



**2021-2022 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant**  
**Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, March 28, 2022**

NOGA ID

Authorizing legislation

This LOI application must be submitted via email to [loiapplications@tea.texas.gov](mailto:loiapplications@tea.texas.gov).

Application stamp-in date and time

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

TEA must receive the application by **11:59 p.m. CT, March 28, 2022**.

Grant period from

Pre-award costs permitted from

**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):

**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  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 2021-2022 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant Program Guidelines.
4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2021-2022 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

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. **NOTE: If applying for both Focus Areas, applicant must CLEARLY distinguish between the two in your response.**

Focus Area 1-Education Service Center Region 19 (ESC R19) in collaboration with its Shared Services Agreement (SSA) member districts would highly benefit from funding for a summer bridge program for middle and high school students known as iBuild El Paso Summer Program. ESC R19 and its SSA rural districts, plan on collaborating with larger urban districts such as Socorro ISD, Ysleta ISD, and Tornillo ISD to share resources and create opportunities for students throughout the entire region. As per TEA district classifications, three of our four SSA member districts are classified as rural: Anthony ISD, Ft. Hancock ISD, and Sierra Blanca ISD. None of these three SSA rural districts have been able to offer architecture & construction CTE programs of study for students without the funding from this grant. Through this strategic partnership that includes ESC R19, districts, community partners, and Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) partners, we can ensure increased opportunities for students. The iBuild El Paso Summer Program is based on the latest Workforce Solutions Borderplex 2022 Target Occupations List. Construction is a "Hot Jobs" area as over 10 occupations are identified for growth and high-wage including Construction Managers, Civil Engineers, Property Real Estate & Community Associate Managers, Security & Fire Alarm Installers, Construction & Building Inspectors, Plumbers, Cement Masons, and various other employment sectors where architecture & construction can prove to be a rewarding field of study for students seeking lucrative career prospects in the hometown. High school students will take a course at EPCC OSH 1305 OSHA Regulations- Construction Industry, a workforce course for dual credit leading to several Associate of Applied Science areas to include a certificate in Renewable Energy. Middle school students will be taking Principles of Architecture / Construction Course.

Focus Area 2-The overall mission of the iBuild El Paso Summer Program is to create exploration opportunities for middle school students and meaningful hands-on opportunities for high school students during the summer term in the area of architecture & construction via partnerships with other districts, El Paso Community College (EPCC), and industry partnerships such as Jordan Foster Construction and MNK Architects, Inc. A cohort of seventh and eight grade students will be invited to learn live at a construction site with the help of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) trainers employed by Jordan Foster Construction. High school students will also participate in an internship opportunity with our industry partners where they will make connections to their OSH 1305 class. The 2022 iBuild El Paso Summer Program will help make connections for students within HVAC and Electrical occupations to the importance of Architecture degrees leading to post-secondary studies in Civil Engineering and Construction Management.

### Qualifications and Experience for Key Personnel

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

Angelica Haro, Director  
Oversee iBuild El Paso Summer Program to include budget and project personnel

Experience writing and managing GEAR UP Grant and Perkins Reserve Grants. Over 15 years of experience in an educational setting to include work in an Early College High School, post-secondary institutions, and the ESC.

Oscar Carrera, Professional Development Consultant  
iBuild El Paso Summer Program Coordinator  
Oversee student activities

Experience coordinating student summer projects such as the ESC R19 Summer TSIA Bootcamp for Migrant students; experience coordinating teacher Microsoft and G-Suite Certification projects; ESC R19 testing lab coordinator

Francisco Nolasco, STEM Professional Development Consultant  
Teach middle and high school summer courses

Experience with Geometry in Construction curriculum; teaching computer science, robotics, secondary mathematics, and Technology Student Association (TSA) regional coordinator

Dr. Olga Valerio, Ph. D - El Paso Community College  
Dean of Advanced Technology Center (ATC)  
Coordinate course availability and EPCC instructors

Experience working with several Region 19 school districts in CTE and workforce related dual credit opportunities through the ATC; expert in high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand occupations through ATC pathways

Joe Gomez, Director of Business Development & Community Affairs at Jordan Foster Construction  
Facilitate Work-Based Learning (WBL) Opportunities

Over 10 years experience coordinating WBL programs for educators & students; works closely with MNK Architects, Inc. for cross-sector partnerships and projects involving architecture & construction; strong ties in the community

## Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

Describe the major goals/objectives of the proposed program. What activities/strategies will be implemented to meet those goals/objectives? **NOTE: If applying for both Focus Areas, applicant must CLEARLY distinguish between the two in your response.**

Focus Areas 1 & 2- The major goals and objectives of the proposed program is to increase student interested and participation in architecture & construction as a target occupation in the El Paso region. The 2022 iBuild El Paso Summer Program is expected to be able to fund a cohort of 40-45 middle school and 40-45 high school students with expanding opportunities and cohorts as the program moves forward. Being able to engage young women in architecture & construction is of special importance with a goal of having equal participation of about 50% female and 50% male in the Summer Bridge. Nationwide, gender inequity persists in architecture careers, particularly after graduation. According to recent news, female and minority architects and designers earn lower salaries than their peers and are less likely to hold positions of leadership; mothers in particular, lose out on career and salary advancements; and firms have been slow to follow best practices regarding equity and worker well-being. Women are underrepresented in architecture, not only at the top of the field, but at all levels of practice. In recent years, only 31% of full- or part-time faculty members in architecture have been women. Even as women participation increases, they've mostly done so at lower rungs of both academia and the profession. We have a lot of work to do in educating young girls for both interest and empowerment to aspire and pursue longevity and leadership in this field. Construction paints an even bleaker environment for women. Just 9.1% of America's construction workers are women. However, as per The National Association of Women in Construction, women earn on average 95.7% of what their male counterparts make compared with the average 82% women earn as compared to their male counterparts across industries, indicating the potential for better salary prospects for women in the industry.

## 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. **NOTE: If applying for both Focus Areas, applicant must CLEARLY distinguish between the two in your response.**

Focus Area 2- The iBuild El Paso Summer Program will deploy different activities and objectives for middle school and high school students according to their trajectory through the Work-Based Learning Framework (WBL) and continuum. The pillars for WBL success and performance measures will be addressed tied to student outcomes as per the following: Engagement with local development board and employers; Local Development Board (WSB) was consulted for advise and data regarding industry and employer alignment for this project; WSB provides letter of support to continue to inform program improvement and deployment of relevant regional career information for both educators and students; Jordan Foster Construction and MNK Architects, Inc. engage as key industry partners for the iBuild El Paso Summer Bridge Program. WBL opportunities aligned to regional labor market information and opportunities; iBuild El Paso Summer Bridge Program aligned to 2022 Target Occupations List; Local Development Board (WSB) provides continuous reports to include the 2022 Target Occupations List used to examine and determine the selection of architecture & construction as an area of need for a summer bridge program and increased CTE opportunities for students. Systems/Tools/Processes to monitor & measure student progress in WBL experiences and inform continuous improvement.

Focus Area 1- CTE workforce dual credit will be awarded that is aligned with EPCC with a focus on OSHA 30 Hour Construction Certification for students through OSHT 1305 OSHA regulations; construction industry summer course; certification found in accountability list of approved certifications as well as support for the architecture & construction career cluster/-Student selection and enrollment in architecture & construction programs of study will be monitored and tracked/ -Participating districts commit to availability of architecture & construction programs of study for students of districts where such programs are unavailable/ -Short evaluations for students, educators, and participating employers to evaluate what worked and did not work for program improvement/- Monitor and tracking of student cohorts into post-secondary education for success in architecture & construction programs/- Monitoring of cohort in mathematics courses, EOC testing, and college entrance exams such as TSIA as iBuild El Paso Summer Bridge Program will include reinforcement of core mathematics concepts/- Monitoring of cohort in English courses, EOC testing, and college entrance exams such as TSIA as iBuild El Paso Summer Bridge Program will include reinforcement of core reading & writing concepts.

**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. **NOTE: If applying for both Focus Areas, applicant must CLEARLY distinguish between the two in your response.**

Focus Area 1-ESC R19 has consultants that can deliver both professional development for teachers and other educators as well as teach lessons and deliver coursework for students. With many years of experience in the classroom, ESC R19 consultants have been trained on Geometry in Construction, mathematics for basic engineering courses, computer science, and many other areas directly related to academic skills as related to architecture and construction programs. The proposed budget will allow us to be able to fund their work with supplies for the program and any materials that they may need to deploy the program to students. Curriculum and lesson plans from this program will be implemented throughout the iBuild El Paso Summer Bridge Program for middle school students to introduce construction contextual skills as well as to introduce and reinforce geometry concepts for success in future high school mathematics courses. Additionally, we intend to use the proposed budget to help defray the costs of college courses by helping to support payment for an instructor in the summer and open courses to be taught in the summer specifically for this project. We intend to help students with college textbook costs as well as the associated costs of OSHA training and certification.

Focus Area 2- The budget intends to subsidize costs of student travel through grant funds as well as established relationships. As the fiscal agent for all the Head Start program in El Paso, ESC R19 does not use most of its Head Start buses during the summer and would be willing to use the buses for Summer iBuild El Paso Summer Program transportation. This would allow us to keep transportation costs low and be able to serve more students who may be traveling from districts outside of the city limits. It is additionally important for us to be able to help subsidize some of the costs that our business & industry partners may have to incur. We want to ensure that students are not only able to have transportation to their summer courses, but also to their WBL sites. Materials, supplies, and uniforms are also going to be required at their WBL sites, and the budget is intended to be able to help business & industry partners provide this for students.

Focus Area 1 & 2-ESC R19 is willing to provide in-kind support through coordination and availability of consultants for the Program. In addition, we want to ensure that this program is known throughout our community and that we showcase the commitment to education by our business and industry partners. For this reason, ESC R19 is committed to support with in-kind marketing efforts. We will be using our in-house media services department to take pictures and footage of the program, promote on the ESC R19 website, and through our social media channels. Additionally, we would like to have an honorary celebration at the end of the 2020 Summer Bridge Program to recognize and thank our partners and celebrate distinguished students.

ESC R19 has experience coordinating, working, and running other summer programs in the past such as the ESC R19 Annual Summer TSIA Bootcamp for Migrant Students now in its fifth year of operation since inception in 2015. Middle school and high school students throughout Region 19 come to the Service Center every summer to engage in a 2-week intense Summer Camp opportunity to prepare for the TSIA exam. A diagnostic tool is used called Shmoop to pre-test and prepare. Students are then grouped by levels and provided with targeted interventions for success. At the end of the Camp, middle school students are tested in Reading, while high school students are tested in all areas. This past summer, only four migrant students did not meet the college readiness benchmarks of the reading exam. This is great news for students who are in need of targeted supports in language and are a testament to the commitment of the Service Center to student success. Enrichment activities are also provided for students, such as forensic science, biology activities, and art classes taught by EPCC instructors. ESC R19 works with both grant funds and district funds to coordinate and host the Camp. ESC R19 is accustomed to making adjustments and accommodations within the budget by being resourceful and using the generous in-kind support from its partners.

ESC R19 intends in growing this Program each summer to offer more EPCC courses for students and provide different WBL opportunities for students. With a growing program, in-kind relationships and adjustments for Program improvement are vital to its sustainability. Aside from the already successful TSIA Bootcamp for Migrant Students, ESC R19 intends on having iBuild El Paso Summer Program as a signature CTE support program for students and the community. Region 19 is committed to supporting this valuable opportunity to meet the needs of a growing job sector of the regional economy. ESC R19 and its partners are further committed to make adjustments to this program based on local labor market demand.

## Program Requirements

1. **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.

The iBuild El Paso Summer Program is intended to focus on the architecture & construction career cluster. Within this career cluster, students of both middle school and high school, middle school students in particular, will be exposed to the interconnectedness of the programs of study and regional job opportunities within this career cluster. Middle school students will be taking the Principles of Construction course this summer taught by our mathematics consultant who is a certified mathematics and computer science teacher with a strong background in engineering. If we are able to continue the Program into the future, next Summer 2023, we would like to extend middle school students the opportunity to take Principles of Architecture as well.

High school students will be engaged in EPCC college courses during the summer. Summer 2022 is intended for students to take Building Maintenance Technology I under the construction management and inspection program of study. In preparation for the Summer Program, ESC R19 will work with EPCC and construction teachers at partner districts to articulate the content of the course with EPCC course OSHT 1305 OSHA Regulations-Construction Industry and develop course crosswalks to line up EPCC course objectives and high school TEKS so that students are able to obtain both high school and college credit. ESC R19 has experience working in crosswalk alignment having worked on HVAC and sheet metal program of study courses with a local technical college. Summer 2022 for high school students would be geared at expanding further crosswalk articulation and alignment to the architectural design program of study course in computer aided drafting for architecture articulated to EPCC course DFTG 1309 Basic-Computer Aided Design. The EPCC course discussed are housed under the Advanced Technology Center at EPCC offering cutting edge workforce readiness courses, certificates, and degrees, in areas from advanced manufacturing to HVAC, welding, and renewal energy technology. The application materials include a copy of the Dual Credit Agreement between Anthony ISD and EPCC. A copy of this agreement exists and is employed by all districts applying through this grant application, allowing for a smooth and seamless process when transcribing courses between entities and on student transcripts.

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

The iBuild El Paso Summer Program is proud to announce crucial partnerships with Jordan Foster Construction and MNK Architects, Inc. Both business and industry partners are very well-known and respected contributors to the growth of the El Paso local economy. Jordan Foster Construction is a recurring, valued partner in education for ESC R19 and several districts. Mr. Joe Gomez, Director of Business Development & Community Affairs at Jordan Foster Construction engages as a presenter and resource every year at the annual Preparing the Workforce of Tomorrow Conference, a professional development summer event for CTE educators, counselors, and administrators of the El Paso Region. Jordan Foster Construction is one of the most prominent and well-regarded construction companies not only of El Paso, but the state of Texas. They have been involved in key projects such as runway expansion at the El Paso International Airport, East Austin Hotel in Austin, Texas, and the Residences at La Cantera in San Antonio, Texas. With the help of Mr. Gomez, Jordan Foster Construction has previously offered OSHA training for educators and opportunities for ESC R19 Counselor Externships at several of their work sites where counselors are able to visit with Jordan Foster Employees to learn more about opportunities for students.

MNK Architects, Inc. have an aggregate of over 90 years practicing architecture in the El Paso, West Texas, and Southern New Mexico region. They have worked on key projects throughout the city such as the City of El Paso Department of Public Safety, key high school building improvements such as Montwood High School, Burges High School, and El Paso High School as well as improvements at El Paso International Airport. MNK Architects, Inc. is considered one of El Paso's most respected locally-owned architecture firms with a diverse portfolio spanning from education to commercial and military. They are vested in the community and value the importance of education and providing work-based learning opportunities for students.

CDN 071

Vendor ID 741588856

Amendment #

**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**