



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.

Application stamp-in date and time

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**

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 CDN ESC UEI

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 Date

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.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM: If granted the 2023-2024 Summer CTE program within Focus Area 1, Rotan ISD (RISD) intends to offer up to 10 students a 4-week Summer Bridge and Accelerated CTE Course Program. The primary goals of these programs will be to:

- Summer Bridge: Familiarize upperclassmen with the different IHEs that they can attend to help expedite their pursuit of careers in the Nursing Science and Animal Science Programs of Study.
- Accelerated CTE Course Program: Work with Texas Tech University to offer upperclassmen advanced courses in Nursing Science or Animal Science.

SPECIFIC NEEDS: According to the TEA-provided "2020-2021 District Type Data" excel sheet, Rotan ISD qualifies as a rural school district due to its small and remote location (5 Priority Points). The district's eligibility for grant programs is further underscored by compelling demographic and statistical factors. Notably, 69.5% of the student population falls under the Economically Disadvantaged (ED) category. Moreover, more than half of the students (59%) belong to minority groups, with Hispanics constituting 50.8% and African Americans 5.3% of the enrollment as per the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) for 2022-2023. Additionally, over 1 in every 3 families who have children live below the poverty line (35.4%) and struggle with all the effects of poverty (e.g., access to health care, food insecurity, access to transportation, at-risk for dropping out of school etc.). (Source: <https://nces.ed.gov/Programs/Edge/ACSDashboard/4838040>). These statistics need to be addressed and by doing so, it will help the district achieve its MISSION statement ("Committed to Children – Dedicated to Excellence").

ADDRESSING NEEDS: To advance our mission and address critical areas of focus, Focus Area 1 aims to equip students with enhanced knowledge and familiarity with in-demand Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs as they pursue their post-secondary education. By doing so, Rotan ISD's students will embark on a well-defined path, fostering economic, career, and post-secondary readiness. Simultaneously, this approach expedites their journey toward post-secondary education and positions students for lucrative employment opportunities.

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.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM: Rotan Independent School District (RISD) aims to engage up to 10 students in a 4-week work-based learning initiative as part of Focus Area 2. This program is specifically crafted to acquaint students with various Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. RISD will facilitate a paid internship, allowing students to collaborate with district department heads and staff in areas such as Animal Science and Nursing Science. Through active participation in these internships, students will gain valuable real-world work experience in agricultural pathways that lead to numerous jobs such as: farm manager (oversees running the farm and the business as well as skills in making financial decisions), agricultural specialist (assures food quality and safety), equipment technician (travels to farms to service and repair large machinery), animal physiologist (understands livestock and how animals react in different environments). Additionally, students who take part in Nursing Science activities will be able to expedite their pursuit in numerous jobs that include but are not limited to: Vocational Nurse, Nurse Technician, Phlebotomy, and Radiology Technician.

SPECIFIC NEEDS: According to the TEA-provided "2020-2021 District Type Data" excel sheet, Rotan ISD qualifies as a rural school district (5 Priority Points). The district's eligibility for grant programs is further underscored by compelling demographic and statistical factors. Notably, 69.5% of the student population falls under the Economically Disadvantaged (ED) category. Moreover, more than half of the students (59%) belong to minority groups, with Hispanics constituting 50.8% and African Americans 5.3% of the enrollment as per the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) for 2022-2023. Additionally, over 1 in every 3 families who have children live below the poverty line (35.4%) and struggle with all the effects of poverty (e.g., access to health care, food insecurity, access to transportation, at-risk for dropping out of school etc.). (Source: <https://nces.ed.gov/Programs/Edge/ACSDashboard/4838040>). These statistics need to be addressed so the district can achieve its MISSION statement ("Committed to Children – Dedicated to Excellence").

ADDRESSING NEEDS: In pursuit of our mission and to effectively tackle the identified area of at-risk students (35.4%), Focus Area 2 is committed to equipping students with essential employment skills that will ready them for the professional realm and lucrative careers. This endeavor will contribute to Rotan ISD's fulfillment of the district's economic, professional, and post-secondary preparedness requirements.

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
<p>PRINCIPAL: Responsible for managing day-to-day activities, overseeing faculty and staff, and assisting students in selecting career pathways. (EXISTING)</p>	<p>Minimum Qualifications of a Bachelor’s Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: Must have 2 years of experience working on implementing CTE programs.</p>
<p>SUPERINTENDENT: Responsible for supervising the grant program and ensuring all data is reported back to TEA as required. (EXISTING)</p>	<p>Minimum Qualifications of a Master’s Degree in Education or a related field; and Superintendent Certification. Experience: At least 2 years of experience being a Superintendent.</p>
<p>COUNSELOR: Responsible for communicating and supporting opportunities to participate in the Bridge and Accelerated CTE learning programs. (EXISTING)</p>	<p>Minimum Qualifications of a Bachelor’s Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: Must have 2 Minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree in Education or a related field.</p>
<p>SUMMER CTE PROJECT DIRECTOR: Responsible for overseeing the program and ensuring all performance measures are monitored. (PROPOSED)</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>DISTRICT CTE STAFF: Responsible for providing Bridge and Accelerated CTE POS courses, as well as oversight and data collection. (EXISTING)</p>	<p>Minimum Qualifications of a Bachelor’s Degree; Experience: At least 4 years of prior experience and knowledge in programs of study being taught.</p>

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
<p>CTE TEACHERS: Responsible for informing students of the opportunity to participate in work-based learning opportunities. (EXISTING)</p>	<p>Minimum Qualifications of a Bachelor’s Degree; Experience: At least 4 years of prior experience and knowledge in programs of study being taught.</p>
<p>PARTNERING BUSINESS LIAISON: Responsible for implementing the selected work-based learning opportunities. (PROPOSED)</p>	<p>Minimum Qualifications necessary, CNA certificate to work in the targeted CTE POS. Experience: Must have at least 3 years of proven knowledge in conducting work-based activities.</p>
<p>PRINCIPAL - Responsible for managing day-to-day activities, overseeing faculty and staff, and assisting students in selecting career pathways. (EXISTING)</p>	<p>Minimum Qualifications of a Bachelor’s Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: Has 1 year of experience with leading a campus as a principal.</p>
<p>COUNSELOR: Responsible for teaching, supporting, and communicating opportunities to participate in work-based learning experiences. (EXISTING)</p>	<p>Minimum Qualifications of a Master’s Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: Must be well-versed and knowledgeable about the targeted POS.</p>
<p>SUPERINTENDENT: Responsible for supervising the grant program and ensuring all data is reported back to TEA as required. (EXISTING)</p>	<p>Minimum Qualifications of a Master’s Degree in Education or a related field; and Superintendent Certification. Experience: At least 2 years of experience being a Superintendent.</p>

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: Aligned with the program guidelines, Rotan ISD has established distinct goals/objectives for the grant program. Among these goals/objectives, the district intends to implement a 4-week Summer Bridge and Accelerated CTE Course Program for up to 10 students. This initiative is crafted to equip Rotan ISD's students with enhanced knowledge and familiarity in high-demand CTE programs, ensuring a more informed entry into their post-secondary education.

ACTIVITIES/STRATEGIES: To ensure we meet our goal/objective, the following activities will be conducted as part of the Bridge Program: Provide 12th-grade students with a tour of the Texas Tech University to help ensure they are confident with post-secondary pursuit; Work Texas Tech University to coordinate an orientation for incoming college freshman students and/or their parents that details the different courses that are offered at the college; and Schedule time for incoming college freshman students to meet with the College Counselor to determine which POS best aligns to their interests and goals.

Additionally, for Accelerated CTE Program, the following activities will be conducted: Schedule time for upperclassman students to meet with the Campus Counselor to go over the courses that will be offered during the Summer (i.e. Advanced Animal Science); Provide students with course sequences that help them gain the knowledge and skills necessary for success in their chosen career; Provide students with technology and materials needed to complete the CTE coursework; and Ensure only highly-qualified teachers who are well-versed in the subject matter offer the coursework.

Rotan ISD ensures that its highly qualified staff will do its best to meet the grant goals and objectives.

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: Rotan Independent School District (ISD) has established distinct goals for the grant initiative, which align directly with the grant's guidelines. Among these objectives, Rotan ISD aspires to provide a work-based learning experience for up to 10 students, exposing them to various Career and Technical Education (CTE) fields. Through this initiative, participating students from Rotan ISD aim to graduate high school equipped with enhanced knowledge and practical skills, fostering their preparedness for life beyond secondary education.

ACTIVITIES/STRATEGIES: Rotan ISD will implement the following activities and strategies as integral components of the work-based learning program, aiming to achieve the above-mentioned goals/objectives: Collaborating with partner(s) to devise a learning schedule that accommodates both the student and the partner(s), Compensating students for their participation in the program, and Providing students with a program that embeds real-world work experience that will aid them as they transition into the workforce.

The real-world work activities that will be offered in the Animal Science Program could include but are not limited to aiding in the vaccination of domestic and ranch animals and participating in the preparation of ranch animals for vaccines, surgery, or other necessary procedures. These experiences will offer valuable insights into a high-demand career and allow students to develop practical employability skills in authentic settings.

Additionally, in the Health Care track, students will engage in activities including but not limited to taking blood pressure and other vital signs, interviewing patients as part of the intake process, and learning the office procedures for scheduling patients for follow-up visits.

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: Rotan ISD extensively reviewed the guidelines, leading to the identification of key performance metrics. These metrics include: 1. Student Diversity: Utilizing student information to assess and understand the demographics of the students being served. 2. Number Served: Examining the total enrollment of students in the summer program. 3. Program Completion: Tracking the number of students successfully completing the summer program. 4. Course(s) Completed: Gathering relevant data related to PEIMS to assess course completion.

TOOLS USED TO MEASURE PERFORMANCE AND TO ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS:
Rotan Independent School District will employ various performance tools to monitor the specified performance measures. These tools include surveys for students and stakeholders, data from the Texas Academic Performance Report, attendance records, sign-in sheets, and PEIMS data. Indicators of future success will be gauged by the level of student interest and a thorough examination of rising enrollment figures in Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes.

PROCESSES USED TO ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS OF GOALS/OBJECTIVES: To guarantee the efficacy of Rotan ISD's program in attaining its goals and objectives, the following processes will be conducted for data collection: analyzing grades on a weekly basis during the program, reviewing attendance records daily, administering pre- and post-program completion surveys, and examining PEIMS data and the TAPR report before and after program completion.

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: Rotan Independent School District (ISD) has thoroughly reviewed the guidelines and, as a result, has identified specific metrics to gauge performance. These metrics include: 1. Student Diversity: Gathering student information to ascertain the demographics of the students being served. 2. Number Served: Tracking the participation of students in internships or pre-apprenticeship training within the program. 3. Business Participation: Counting the number of businesses and industry partners providing work-based learning experiences to students as part of the program. 4. Hours Completed: Documenting both the total and average hours worked by students in the program. 5. Hourly Earnings: Recording the total and average hourly earnings of students enrolled in the program. 6. Training Plan(s) Developed: Providing evidence of training plans for each student participating in the program. 7. Partnership Agreements: Offering evidence of established partnership agreements. 8. Assessment and Recognition: Providing evidence of culminating assessments or recognition of skills achieved by each student in the program. 9. Course(s) Completed: Collecting data related to courses completed, as per the PEIMS (Public Education Information Management System).

TOOLS USED TO MEASURE PERFORMANCE AND TO ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS OF OBJECTIVES/STRATEGIES: Rotan ISD plans to employ various performance tools for monitoring the specified performance measures. These tools include Student/Stakeholder Surveys, Work-based Application assessments, Attendance Records, and PEIMS data. Success indicators in the future will be gauged by the enrollment figures in CTE classes and the count of after-school and summer jobs secured by students in alignment with their chosen field of study.

PROCESSES USED TO ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES: To guarantee the efficacy of Rotan ISD's program in attaining its goals and objectives, the following procedures will be conducted for data collection: daily review of attendance records, administration of pre- and post-program completion surveys, weekly review of student work-based applications to ensure on-going 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.

Rotan ISD has identified and calculated the following areas in staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, and travel, to meet the needs and goals of the program. With that said, the following is the proposed budget:

- PAYROLL (\$6,675) - Payroll costs of a Program Director and professional staff to administer the program. Employee Benefits have also been included as part of this section in payroll.
- PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACTED SERVICES (\$9,694) – Costs to cover the IHE fees and certification costs for the students. Also, for costs to assist with data collection and analyses for course completion.
- SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS (\$6,925) – Costs to purchase Focus 1 Area student supplies and materials for their projects and their coursework during their hands-on training opportunities.
- OTHER OPERATING COSTS (\$5,400) – Costs will be allocated to cover costs associated with transporting students to and from the school and/or college.
- CAPITAL OUTLAY (\$19,000) – Funds will be used to purchase a virtual reality learning platform that: helps students study the anatomy of the human body; elevates teachers level of instruction by providing them with the latest in technology; and provides students with CTE coursework that is individualized, diverse, engaging, rigorous, and challenging.
- INDIRECT COSTS (\$2,306) - This is based on the approved indirect rate for Rotan ISD and will be used to cover the associated overhead costs.

HIGH-LEVEL SNAPSHOT: At Rotan ISD, there is currently no Summer Bridge or Accelerated Learning CTE Program. However, funds are currently used to cover the cost of facilities, buses, cafeteria personnel, computers/software, and classrooms. These activities are being paid for from local funds for facilities and maintenance, state transportation funds, Texas Department of Agriculture allocations for the summer food, and Instructional Materials Allotment (IMA) for the hardware/software products.

ADJUSTMENTS TO MEET FUTURE NEEDS: Rotan ISD acknowledges the significance of maintaining sustainability in these programs. Consequently, the district will continue to pursue additional grant funds, seek contributions from businesses, advocate for ongoing support from the board, and assess current funding streams to guarantee their alignment with the goals of the grant.

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.

Rotan ISD has identified and calculated the following areas in staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, and travel, to meet the needs and goals of the program. With that said, the following is the proposed budget:

- PAYROLL (\$6,675) - Payroll costs of a Program Director and professional staff to administer the program. Employee Benefits have also been included as part of this section in payroll.
- PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACTED SERVICES (\$2,280) – Funds needed for data collection and analyses of work-based learning activities.
- SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS (\$22,725) – Costs to purchase students in the Focus 2 Area supplies and materials for their projects and their coursework during their hands-on training opportunities.
- OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES (\$14,600) – Rotan ISD allocated funds to cover costs associated with the paid internship programs, as well as travel to and from the work-sites.
- INDIRECT COSTS (\$3,720) - This is based on the approved indirect rate for Rotan ISD and will be used to cover the associated overhead costs.

HIGH-LEVEL SNAPSHOT: At Rotan ISD, there are currently no paid internships being offered by the district. However, funds are currently used to cover the cost of facilities, buses, cafeteria personnel, computers/software, and classrooms. These activities are being paid for from local funds for facilities and maintenance, state transportation funds, Texas Department of Agriculture allocations for the summer food, and Instructional Materials Allotment (IMA) for the hardware/software products.

ADJUSTMENTS TO MEET FUTURE NEEDS: Rotan ISD understands the need for continued sustainability in this work-based learning program. Consequently, the district will continue to pursue additional grant funds, seek contributions from businesses, advocate for ongoing support from the board, and assess current funding streams to guarantee their alignment with the goals of the grant.

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 INDICATING SPECIFIC AREAS OF NEEDS: Rotan ISD is a district that is urgently in need of support from the grant program. This necessity becomes even more apparent when examining key indicators, such as a subpar career or military-ready graduation rate (21.4%), a substantial economically disadvantaged rate (69.5%), and the fact that less than 1/8th (11.3%) of the district's teachers holds a Master's Degree, a figure below the state's average (25.2%). (Source: Texas Academic Performance Report)

Additionally, the school's rural location imposes limitations on transportation beyond regular school hours. With routes spanning 20 to 30 minutes, the district faces challenges in arranging for parents to transport students after school, particularly during the summer months. This logistical hurdle creates a conflict when attempting to implement programs during summer months. Although these factors could impede the success of the proposed program, grant funds will be allocated appropriately to address these needs.

ADDRESSING NEEDS: For example, the district has formulated a grant budget designed to encompass travel expenses to and from the program. Additionally, Rotan ISD recognizes the importance of compensating qualified teachers; therefore, has allocated resources to cover the associated costs in this specific budget category.

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 INDICATING SPECIFIC AREAS OF NEEDS: Rotan ISD is a district that is urgently in need of support from the grant program. This necessity becomes even more apparent when examining key indicators, such as a subpar career or military-ready graduation rate (21.4%), a substantial economically disadvantaged rate (69.5%), a median household income of \$39,861, almost half the state's average of \$72,284, and the fact that less than 1/8th (11.3%) of the district's teachers holds a Master's Degree, a figure below the state's average (25.2%). (Sources Used: Texas Academic Performance Report and United States Census Bureau)

Additionally, the school's rural location imposes limitations on transportation beyond regular school hours. With routes spanning 20 to 30 minutes, the district faces challenges in arranging for parents to transport students after school, particularly during the summer months. This logistical hurdle creates a conflict when attempting to implement programs of study. Collectively, these factors could impede the success of the program(s) in place.

ADDRESSING NEEDS: However, in order to cater to the distinct requirements, the district has formulated a grant budget that encompasses expenses related to transportation to and from the program, along with other indispensable costs. Furthermore, funds will be designated to offset expenditures linked to compensating students for their engagement in summer work-based learning opportunities. This strategic allocation aims to guarantee that students acquire the necessary employment skills, positioning them for success in well-paying jobs upon graduation.

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 STUDY AND THE CTE COURSE(S) THAT WILL BE OFFERED: Focus Area 1 will specifically target programs of study in Animal Science and Nursing Science as part of our grant initiative. The chosen programs align with high-demand occupations in the state, such as Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers, as well as Nursing Assistants, Vocational Nurses, and other Health Care Technicians (i.e., phlebotomists, radiology technicians) based on data sourced from Texas Career Check. The proposed Animal Science curriculum includes introductory courses like Advanced Animal Science and Veterinary Assistant 1. The proposed Health Care Science track curriculum includes advanced CTE courses like Practicum of Nursing, which could lead students to obtain a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Certificate.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO BE ENGAGED AND SUPPORTED: These courses will be offered by Rotan ISD for up to 10 students.

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: As noted earlier, Rotan Independent School District is classified as a small, rural district, situated at a considerable distance from prominent corporations and metropolitan areas. (5 priority points)

Notably, the primary occupational sector in Rotan, Texas revolves around Farming, Fishing, and Forestry. To address this context, the district is committed to facilitating up to 10 students with valuable opportunities to engage in work-based learning modules and experiences within the predominant field (i.e. vaccinating domestic animals or taking client blood pressure). Aligned with the objectives of Focus Area 2, the district has submitted a signed letter of support (earning 1 priority point) from a highly qualified teacher specializing in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources.

In addition to working with the district to provide real-world work experiences to students, Rotan ISD will also partner with Fisher County Hospital, which provided a signed letter of support (earning 1 priority point). As part of this partnership, the hospital will provide students with internships, job shadowing, and career exploration activities in the Nursing Science Program of Study. These activities include but are not limited to:

- Allowing them to attend short lectures on the program of study to join the healthcare fields.
- Providing information on the different job descriptions of radiologists, vocational nurses, and phlebotomists.
- Enabling students to partake in job shadowing laboratories, health classes, and in the emergency room.

WORK-BASED LEARNING MODEL(S): By working with this hospital and the district department head, Rotan ISD's work-based learning model will be immersive and embed real-world work experiences. These experiences will not only foster valuable learning but also enhance students' marketability in the workforce. By acquiring essential skills such as effective communication, enthusiasm and attitude, teamwork, networking, problem-solving, critical thinking, and professionalism, students will gain a competitive edge in pursuing their career aspirations.

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