of targeted students will meet the Texas Success Initiative (TSI 2.0) Exam for Reading and Writing and therefore begin changing the amount of BISD students receiving and completing Dual Credit courses towards an AA degree. BISD would target 1.6% of AA degrees from graduating PACE ECHS students by 2023 which is the current State Average (TAPR 2019-20).

**Identify/Address Needs**

List up to three quantifiable needs, as identified in your needs assessment, that these program funds will address. Describe your plan for addressing each need.

| Quantifiable Need   | Plan for Addressing Need   |
|---|--|
| <p>BISD is the largest poverty district in Texas serving 45,535 students at 95.8% economically disadvantaged. BISD has the HIGHEST poverty rate in Texas (&lt;46,000 pops.) and 5th highest in the nation. All BISD students qualify for FREE and REDUCED Lunch Rates.</p>  | <p>PP-TECH program will provide students tuition free college credits and contribute to the job growth and internship possibilities of \$20-\$30/hr. earnings or future\$38,400-\$57,600 yearly salaries. PP-TECH will engage in a 4-6 year plan of study to prepare students for industry certifications in computers and obtain college credits leading towards an Associates degree with Texas State Technical College.</p> |
| <p>BISD has a high Hispanic (98.4%) student pop, At risk of educational failure (65%), students living in poverty (95.8%), English Learners (65.4%), students with disabilities (10.8%) and not finishing college (96%). BISD has 0% of grads with an AA Degree compared to Texas at 1.4% and Region at 4.6%.</p> | <p>PP-TECH in partnership with TSTC will provide exposure to high paying careers in cybersecurity, local jobs through industry visits, career fairs, job shadowing, business mentoring, and cybersecurity skills in Risk Management, Networking Basics, Situational Awareness, Toolkit Maintenance and Threat Assessment.</p>  |
| <p>Pace ECHS serves 2,057 students in grade 9-12. Precisely 0% earned an Associate's Degree. Residents are below poverty doubling state's average. Median income is 63.7% less than state. Brownsville lacks the professionals to detect and respond to cyber attacks.</p>  | <p>TSTC and BISD will collaborate to provide entry level Certifications and Associate Degrees. The opportunities will connect students to the Texas regional market demands, responsive to employer needs. BISD and Workforce Solutions will provide job readiness and job shadowing opportunities for students. Cybersecurity is a growing field with an expected growth of over 32%</p>                                      |



### Measurable Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

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

**SMART Goal:** By the end of 6/15/23, PP-TECH Grant in partnership with TSTC, Regional Industry Partners and BISD Career Technical Education (CTE) and College Mentors, PP-TECH will be on track to graduate (60) candidates in the designed PP-TECH program with 100% of the students engaged in career exploration opportunities such as career fairs, career mentorship pairing, career exploration assessment, 2 industry visitations, complete cybersecurity training, CIS training, entry level certifications and soft skills training. Academically, 100% of the students will meet grade level requirement in Algebra I EOC, English II EOC, complete Texas Success Initiative requirements in reading, writing, and math, complete 4 dual credit college courses, take the SAT, and visit 2 universities. After the grant cycle, students will be on track for an AA and/or industry certifications. April 19, 2021-June 15, 2023: 1: The CLT for PACE ECHS will complete the required blueprint materials with IHE, Regional Industry and CTE Crosswalk alongside Educate Texas. Team will setup a recruitment and enrollment process. 2: The Director will setup all budget line items with the Finance office, and initiate the grant startup process for BISD. 3: Director will setup monthly meetings with leadership team and coordinate the Blueprint process for the planning phase of the grant. A key component in the planning stage is securing all required MOUs with all stakeholders. 4: 100% of targeted students will complete a Kuder Interest Inventory to expose students' knowledge of cybersecurity services. 4: 100% of targeted students will participate in career visits to Regional Businesses willing to mentor and provide internships for students exposing them to actual cybersecurity professionals. 5: 60 % of targeted students will meet the Texas Success Initiative (TSI 2.0) Exam for Reading and Writing. 5: 100% of students will complete a basic cybersecurity training certificate in Certified Information Security and 80% will have completed 3 dual credit college courses at TSTC.

### Performance and Evaluation Measures

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.

Dr. Juan Chavez, CTE Director, PP-TECH team and BISD Grants department will ensure that evaluation data will be used to determine when to modify the project plan, including, if quarterly progress or summative SMART goals do not show progress; this also includes but is not limited to consistent, collection of data that measures progress to stated benchmark goals and process of data analysis and related programmatic adjustments. PP-TECH data will be aligned to benchmarks and metrics in prior section. In order to ensure project's success, careful monitoring through CTE will be in place to evaluate and ensure participants are meeting benchmark goals. Edwin Barrera, BISD Grant Specialist, also has 30 years of grant experience evaluating and implementing both federal and state grants to include 4 prior BISD PTECH Planning and Success grants. The goal of BISD is to improve from the current 0% of AA degrees of HS BISD graduates to the state standard of 1.4% at all 7 of the BISD High Schools (2019-20 TAPR).

**PROGRAM MODIFICATION STEPS include:**

**STEP 1: WRAP AROUND SERVICES-**Meeting with students to discuss existing barriers and meet with teachers, as needed, internship mentor and/or district administrator to discuss barriers a student is experiencing and develop an action plan. Participants that are not experiencing success in their internship will be provided with additional interventions that may include additional mentoring and field supervisor support, career development opportunities in the areas of need, informal or format intervention plan, and/or additional opportunities for continued professional development. Mentor interns will be required to meet with their assigned intern for 120 minutes per week (2 hours) to ensure a constant communication and support system is in place. This will lead to a total of over 72 hours of mentoring time.

**STEP 2: PROGRAM FEEDBACK-**A survey will be administered to students, intern mentor, field supervisor, and District contact every 3 months. All stakeholders will provide feedback regarding the experience with the program, provide information regarding additional assistance/support needed in order for the students to succeed and have the opportunity to provide feedback on how to improve the services. Careful analysis of data provided through these surveys will be conducted. Additional support and training will be provided through round-table meetings and/or professional development. The Leadership Design Team (LDT) will meet monthly to ensure the Blueprint is being developed on schedule.

**Budget Narrative**

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.

The budget will meet the needs and goals of the program while being reasonable costs meeting BISD guidelines for purchases. The budget includes funds for staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, and travel. Currently no other funds are available other than current CTE funds that are not allocated for the career yet. Upon receiving the implementation grant, BISD will re-look at this as standard CTE programming. Adjustments will be made to meet needs to include budget amendments if needed. Current budget includes:

**Payroll Costs:**

- 1. Substitute Pay (\$125.00 x 3 days x 2 trips) per year for IT Teacher for \$750. This allows for CTE instructors to attend PD at ESC 1 or BISD PD.
- 2. Professional Staff Extra-Duty Pay(\$5000/yr director \$3000/yr ; 100hrs@30 teacher at \$16,000. This will allow BISD teacher s to earn extra duty pay for expanding the program into full capacity. It also places a HS CTE Director on Campus to direct the goals and objectives of the grant while making sure the timelines, blueprints and business mentoring is successful.
- 3. Fringe At \$1,928 to cover for the Director and Extra Duty pay of BISD employees.

**Professional and contracted Services:**

- 4. Software: server 2019, kali, SolarWinds NTA, xway forensics at \$12,000. This software will be new to BISD and is essential in Cyber Security C&l development.

**Supplies and Materials:**

- 5. Course Materials (1 teacher and 30 students) x 2 classes: textbooks + online content @ \$8,316.
- 6. Supplies (supplies to cover 30 students per class & 1 administrative office @ \$71,324.
- 7. One dell server @ 5000, 4 dell or Cisco routers @ 2000 each @ \$13,000.
- 8. Four dell or Cisco switches @ 1500 each, Raspberry pi kits 1/student @ 120.00each @ \$13,200.

**Other Operating costs:**

- 9. Student Travel (2 trips for college and industry) x 2 yrs (200.00/bus + 65.00/pp) @ \$4,300.
- 10. 2 Travels (\$125.00 for hotel, \$50.00 car rental and \$61.00 meals/day x 6 days for 2 people @ \$2,532.

Capital Outlay: none

Direct and indirect administrative costs: \$6,650 (Allowable TEA rate of 4.433%)

TOTAL GRANT AWARD REQUESTED: \$150,000.

BISD will provide the required match share for the grant at 20% (See Attachment #7-Grant Forms)

**Statutory Requirements**

1. Describe the recruitment and enrollment plan. Include a general timeline and describe the specific activities planned to serve the target population.

Pace P-TECH timeline will establish recruitment and enrollment processes and requirements that will not exclude or discourage the enrollment of the 60 targeted subpopulations of at-risk students, including, but not limited to, students who are of limited English proficiency of who have failed a state administered assessment and are at risk. The Recruitment Plan for PACE P-TECH will follow the school within a school model." The opportunity for BISD graduates to immediately earn \$20/hr. and remove themselves from poverty is an incredible opportunity for our families as many students have never seen prosperity for generations." Edwin Barrera, BISD Grant Specialist.

**RECRUITMENT PLAN:** Pace P-TECH will develop publicity materials and videos in both English and Spanish for students and parents (May 2021- November 2021). This includes at-risk students, including, but not limited to, students who are of limited English proficiency or who have failed a state administered assessment. Upon receiving designation (December 2021-August 2022), the Pace P-TECH team will distribute recruitment materials to students, parents, administration, teachers, community and other stakeholders. Pace P-TECH director and counselors will visit with the feeder schools and 8th grade students to showcase the Pace P-TECH Cybersecurity program goals and the application process.

**ENROLLMENT PLAN:** To be part of the Pace P-TECH 9th grade cohort, any student interested must submit a P-TECH Commitment Form where all relevant PEIMS data will be documented based on the district's data base. Campus administration will meet with the student's guardian so they can be made aware of the commitment being made to the program. Once the Commitment Form is returned to the home ECHS campus, all students who returned the form will go into the lottery one time. A student will go into the lottery an additional time for each of the following identified PEIMS indicators. PP-TECH students will attend a career fair to learn more about the local industry partners and career opportunities.

**HISPANIC LOW-INCOME PARTICIPANTS:** The PP-TECH school structure is expected to recruit a school-within-a-school offering the opportunity for over 95% Hispanic Minority Students from low income homes and contend at risk. Using the current ECHS staffing and structure as a basis, the campus will have a Dedicated Campus Director who is an assistant principal specifically in charge of the program teachers and students in the cohort. A recruitment meeting with 8th grade counselors will take place in October of 2021. During the 1st week after the New Year in January 2022, campus visits will occur to promote our P-TECH Commitment Parent meeting, held the 3rd week of January 2022 for any interested student. All commitment forms must be submitted to counselors no later than the 2nd week of February 2022. If more than 60 students request to be part of the program, in the 1st week of March 2022, PP-TECH will conduct a weighted lottery based on students' demographic information such as at risk, limited English proficiency, first generation college student, low socioeconomic status and underrepresented minority groups. A parent meeting will be held during the last week of March 2022 and choice slips given out. The enrollment process will be open to all applicants up to the projected capacity of 60 students.

**SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES:** BISD will promote all P-TECH campuses through special community marketing and designations. Campus visits will be made to all 8th graders. The purpose of the Pace Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools (PP-TECH) is to provide students with a prosperous experience into postsecondary careers targeting local workforce needs. The PP-TECH model will allow students the opportunity to earn a high school diploma while simultaneously earning industry certifications, level 1 or level 2 certificates, and/or an associate degree on or before the sixth anniversary of a student's first day of high school and at no cost to the student or parent.

**GREAT JOBS:** The opportunities will connect students to the Texas regional market demands, responsive to employer needs. BISD and Workforce Solutions will provide job readiness training and job shadowing opportunities for students. Cybersecurity is a growing field with an expected growth of over 32% with \$38,400-\$57,600 in yearly salaries including internships possibilities of \$20-\$30/hr earnings.

**Statutory Requirements (Cont.)**

2. Describe the course of study that the school is planning to offer and how it expands upon current offerings. Include how the course of study will enable a student to combine high school courses and postsecondary courses and identify crosswalks, sequences of courses, degrees/certificates/certifications earned, and work-based education that will be available to students at every grade level. Describe how the selected course of study will address regional workforce needs.

The PP-TECH Cyber Security Course of Study with BISD, Texas Southmost College and Texas State Technical College (see Cross Walk Template Attach # 2) focuses on providing PACE students a program of study that enables a participating student in grade levels 9 -12 to combine high school courses and postsecondary courses exposing them early to the cybersecurity career world. PP-TECH will address regional workforce by providing students a Texas Workforce Commission high growth and pay job to include wages and internship possibilities of \$20-\$30 per hour earnings or \$34,400-\$62,400 yearly salaries. From 9th grade throughout their 12th grade year, students will have cybersecurity training incorporated in their core curriculum, subject specific courses, postsecondary courses leading to a college pathway, and industry certification courses that include work based learning/internships.

**CTE PROGRAM OF STUDY:**Students will complete a course sequence of high school and postsecondary courses that fulfill the Cybersecurity requirement allowing students to complete an Associates's in General studies in high school or be accepted to the Associates of Applied Science Degree in Cybersecurity at Texas State Technical College in Harlingen, Texas. Students will be able to receive a certification in MTA Windows Operating Systems Fundamentals (Microsoft Technical Associate). The Cybersecurity program prepares students for employment in a variety of entry level careers in Cybersecurity with practical hands-on training, necessary to equip students with the skills employers expect. Students will learn to: Configure, troubleshoot and maintain computer systems, virtualized environments and secure network communications. Protect computer networks/systems against unauthorized access, modifications and/or destruction. Analyze and recommend counter measures to mitigate security threats to systems/networks. Develop scripts for automating configuration and management of system/access controls.

**PP-TECH CROSSWALK:** The assigned PP-TECH director will work closely with the district's curriculum department, CTE department, TSC and TSTC to create credited courses with and approved course of study. Starting in 9th grade throughout their 12th grade year, students will have cybersecurity teaching incorporated in their core curriculum, Cybersecurity specific courses, dual credit courses leading to a Cybersecurity pathway, and industry certification courses that include work based learning/internships. PP-TECH courses include: ITSC 1405 Introduction to PC Operating Systems (3), ITNW 1325 Fundamentals of Networking Technologies (3), ITSC 1416 Linux Installation and Configuration (3), ITSC 1409 Integrated Software Applications I (3), ITNW 1454 Implementing and Supporting Servers (3), ITSY 2442 Incident Response and Handling (3), ITSY 1400 Fundamentals of Information Security (3), ITSY 1342 Information Technology Security, ITNW 2321 Networking with TCP/IP (3), ITSY 2301 Firewalls and Network Security (3). (see Attachment #2 Crosswalk Template with BISD/TSC/TSTC).

**REGIONAL WORKFORCE NEEDS:** Workforce Solutions Cameron is a partner and provided labor reports and feedback from local businesses. BISD contacted Pat Hobbs, Workforce Solutions Cameron Executive Director and indicated a growing need for a skilled workforce to enter jobs in Cybersecurity that offer competitive Rio Grande Valley salaries and at times must recruit from outside the area for skilled workers. Being next to the border, South Texas has a growing need for employees in new/established local companies such as: International Bank of Commerce, SpaceX, Best Buy, Burton McCumber & Longoria, LLP, Port of Brownsville, Cameron County, and Valley Regional Medical Center. The standard occupational classification for Information Security Analysts include reported job titles such as Information Security Analysts, Network and Computer Systems Administrators, Forensic Science Technicians, Computer Forensic Examiner/Analyst.



**Statutory Requirements (Cont.)**

3. Name the IHE and describe how the proposed program will meet the requirements for the partnership with the IHE.

BISD and Pace P-TECH have established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and will enter into an articulation agreement with Texas State Technical College (TSTC), accredited college recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) in accordance with Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §74.25 a national accrediting agency. The articulation agreement will provide PP-TECH students access to postsecondary education and training opportunities at TSTC and address all the following items: curriculum alignment, instructional materials, instructional calendar, programs/ courses of study, student enrollment and attendance, grading periods and policies and administration of statewide assessments. TSTC and PP-TECH will meet the requirements for the partnership with the P-TECH Grant. The MOU with TSTC will expand as the district moves forward in implementing the requirements for the P-TECH program in Cybersecurity Services. The grant provides a letter of support (see Statutory Program Requirement #3). BISD's working relationship with local college enables the support of the implementation of the ECHS designations. The district ECHS Cabinet monthly meetings involve all stakeholders who work together to provide the access to post secondary courses needed and oversee the implementation of the model. Similarly, a LDT at the district level and campus steering committees will guide the PP-TECH program. As the LDT and the campus steering committees recognize areas of need, smaller subcommittees composed of partner experts will be formed to address each issue, devise a resolution, and report to the LDT for revising plans and agreements to improve the implementation.

4. Name the regional industry or business partner and describe how the proposed program will meet the requirements for the partnership with the industry/business partner.

Brownsville ISD will enter a MOU with Burton Mc Cumber & Longoria, LLP, Cameron County and Workforce Solutions Cameron as the proposed program will meet the requirements for the partnership with the industry/business partner in Texas. These partners will offer business internships, professional mentoring, preferred interview and hiring preferences for PP-TECH Students. Burton Mc Cumber & Longoria will provide mentoring and work base training to students. Workforce Solutions Cameron will provide job readiness training, labor market and consumer information training, possible Workforce Solutions Cameron funded internship program and job shadowing opportunities for students to support classroom instruction in the Information Technology department. Students will learn firsthand on how to protect against many kinds of cyber-attacks such as malware, phishing, unpatched software, hijacking files, hacking and identity theft. Cameron County will provide mentoring and guest speakers that can assist students in making connections between business and the cybersecurity career pathway. They will give program graduates hiring preferences in future job openings. This will ensure that the PP-TECH program includes members of the regional industry and business partner in an around Brownsville to provides both work-based training and a variety of future employers for our well trained students. The PP-TECH LDT will pursue additional MOU's with other industry partners to provide more variety and first priority in interviewing for any job that the students are qualified for and will review the MOU at least every two years and update as necessary. With offices located on both sides of the South Texas and Northern Mexico border in the Rio Grande Valley (RGV), BML is uniquely positioned to handle the diverse needs and challenges of business and individual clients in today's economy.

PTECH Business Strategy

BML offers full service CPA & Advisory services for businesses of all types and sizes. With offices located on both sides of the South Texas and Northern Mexico border in the Rio Grande Valley (RGV), BML is uniquely positioned to handle the diverse needs and challenges of business and individual clients in today's economy. BML is a multi-faceted firm, specializing in all aspects of accounting, tax, IT, & more. Cybersecurity in international markets is important as BISD students are capable of understanding both Spanish and English markets.



**TEA Program Requirements**

1. Describe the current leadership team. Include a list of the individuals and their titles, along with how often the leadership team will meet, the dates of meetings that have already been held, any upcoming meetings, and agenda topics.

BISD established a PP-TECH LDT with former Planning Grants and met all required meetings and required documents as described in the Blueprint. The LDT includes:

Central Office:  
 BISD Deputy Superintendent C&I Dr. Anyisia Trevino, Dr. Dora Saucedo- BISD Assistant Superintendent C&I Accountability, Assistant Superintendent-District Coordinator of School Improvement Dr. Roni Rentfro, Administrator for Secondary Curriculum Dr. Norma Ibarra-Cantu, Merril Hammons-Administrator Advanced Academics, Administrator for Guidance & Counseling Sara M. Garza,

Campus Staff:  
 Joel Wood-Pace ECHS Principal; Erica Ureste-Assistant Principal Pace ECHS, Lisa M. Howell- Dean of Instruction; Sonia Villalon- PACE ECHS Assistant Principal; Servando Velasquez-Career Placement Officer (CPO), Dual Enrollment Teachers (TBD), PACE ESCHS Counselors.

CTE Staff and Specialized Staff:  
 CTE Administrator Dr. Juan Chavez BISD, BISD Grant Specialist Edwin Barrera, Diana Barron and Dr. Greg Garcia, TSTC Deans. The current Pace P-TECH LDT meetings will continue to be scheduled monthly and additional meetings scheduled as needed to ensure completion of deadlines. The district has a significant history with grant implementation and has the capacity and expertise to ensure the plan is completed with the inclusion of campus administration and teachers. The LDT will also make use of the current ECHS Cabinet meetings and CTE Advisory groups as appropriate to bring in their expertise in the development of a strong implementation plan which will guide the campus implementation to early and sustained success in meeting all of the performance measures. An Advisory Council is also in place to include the LEA, Workforce, IHEs, and Business. Agenda topics will be the PTECH Blueprint, MOUs, Crosswalk courses, student schedules, recruitment, parent conferences along with high quality course work and internship content. PP-TECH Leadership Design Team Meetings: May 2021 (PP-TECH Proposal Meeting with IHE- TSTC); June 2021 Grant meeting to finalize grant implementation. New PP-TECH Planning Meetings for 2021-2023 will be monthly every first Wednesday of each month.

2. Describe wrap-around strategies and services the campus will offer, as well as the additional strategies and services that are planned to support P-TECH.

**WRAP-AROUND STRATEGIES**  
 PP-TECH will develop wrap-around strategies and services involving multiple stakeholders (parents, teachers, counselors, community members, colleges, etc.) to strengthen both the academic and social/emotional skills and support necessary for high school and college readiness, as well as provide academic and social/emotional support for students to be successful in rigorous academic and work- based educational experiences. BISD and CTE provide the current wrap-around strategies and services the school is offering, as well as the additional strategies and services that are planned to support PP-TECH. The Career Placement Officer (CPO) will focus on measuring progress in order to decide when to implement interventions. The CPO counselor will focus on the entire postsecondary course needs and serve as a liaison with the IHE, TSTC. The CPO counselor along with the ECHS director will meet with instructors to discuss student academic needs through informal meetings, or the formal early alert academic need process, and request specific tutorial session from the IHE. The grade level counselor will schedule times to meet with students at least 2 times per semester to discuss grades, scheduling, electives, and engages in parental outreach. Counselors will track students' dual enrollment course progress to ensure they work towards completing an Associates degree and maintaining an adequate grade point average. All full High School and College student support services such as Financial Aid services will be available for all PP-TECH Students.

**ADDITIONAL SERVICES**  
 Academically, PP-TECH teachers will attend trainings which focus is on academic monitoring, college preparation, and emotional support. All PP-TECH teachers will implement strategies in the classroom that focus on college readiness skills. Currently teachers meet with students to find areas of academic difficulty and address the issues. Teachers will create study groups so that students can work together to help each other. Career speakers, motivational speakers, alumni in the field and College tours will be additional services provided by the grant.

**Equitable Access and Participation**

Check the appropriate box below to indicate whether any barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups that receive services funded by this program.

- The applicant assures that no barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups receiving services funded by this program.
- Barriers exist to equitable access and participation for the following groups receiving services funded by this grant, as described below.

N/A

|       |                      |         |                      |
|-------|----------------------|---------|----------------------|
| Group | <input type="text"/> | Barrier | <input type="text"/> |
| Group | <input type="text"/> | Barrier | <input type="text"/> |
| Group | <input type="text"/> | Barrier | <input type="text"/> |
| Group | <input type="text"/> | Barrier | <input type="text"/> |

**PNP Equitable Services**

Are any private nonprofit schools located within the applicant's boundaries?

- Yes  No

*If you answered "No" to the preceding question, stop here. You have completed the section. Proceed to the next page.*

Are any private nonprofit schools participating in the program?

- Yes  No

*If you answered "No" to the preceding question, stop here. You have completed the section. Proceed to the next page.*

**5A: Assurances**

- The LEA assures that it discussed all consultation requirements as listed in Section 1117(b)(1) and/or Section 8501(c)(1), as applicable, with all eligible private nonprofit schools located within the LEA's boundaries.
- The LEA assures the appropriate Affirmations of Consultation will be provided to TEA's PNP Ombudsman in the manner and time requested.

**5B: Equitable Services Calculation**

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. LEA's student enrollment   | <input type="text"/> |
| 2. Enrollment of all participating private schools  | <input type="text"/> |
| 3. Total enrollment of LEA and all participating PNPs (line 1 plus line 2)                      | <input type="text"/> |
| 4. Total current-year program allocation  | <input type="text"/> |
| 5. LEA reservation for direct administrative costs, not to exceed the program's defined limit   | <input type="text"/> |
| 6. Total LEA amount for provision of ESSA PNP equitable services (line 4 minus line 5)          | <input type="text"/> |
| 7. Per-pupil LEA amount for provision of ESSA PNP equitable services (line 6 divided by line 3) | <input type="text"/> |
| <b>LEA's total required ESSA PNP equitable services reservation (line 7 times line 2)</b>       | <input type="text"/> |

**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**