

## TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. PRE-APPLICATION FORM

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: **Gulf Coast State College – Gulf/Franklin Campus**

Proposal Title: **Technology Center for Emergency Response and Communication**

Amount of Triumph Funds Requested: **\$3,800,000**

Total Estimated Project Cost: **\$4,000,000**

### Brief Description of Individual/Entity/Organization:

Gulf Coast State College (GCSC) was founded in 1957 to serve the educational, economic and community needs of GCSC District Impact Area (DIA) formed by the Gulf, Franklin and Bay counties. The College offers a wide variety of traditional, online and combined academic programs at the college's four campuses; 1) The Panama City Main Campus; 2) Tyndall Air Force Base Education Center, 3) North Bay Campus and the Emergency Operation Center, and 4) Gulf/Franklin Campus.

Initial population estimates for the summer of 2018 for the District Impact Area (DIA) indicated there were 211,000 residents, over 15% of all residents were below poverty level, the per capita average median income was \$21,915, and 15% of the minorities living in the area were significantly below poverty (U.S. Census Population Estimates July 1st, 2018). This data has changed drastically as a result of Hurricane Michael (October, 2018) as families have left the region after losing their possessions as well as their jobs. The Fall 2017 enrollment was close to 6,000 students and our student body profile was as follows: 33% registered full time, 60% are females, 17% are minorities, 55% are 21 years of age, and they rely heavily on financial aid (46% received a Pell grant and 17.6% were granted a loan).

### Contact Information

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Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program. The following partners have been briefed and will be informed of ongoing organizations joining the project during the formal development of the grant: **CareerSource Gulf Coast, Sky Borne Technology, Bay County Economic Development Alliance, Bay County Emergency Management, Unmanned Safety Institute Inc., Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City, and Tyndall Air Force Base personnel.**

### **REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The project will strengthen the emergency response system for those counties located in the North West Florida (NWFL) region: 1) acquire and make available one satellite mobile unit to serve as a command, communication, and logistical mobile center for future air, land, and water emergency missions during or after an emergency/disaster, 2) provide updated bi-annual basic, intermediate, and advance emergency, communication, unmanned vehicle systems (UVS), and FAA trainings and certificates to emergency personnel from the eight NWFL counties, 3) encourage high school students to enroll in high demanding Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) careers essential to meeting state and national professional development and public safety workforce needs, and 4) collaborate in the organization of an annual conference with updated topics and technological resources for emergency personnel.

The project responds to the transformational economic demand set forth by Triumph Gulf to support immediate needs of: 1) affected counties to establish and maintain equipment and trained personnel for local action plans of response to disasters, such as plans required by the Coastal Impacts Assistance Program; 2) provide program activities to prepare students for future occupations and careers at k-20 institutions; and 3) grants to support programs that provide participants in the disproportionately affected counties with transferable, viable workforce skills not confined to a single employer. The on-the-job training and internships form the cornerstone for the GCSC Technology Center for Emergency Response and Communication, where participants will acquire specialized skills in the dynamic and ever changing STEM and public safety careers, serve as future trainers, and have a constant flow of professionals ready to serve the emergency needs of the Panhandle after the project funding period.

(i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast

The amount of funds being sought from the Triumph Gulf Coast is \$3.8M to implement the five year project to first responders and students located in the Florida Panhandle.

(ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program

The project stakeholders are estimated to provide \$200,000 in in-kind resources to support the five year project.

(iii) the location of the project or program

The project will be located in the GCSC Gulf/Franklin Campus and will impact high school students from BDS and GDS, residents interested in pursuing a career in UVS and emergency response careers, EOC personnel and first responders served by Gulf Triumph Funds, as well as emergency victims.

(iv) summary description of the proposed program (transforming and promote economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties)

This project will support the economic development of the region by strengthening its communication and emergency response needs to retain local residents, industries, and military bases and attract new STEM professionals, businesses, and industries toward the Panhandle. It will strengthen the region's resolve to take advantage of cutting-edge technology, infrastructure and the potential to respond to the demands for skilled professionals necessary to support the region's security and manufacturing base. The Bay Economic Development Alliance, Florida's Great Northwest and Opportunity Florida have all identified public safety and STEM related fields of study as a high priority, one of the many "Targeted Industries" to supply the need for high skilled professionals. The project deliverables will be as follows:

1. By 2024 a total of 120 EOC personnel from the eight counties impacted by Gulf Triumph funds will be trained and certified through workshops and learning by doing activities.
2. By 2024 the project will enroll 60 students in AS degrees and train them in the use of advance emergency techniques to complement their degree, with additional certifications.
3. By 2024 the project will provide 125 certificates of completion to first responders and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) emergency personnel in advance emergency techniques.
4. By 2024 a total of 1,000 professionals will be impacted through updated techniques and resources offered through the annual conferences.

(v) a summary timeline for the proposed project or program

**August – September 2019** - Promotion of the approved grant to project stakeholders and the community & designation of project staff and commencement of purchasing orders.

**October 2019 - March 2020** - Acquisition of the satellite mobile unit, support resources and development of all project forms & promotion, coordination, and implementation of project workshops/training to project partners, local first responders, NGO volunteer, and students

**March 2020 – June 2020** - Continue training activities to first responders and qualified students

**July 2020 – August 2020** - Coordinate an annual conference on emergency response topics for local first responders, host an annual conference for FEPA and first responders, and data collection and analysis and submission of final reports

Please Select the Proposal's Eligibility Category(s)

Pursuant to Section 288.8017, Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. was created to make awards from available funds to projects or programs that meet the priorities for economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties. The disproportionately affected counties are: Bay County, Escambia County, Franklin County, Gulf County, Okaloosa County, Santa Rosa County, Walton County, or Wakulla County. *See*, Section 288.08012.

1. From the choices below, please check the box that describes the purpose of the proposed project or program (check all that apply):
  - Ad valorem tax rate reduction within disproportionately affected counties;
  - Local match requirements of s. 288.0655 for projects in the disproportionately affected counties;
  - X Public infrastructure projects for construction, expansion, or maintenance which are shown to enhance economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties;
  - X Grants to local governments in the disproportionately affected counties to establish and maintain equipment and trained personnel for local action plans of response to respond to disasters, such as plans created for the Coastal Impacts Assistance Program;
  - X Grants to support programs that prepare students for future occupations and careers at K-20 institutions that have campuses in the disproportionately affected counties. Eligible programs include those that increase students' technology skills and knowledge; encourage industry certifications; provide rigorous, alternative pathways for students to meet high school graduation requirements; strengthen career readiness initiatives; fund high-demand programs of emphasis at the bachelor's and master's level designated by the Board of Governors; and, similar to or the same as talent retention programs created by the Chancellor of the State University System and the Commission of Education, encourage students with interest or aptitude for science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical disciplines to pursue postsecondary education at a state university or a Florida College System institution within the disproportionately affected counties;
  - X Grants to support programs that provide participants in the disproportionately affected counties with transferable, sustainable workforce skills that are not confined to a single employer; and
  - Grants to the tourism entity created under s. 288.1226 for the purpose of advertising and promoting tourism and Fresh from Florida, and grants to promote workforce and infrastructure, on behalf of all of the disproportionately affected counties.

**Please Select the Priorities this Proposal's Outcomes will Achieve**

1. Please check the box if the proposed project or program will meet any of the following priorities (check all that apply):
- Generate maximum estimated economic benefits, based on tools and models not generally employed by economic input-output analyses, including cost-benefit, return-on-investment, or dynamic scoring techniques to determine how the long- term economic growth potential of the disproportionately affected counties may be enhanced by the investment.
  - Increase household income in the disproportionately affected counties above national average household income.
  - X Leverage or further enhance key regional assets, including educational institutions, research facilities, and military bases.
  - Partner with local governments to provide funds, infrastructure, land, or other assistance for the project.
  - Benefit the environment, in addition to the economy.
  - X Provide outcome measures.
  - Partner with K-20 educational institutions or school districts located within the disproportionately affected counties as of January 1, 2017.
  - Are recommended by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the project or program will be located.
  - Partner with convention and visitor bureaus, tourist development councils, or chambers of commerce located within the disproportionately affected counties.