



2024-2025 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant
Informal Discretionary Competition (IDC) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, April 9, 2025

NOGA ID

Authorizing legislation

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

This IDC application must be submitted via email to competitivegrants@tea.texas.gov.

The IDC 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, April 9, 2025**.

Grant period from **May 29, 2025 - September 30, 2025**

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

Application stamp-in date and time

Required Attachments

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

See the Program Guidelines for 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):

Applicant Information

Organization **Denton ISD** CDN **061901** ESC **11** UEI **FZMMQ9TEGEW8**

Address **1307 N. Locust Street** City **Denton** ZIP **76201** Vendor ID **1-756001311**

Primary Contact **Ashley Hamilton** Email **ahamilton3@dentonisd.org** Phone **940-369-0495**

Secondary Contact **Leah Zavala** Email **lzavala@dentonisd.org** Phone **940-369-0542**

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 **Vicki Garcia** Title **Executive Director, Business Operations**

Email **vgarcia@dentonisd.org** Phone **940-369-0575**

Signature  Date **04/08/2025**

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 IDC 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 2024-2025 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant Program Guidelines.
- ☒ 4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2024-2025 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 the Fall PEIMS Collection Process.
- ☒ 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.

The Denton ISD Career and Technical Education (CTE) department proposes a summer program designed to provide students with an early introduction to high-demand career pathways. Through this initiative, students will have the opportunity to enroll in Principles of Applied Engineering (13036200), Principles of Arts/AV (13008200), Principles of Business (13011200), Principles of Human Services (13024200), and Principles of Information Technology (13027200)—all foundational CTE courses that serve as entry points into robust career pathways.

This program directly aligns with Denton ISD's mission to empower lifelong learners who become engaged citizens and positively impact their communities. By offering early exposure to career-oriented coursework, the summer program will help students build career awareness, explore personal interests and strengths, and develop foundational knowledge that will support them in high school and beyond.

The specific needs this program addresses include:

-Early Career Exploration – Many students enter high school without a clear understanding of their interests, strengths, or career options. This program provides structured career exploration, allowing students to make informed decisions about their academic and career pathways.

-Equity and Access – By offering this summer opportunity, we aim to increase access to career education for students who may not otherwise be able to fit these courses into their schedules due to academic or extracurricular commitments.

-Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness – The program is designed to foster decision-making and problem-solving skills related to academic and career planning. Students will engage with reliable career data, explore secondary and postsecondary pathways, and begin mapping a personalized college and career readiness plan.

Through this initiative, students will gain exposure to local industries, career fields, and educational opportunities that align with Denton ISD's commitment to preparing all students for success in college, career, and life. The program will serve as a critical first step in increasing student engagement in CTE pathways, leading to stronger participation in industry-aligned programs of study and ultimately supporting students in achieving College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) outcomes.

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.

Denton ISD will implement a comprehensive summer work-based learning initiative that empowers students to explore, engage with, and experience real-world applications within their chosen Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways. The program will focus on a high-demand and high-interest TEA-approved program of study: Education and Training (Teach Denton Academy).

The overall mission of Denton ISD is to empower lifelong learners to be engaged citizens who positively impact their local and global community. Our vision is to be a premier destination district committed to growth and excellence. To guide this work, Denton ISD follows a Strategic Plan that prioritizes College and Career Readiness and meaningful partnerships with postsecondary institutions, business and industry, and the Texas Workforce Commission.

The proposed Summer Work-Based Learning (WBL) program will directly address both the mission and strategic needs of our district by expanding access to high-quality, hands-on career exploration experiences during the summer months. These week-long extended school year sessions will immerse students in authentic, career-aligned activities and environments through a tiered model:

1-Career Exploration Camps – Students will participate in hands-on learning experiences and simulated work-based projects guided by industry professionals and CTE educators.

2-Job Shadowing Opportunities – Students will spend time in local businesses and industry settings observing and reflecting on real-world practices and expectations.

3-Paid Internship Experience – Denton ISD will provide paid placements that allow students to gain valuable skills while contributing meaningfully to their host organization.

Through this multi-faceted approach, the Summer CTE Grant will enable Denton ISD to:

Increase the number of students engaged in purposeful career exploration and preparation; Provide early access to work-based learning models for younger high school students; Build a stronger pipeline into CTE courses and certifications during the academic year; and Deepen relationships with local businesses and community stakeholders to enhance workforce readiness.

The Focus Area 2 Summer Program is intentionally designed to close equity and access gaps that often hinder student participation in high-quality WBL opportunities—such as transportation barriers, scheduling limitations, or lack of direct industry connections. The program will leverage Denton ISD's strong internal infrastructure, combined with external partnerships, to ensure students leave the summer with a clearer sense of purpose, stronger skills, and greater confidence in their career path.

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**

CTE Coordinator; Existing position; managing the CTE program, overseeing the budget, grant personnel; grant oversight.

Ability to lead people, projects, and budgets; ability to communicate with district personnel and external partners, strengthen CTE pathway offerings, and ensure program goals are met.

CTE Specialist; Existing position; ordering supplies, site collaboration, develop curriculum, provide PD teachers, schedule transportation.

Knowledge of existing CTE programs; ability to develop new curriculum; ability to implement project plans, communicate with teachers, and modify plans when necessary.

Program of Study Certified Teachers; Existing positions; facilitate CTE courses, provide instruction and assessment, and monitoring student progress.

State-certified and credentialed instructors; knowledge of instructional delivery and assessment best practices; experience with project-based learning and career mentoring.

CTE Superintendent; Existing position; manage and supervise College, Career & Military Readiness and School Accountability.

Master's degree in education or related field; superintendent certification; experience serving as an area superintendent; ability to lead district-wide initiatives and ensure program alignment with state and industry needs.

Human Resources; Existing position; support student placement in internships, and ensure compliance with district and TEA guidelines for work-based learning.

Experience in human resources and workforce development; knowledge of CTE internship requirements and employer partnerships; ability to collaborate with local businesses and industry stakeholders.

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**

CTE Coordinator; Existing position; managing the CTE program, overseeing the budget, grant personnel; grant oversight.

Ability to lead people, projects, and budgets; ability to communicate with district personnel and external partners, strengthen CTE pathway offerings, and ensure program goals are met.

CTE Specialist; Existing position; ordering supplies, site collaboration, develop curriculum, provide PD teachers, schedule transportation.

Knowledge of existing CTE programs; ability to develop new curriculum; ability to implement project plans, communicate with teachers, and modify plans when necessary.

Program of Study Certified Teachers; Existing positions; facilitate CTE courses, provide instruction and assessment, and monitoring student progress.

Each CTE program of study will be staffed by certified CTE instructors with appropriate teaching credentials. These instructors bring classroom expertise and hands-on experience in their respective fields and skill development.

CTE Superintendent; Existing position; manage and supervise College, Career & Military Readiness and School Accountability.

Master's degree in education or related field; superintendent certification; experience serving as an area superintendent; ability to lead district-wide initiatives and ensure program alignment with state and industry needs.

Human Resources; Existing position; support student placement in internships, and ensure compliance with district and TEA guidelines for work-based learning.

Experience in human resources and workforce development; knowledge of CTE internship requirements and employer partnerships; ability to collaborate with local businesses and industry stakeholders.

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?

Denton ISD's CTE Department is committed to ensuring that every student in the district is strategically prepared for secondary and postsecondary success, whether through higher education, workforce readiness, or military services. This summer program is designed to provide students with early exposure to high-demand career pathways, equipping them with the foundational knowledge and skills needed to make informed decisions about their future. By offering Principles of Applied Engineering, Principles of Art/AV, Principles of Business, Principles of Human Services, and Principles of Information Technology, students will have the opportunity to explore a variety of career fields while earning high school credit.

The primary goal of the program is to increase career awareness and readiness by guiding students through career exploration activities, industry engagement opportunities, and hands-on learning experiences. Throughout the program, students will engage with guest speakers from various industries, participate in project-based learning, and develop a personalized college and career readiness plan. These experiences will help students identify their strengths, interests, and career aspirations while mapping out their secondary and postsecondary education plans.

By implementing these strategies, Denton ISD's summer CTE program will not only expand students' career exploration opportunities but also provide them with the tools that will bridge their success to high school, postsecondary education, and the workforce. This initiative aligns with the district's mission to empower lifelong learners and prepare students for meaningful careers that positively impact both their local and global communities.

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?

To provide high-quality, structured, and summer work-based learning (WBL) experiences across the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Education & Training program of study. This will help prepare students for high-skill, high-wage careers and postsecondary success.

Objective 1: Expand Access to Work-Based Learning Experiences Across CTE Education & Training Pathway by 1) launching week-long summer WBL camp aligned with the chosen CTE program of study for students in grades 7 - 12; 2) implementing three tiers of work-based learning: Career Exploration Camp, Job Shadowing, Paid Internships

Objective 2: Recruit and Retain Students in High-Demand Programs of Study Through Early Exposure by 1) the use of summer WBL experience as a pipeline to encourage future enrollment in advanced-level CTE courses and certifications; 2) collaboration with middle schools and counselors to promote early exposure and exploration opportunities for rising 8th and 9th graders; 3) leveraging the summer campus and other pathway-specific branding to increase program visibility and interest districtwide.

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.

The CTE Coordinator, CTE Specialist, & CTE Superintendent will oversee data collection, analysis, & grant reporting to measure program success & ensure alignment with district & state accountability. To ensure the effectiveness of the Denton ISD CTE Summer Program, a comprehensive evaluation plan will be implemented to measure student outcomes & program success. The performance measures will focus on student participation, skill development, career exploration, & readiness for secondary & postsecondary education. Student success will be tracked through enrollment & completion rates, with a target of at least 80% of enrolled students successfully completing the course. Additionally, pre- & post-assessments will be administered to evaluate growth in students' understanding of career pathways, technical skills, & college & career readiness concepts. These assessments will measure students' ability to apply decision-making, problem-solving, & career-planning strategies.

To assess the program's impact on career awareness, students will complete a career interest inventory & pathway selection survey at the beginning & end of the program. The data collected will help determine how effectively the program supports students in identifying career interests & aligning them with future coursework & career goals. Additionally, students will create personalized college & career readiness plans, outlining their secondary and postsecondary education pathways, which will serve as a measurable outcome demonstrating the program's effectiveness in guiding informed decision-making. Program effectiveness will also be evaluated through student feedback surveys, which will provide qualitative insights into the program's strengths & areas for improvement. These surveys will assess students' engagement levels, perceived relevance of course content, & overall satisfaction with the summer program.

By utilizing these performance measures & evaluation tools, Denton ISD will ensure that the CTE Summer Program meets its objectives of increasing career awareness, strengthening technical skills, & preparing students for long-term academic & career success.

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.

Denton ISD will use performance measures that are directly aligned with the goals of the TEA CTE Summer Grant and the broader indicators found in the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR). The district is committed to continuous improvement and rigorous evaluation to ensure that students participating in Focus Area 2 programming are receiving meaningful, measurable, and work-based learning (WBL) experiences.

Key Performance Measures: Four-Year and Extended Graduation Rates for participating students. Number of CTE Program Completers within the five programs of study. Number of College, Career, and Military Ready (CCMR) graduates who participated in summer WBL experiences. Student Academic Proficiency in Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science, as related to CTE coursework and applicable technical skills.

Tools Used to Measure Performance: Fall PEIMS Collection: Demographic and participation data will be submitted and analyzed to evaluate of access and overall reach of the program. TAPR and Internal Dashboard Analysis: The previous year's TAPR data will be used as a baseline to compare program outcomes and identify growth areas. Student Surveys: Administered before and after the summer program to measure student perceptions, workplace readiness, and satisfaction with their WBL experience. Internship Training Plans: Each student engaged in job shadowing or internship experiences will have a training plan aligned to their CTE pathway and goals.

Processes to Ensure Program Effectiveness: Stakeholder Input & Feedback Loops: Regular collaboration with CTE teachers, business partners, parents, and students will guide real-time improvements to programming. A debrief meeting with participating employers will occur at the end of the summer to gather insights and recommendations. Counselor Engagement: CTE counselors will meet with students and parents to review graduation plans, discuss alignment of summer experiences with long-term goals, and address any barriers to CTE course or certification completion. Post-Program Data Review: All collected data—qualitative and quantitative—will be analyzed and presented in an end-of-summer report to assess overall program impact and inform future iterations.

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.

Denton ISD has developed a comprehensive budget that aligns with the program's goals, objectives, and milestones for student development. The Grant Writing Committee carefully assessed the costs associated with staffing, instructional materials, curriculum development, data collection, and student transportation to create a plan that meets the needs of the Summer Learning Opportunity and the Accelerated CTE Course Program. A significant portion of the budget will be allocated to payroll expenses (\$17,000), ensuring that certified teachers are compensated for delivering instruction in the designated CTE courses. Employee benefits for all participating staff will also be covered to support the success and sustainability of the program. These efforts will help measure student enrollment, course completion rates, and postsecondary pathway identification, ensuring that program goals are being met. Instructional supplies and materials (\$18,000), excluding laptops, software, and other resources, will also be funded through the grant. These materials will provide students with hands-on learning experiences that align with industry expectations and prepare them for future academic and career opportunities. In addition to classroom resources, the budget includes funding for student transportation (\$4000), allowing access to the program for all eligible students. This is essential to eliminating barriers to participation, ensuring that students who may lack transportation can access and engage in the program. Denton ISD does not have the financial capacity to fully fund a CTE course program or a Summer Learning Opportunity without grant support. However, existing local and state funds are allocated to cover facility use, cafeteria personnel, and classroom maintenance, reducing some of the operational expenses. State transportation funds will support student transit, while the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) provides allocations for summer meal programs. The district's Instructional Materials Allotment (IMA) also supports the use of technology, including software, which will complement the grant's investment in instructional resources. By using these existing funds, the district will maximize the impact of the proposed grant and ensure responsible financial supervision.

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.

The proposed budget for Denton ISD's Focus Area 2 Summer Work-Based Learning (WBL) program is designed to directly support student engagement in authentic, career-aligned learning experiences in the Education & Training program of study, which is a high-demand pathway.

The budget prioritizes student compensation to recognize and reward their participation in structured job shadowing and internship models during the summer.

Payroll - \$9,750

This category includes compensation for student interns who are not employed by private businesses, in accordance with TEA guidelines. Denton ISD plans to: Provide compensation to approximately 22 students who complete WBL experiences across various pathways; Pay students based on participation in job shadowing, internship hours, and completion of assigned deliverables (e.g., digital portfolios, training plans, project-based learning artifacts); Use a structured system to document student hours and verify attendance at approved sites and sessions.

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.)

Denton ISD has identified a need to expand access to Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses for middle school students who face scheduling conflicts due to enrollment in intervention courses, multiple fine arts and athletic periods. Currently, a significant number of students across the district are unable to take CTE courses because their daily schedules are fully committed to intervention, fine arts and athletics, leaving no room for career exploration opportunities. The data below highlights the number of students at each middle school who are unable to enroll in a CTE course due to scheduling constraints:

Middle School A: 51 students; Middle School B: 120 students; Middle School C: 35 students; Middle School D: 67 students; Middle School E: 108 students; Middle School F: 105 students; Middle School G: 80 students; Middle School H: 48 students; Middle School I: 126 students

In total, 840 students across the district face barriers to participating in CTE courses due to inflexible scheduling. This lack of access limits students' ability to explore career pathways early, develop workforce-ready skills, and make informed decisions about their high school coursework and postsecondary plans.

Denton ISD is proposing the summer CTE program that allows students to take a foundational CTE course outside of their regular academic year schedule. This program will provide students with an opportunity to engage in career exploration, gain early exposure to high-demand fields, and make progress toward completing their chosen programs of study before entering high school. By offering courses such as Principles of Applied Engineering, Principles of Arts/AV, Principles of Business, Principles of Human Services, and Principles of Information Technology, the district will ensure that students have access to career exploration regardless of their daily course commitments.

By addressing these barriers through a targeted summer learning initiative, Denton ISD aims to increase student participation in CTE pathways, improve long-term student outcomes, and strengthen workforce readiness among middle school students. This initiative aligns with the district's mission to empower all students to be lifelong learners and engaged citizens who positively impact their local and global communities.

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.)

Denton ISD is committed to expanding access to high-quality, work-based learning (WBL) opportunities for students enrolled in CTE programs of study, particularly in: Education and Training. While the district offers strong CTE programs during the academic year, some things limit student participation in meaningful WBL experiences.

Identified Needs: Scheduling Conflicts During the School Year: Many high school students face tightly packed academic schedules filled with advanced coursework, state testing, & extracurricular responsibilities. These constraints make it difficult to leave campus for extended periods or participate in job shadowing or internship opportunities that require flexibility. Offering WBL during the summer removes these barriers and allows for full immersion without compromising academic success.

Student Compensation and Recognition: Not all students have the flexibility to participate in unpaid internships. Without compensation, students who must work during the summer for support are often excluded from WBL experiences. This program seeks to close that gap by using grant funds to compensate students for their time & effort, ensuring access for all participants.

Data-Driven Needs Identification:

Denton ISD has reviewed prior years' PEIMS data & CTE participation metrics to assess student engagement in WBL. Data indicated: A limited number of students in specific pathways completing internships; Gaps in CCMR indicators for CTE students who lacked access to real-world learning experiences.

By addressing these needs through a summer-focused WBL program, Denton ISD aims to increase access & student success across the Ed & T program of study. This grant will allow the district to bridge & build a more sustainable pipeline of college & career ready graduates.

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.

Through this grant, the district will enhance its CTE programs of study by offering courses in Human Services; Business, Marketing, and Finance; Arts, Audio/Visual Technology, and Communications; Information Technology; and Engineering. These programs provide students with hands-on learning experiences, industry-aligned curriculum, and exposure to career pathways that lead to certifications, internships, and postsecondary opportunities.

In the Human Services program, students will engage in coursework that prepares them for careers in education, counseling, social work, and healthcare. The future of this pathway includes hands-on experiences through internships and industry partnerships, allowing students to develop skills in service-oriented professions. The Business, Marketing, and Finance program will provide students with foundational knowledge in business operations, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and digital marketing. Students will have opportunities to participate in real-world business simulations, work-based learning experiences, and industry-recognized certification exams to enhance their employability. The Arts, Audio/Visual Technology, and Communications pathway will offer students access to courses in digital media, graphic design, animation, and video production. This program equips students with technical and creative skills needed for careers in media production, advertising, and entertainment industries - as well as partners with Denton ISD and local communication outlets. Through the Information Technology program, students will explore cybersecurity, software development, and computer networking. This pathway addresses the growing demand for IT professionals by providing students with hands-on experience in troubleshooting, programming, and computer maintenance, as well as industry-recognized certifications. The Engineering program will allow students to develop problem-solving skills and technical knowledge through coursework in robotics, design, and advanced manufacturing. By engaging in project-based learning, students will gain experience in engineering principles, technology integration, and industry applications. Denton ISD anticipates that approximately 200 students will participate in this Summer Program. Through strategic recruitment, academic advising, and industry partnerships, the district will ensure that students are supported in their chosen career pathways.

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.

Denton ISD is proud to collaborate with a growing network of business and industry partners to provide students with meaningful, real-world work-based learning (WBL) experiences aligned to four CTE programs of study. These partnerships represent diverse sectors and provide students with the opportunity to explore career pathways, build professional skills, and apply classroom learning in authentic settings.

-Teach Denton Academy – Education & Training Pathway: a total of 22 Future educators will step into authentic teaching roles as interns placed in Denton ISD summer enrichment classrooms. These students, enrolled in the Education & Training program of study, will serve as instructional aides, small group leaders, and classroom support staff for elementary and early childhood programs across the district. Interns will gain firsthand experience in classroom management, instructional planning, and student engagement—mirroring the daily responsibilities of certified teachers. Each intern will complete a training plan, maintain a reflective teaching journal, and receive mentorship from certified educators. This paid internship offers a powerful launchpad for aspiring teachers to develop professional skills and affirm their commitment to the teaching profession.

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
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Application Part 2:

2024-2025 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant
Authorized by: General Appropriations Act, Article IX, Section 18.114(c)(v)

County District Number or vendor ID: 061901		Amendment #			
Grant Period:	May 29, 2025 - September 30, 2025			Fund Code/Shared Services Arrangement: 429/459	
Program Budget Summary					
Description and Purpose		Source of Funds			
		Class/ Object Code	Focus Area 1	Focus Area 2	Total Budgeted Cost
1	Payroll Costs	6100	\$ 17,000	\$ 9,750	\$ 26,750
2	Professional and Contracted Services	6200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
3	Supplies and Materials	6300	\$ 18,000	\$ -	\$ 18,000
4	Other Operating Costs	6400	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000
5	Capital Outlay	6600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Consolidate Administrative Funds		N/A		
6	Total Direct Costs:		\$ 39,000	\$ 9,750	\$ 48,750
7	<u>Enter Percentage (%) of Indirect</u>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
8	Grand Total of Budgeted Costs :		\$ 39,000	\$ 9,750	\$ 48,750
Shared Services Arrangement					
9	6493	Payments to member districts of shared services arrangements		\$ -	\$ -

FOR TEA USE ONLY	
Changes on this page have been confirmed with:	On this date:
Via telephone/fax/email (circle as appropriate)	By TEA staff person:



April 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Denton Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Partnership, I am pleased to express our strong support for Denton ISD's application for the TEA CTE Summer Grant – Focus Area 1: for CTE Exploration.

As a community committed to fostering a thriving local economy, we recognize that workforce development begins with early career exposure. Denton ISD's proposed summer programming for middle school students aligns perfectly with the Chamber's long-standing goal of developing a strong talent pipeline that meets the evolving needs of local industry and business sectors.

This initiative will provide students with hands-on, engaging opportunities to explore CTE programs of study that are closely tied to in-demand careers in our regions such as engineering, agriculture, health sciences, education, and the arts. By introducing these pathways at an earlier age, Denton ISD is laying the groundwork for a well-prepared, highly skilled future workforce that will continue to drive economic growth and innovation in the Denton area.

The Denton Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Partnership supports this effort and looks forward to continued collaboration with Denton ISD to connect students with real-world learning experiences, local employers, and meaningful career pathways. This grant will help deepen those connections and ensure the next generation of Denton students is ready for the opportunities ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie Adams". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jamie Adams

Denton Chamber of Commerce
Economic Development Partnership



Carla Ruge-Fritz
CTE Director
Denton ISD
1303 N. Elm Street
Denton, TX 76201
940-369-0452

Date: April 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

The Denton ISD Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department is proud to express full support for the district's application for the TEA CTE Summer Grant – Focus Area 1: CTE Exploration.

Preparing students for success begins long before high school. Early exposure to career pathways helps students connect their interests to real-world opportunities and make more informed decisions about their future coursework. Denton ISD is excited to expand our summer programming to engage middle school students in interactive, hands-on exploration of high-wage, high-demand CTE programs of study.

This initiative will offer middle school students the opportunity to experience a variety of CTE fields—including but not limited to Agriculture, STEM, Arts and A/V, Education & Training, and Health Science—through immersive camps, career simulations, guest speakers, and industry-related activities. These experiences will build awareness, confidence, and excitement among students while also laying the foundation for enrollment in high school CTE pathways.

The CTE Department will collaborate closely with middle school and high school campuses, teachers, and local industry partners to ensure high-quality instruction and meaningful experiences. We are confident that the Focus Area 1 summer programming will positively impact students' engagement, motivation, and long-term academic and career planning.

We fully endorse this grant application and are committed to supporting its implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CRF", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Carla Ruge-Fritz, CTE Director
Denton ISD Career & Technical Education Department



Carla Ruge-Fritz
CTE Director
Denton ISD
1303 N. Elm Street
Denton, TX 76201
940-369-0452

April 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great enthusiasm that the Denton ISD Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department supports the district's application for the TEA CTE Summer Grant – Focus Area 2 summer internship work-based learning opportunity for high school interns.

Denton ISD is committed to providing high-quality, hands-on experience for students enrolled in our Education & Training CTE program of study. This summer's proposed work-based learning initiative will offer paid internship experience in Education & Training, allowing students to apply their classroom learning in real-world environments while gaining valuable career readiness skills.

Our department will play a central role in planning and executing these experiences, from student recruitment to coordinating with industry partners and supervising CTE instructors. This initiative will expand opportunities for our students to explore their future careers, build portfolios, and make informed choices about postsecondary pathways.

We fully support this application and are excited about the opportunity to elevate work-based learning in Denton ISD through this grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carla', written over a horizontal line.

Carla Ruge-Fritz, CTE Director
Denton ISD Career & Technical Education Department



Human Resources Department

1307 N. Locust St., Denton, Texas 76201 • Office 940.369.0040

Date: April 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Denton ISD Human Resources Department, I am pleased to offer my full support for the district's application for the TEA CTE Summer Grant – Focus Area 2: Work-Based Learning Experiences.

As a district dedicated to recruiting and growing our future workforce, we recognize the essential role of early career exposure in shaping confident, capable professionals. The proposed summer work-based learning initiative aligns seamlessly with our commitment to creating meaningful pipelines into high-demand fields, particularly education. We are especially proud of the Teach Denton Academy, which will place students in summer enrichment classrooms across the district to gain hands-on experience in teaching and classroom support.

The Human Resources Department will continue to collaborate with the Career and Technical Education team to support student placement, training, and future recruitment strategies. These paid experiences not only prepare students for the world of work but also cultivate homegrown talent that may one day return to serve as certified professionals in our classrooms and departments.

We enthusiastically endorse this grant application and look forward to the positive impact it will have on students, the district, and the community.

Sincerely,

Emily McLarty

Human Resources Director

emclarty@dentonisd.org

940-369-0000