

# MONTWOOD H S P-TECH Renewal Application 2023-2024

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# Background

# District Affiliation

### **SOCORRO ISD**

**CD #**: 071909 **Region**: 19

Mailing Address (Line 1):12440 ROJAS DR

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: EL PASO, TX 79928

# School Affiliation

### MONTWOOD HS

**CDC #**: 071-909-002

Region:

Mailing Address (Line 1):12000 MONTWOOD

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: EL PASO, TX 79936

# **Academy Information**

What is the academy name?

SYNERGI4 STEM and P-TECH Advanced Academy

Which model does the district intend to implement at this time? Within these models, there are variations.

School-Within-School (SWS) - A subset of students on the campus are enrolled in grades 9-12 are enrolled in the academy.

### Grade Levels Served

What grade level(s) will your academy plan to serve?

9

10

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 9th grade.

75

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 10th grade.

50

# Contacts

# **Applicant**

### Applicant 1

Job Title

Director, Montwood High School Synergi4 STEM and P-TECH Academy

**Name Prefix** 

Mr.

First Name

Miguel

**Last Name** 

Rivera

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mriver20@sisd.net

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915-937-2400

# Principal

### Principal 1

**Name Prefix** 

Mr.

First Name

Carlos

**Last Name** 

Guerra

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Phone

915-937-2400

# Superintendent

# Superintendent 1

**Name Prefix** 

Dr.

First Name

Nate

Last Name

Carman

**Email** 

ncarman@sisd.net

**Phone** 

915-937-0000

# Narratives

# Narratives

The majority of the following questions will be narrative response. Narrative responses are limited to a maximum of 250 words. We recommend writing your responses in a text-editing software such as Microsoft Word and then pasting your responses into the website when they are complete. Progress to the next section when you are ready.

# Narratives: Recruitment and Enrollment, Degrees and Credentials

Degrees and Credentials
Select the Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer.  Health Science STEM
Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer.  Nursing Science
Select the Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer.  Biomedical Science Engineering
Which of the following credential(s) does the academy plan to offer students?  AD PSC
What associate degree(s) does the academy plan to offer?
Pre-Nursing
Other
Education
What level 1 postsecondary certificate(s) provided by an IHE does the academy plan to offer?
Emergency Medical Technician Basic
Does the IHE partner currently have an articulation agreement with a four-year IHE detailing

how a student's associate degree and accrued credits could lead to a baccalaureate degree?

Yes

Provide the university name that your IHE partner has an articulation agreement with and the bachelor degree that students could earn using their associate degree and accrued credits. Each row represents a degree.

2-Year Degree	University	4-Year Degree
AS Biological Science	University of Texas at El Paso	BS Biological Science
AA Teaching	University of Texas at El Paso	BS Education

### Recruitment and Enrollment

Describe any changes in established plans for recruitment and enrollment process that meet open enrollment requirements.

The P-TECH academy shall be open enrollment for all students. Recruitment and enrollment processes shall identify, recruit, and enroll sub-populations of at-risk students (as defined by PEIMS), including, but not limited to, students who are of limited English proficiency, students with disabilities, or students who have failed a state administered assessment. In addition to those who are at-risk as defined by PEIMS, the P-TECH shall identify, recruit, and enroll sub-populations that are historically underrepresented in college courses. Enrollment decisions shall not be based on state assessment scores, discipline history, teacher recommendation, parent or student essays, minimum grade point average (GPA), or other criteria that create barriers for student enrollment. Recruitment will be heavily based on evening programs and virtual parent meetings to meet the needs of working families.

# Narratives: Strategic Partnerships: IHE, Strategic Partnerships: Business Partner, Business Partners: Hiring Priority

Strategic Partnerships: Business Partner

Business/Industry Partner 1

Affiliation/Company

The Libre Initiative

Job Title

Senior Field Director
Name Prefix
Mrs.
First Name
Karla
Last Name
Sierra
Email
ksierra@belibre.org
Phone
915-218-4692

Describe how the Business/Industry articulation agreement addresses the following Business/Industry Blueprint Requirements: Clear roles and responsibilities for work site supervisors, mentors, teachers, support personnel, and other partners.

Montwood High School's Synergi4 has a business/industry articulation agreement with The Libre Initiative that clearly meets the expectation of the blueprint. Through this agreement, The Libre Initiative provides mentors for our students, as well as financial literacy workshops for students and parents. Guest speakers from various STEM fields and other career fields are scheduled by the Libre Initiative to present to our students. The Libre Initiative provides apprenticeships for our teachers during the summer. These apprenticeships allow our teachers to receive real world experiences to better prepare our students upon entering the workforce. The Libre Initiative also provides internships for our students in different career fields from engineering to business marketing during the summer before their senior year as well as during their senior year. Students who complete the financial literacy program and/or the internship program are recognized by The Libre Initiative at our end of the year banquet.

Describe how the Business/Industry articulation agreement addresses the following Business/Industry Blueprint Requirements: Support for students' activities, such a clubs, Career and Technical Student Organizations, competitions, and special invitations.

The Libre Initiative provides guidance and support in all Synergi4 Academy student activities and events. Our students participate in many co-curricular and extra-curricular P-TECH related events such as HOSA-Future Health Professionals, Skills USA, and Technology Student Association (TSA), and TAFE. Students are expected to participate in these clubs and organizations to improve their communication skills, critical thinking skills, collaboration skills, presentation skills, educational skills, and biomedical skills. Throughout these competitions and leading up to them, The Libre Initiative provides input and feedback to our academy students by conducting workshops for all and by meeting with students one-on-one to assist them with competition strategies. Leadership strategies, such as public speaking and problem-solving skills, are developed in preparation for competitions. Additionally, written responses are reviewed with students and revised to ensure depth and complexity for competition success. P-TECH Biomedical students compete in health-related specialized topics and teams review information prior to the regional competition. Students work and are coached by 3 different sponsors in the areas of: EMT, CPR, Medical Innovation, Biomedical Debate, Veterinary Science, Sport Medicine, Forensic Science, Physical Therapy, Dental Science, Pathophysiology, Pharmacology, Medical Terminology,

Medical Spelling, Medical Reading, Medical Assistant, Clinical Nursing, Nursing Assistant, Epidemiology, Human Growth and Development, Behavior Health, Nutrition, and Healthy Lifestyle among others. In the recent years, our HOSA organization has achieved both regional and state qualifiers. P-TECH Education students complete in events including, but not limited to, Children's Literature, Lesson Planning and Delivery, Humanities, researching learning challenges, and interactive bulletin boards.

Describe how the Business/Industry articulation agreement addresses the following Business/Industry Blueprint Requirements: Student access to business and industry partners and work-based learning facilities, services, and resources.

The Libre Initiative provides opportunities for use of work-based learning facilities during the summer through their program. Montwood's Synergi4 students are introduced to inquiry-based and teamoriented projects related to the medical field. Students are given the opportunity to work with UTEP faculty as they navigate through the particulars of their project. The Libre Initiative also works with other business partners that open their doors for our students to gain work-related experiences by job shadowing their employees for a day. Finally, students have the opportunity for externships at elementary and middle school campuses in which they will shadow a mentor teacher for six months their junior year and nine months their senior year.

Describe how the Business/Industry articulation agreement addresses the following Business/Industry Blueprint Requirements: Transportation fees and costs.

Most Transportation costs are covered by SISD's Career and Technical Education Department on an as needed basis. The Libre Initiative provides transportation and covers the cost of some of the events that they provide.

# Strategic Partnerships: IHE

The P-TECH shall have strategic partnerships with business and industry partners and IHEs that are formally articulated in writing and clearly define a variety of careers.

### **IHE Partner 1**

**Affiliation** 

El Paso Community College

Name Prefix

Ms.

First Name

Tonie

**Last Name** 

Badillo

### **Email**

mbadill4@epcc.edu

### Phone

915-831-6755

Job Title

Dean of Dual Credit and Early College High Schools

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirement: Curriculum alignment and courses of study, which enables a student to combine high school courses and college-level courses to earn either an associate degree, postsecondary certificate provided by an IHE, or industry certification.

The articulation agreement between Socorro Independent School District (SISD) and El Paso Community College (EPCC) outlines the eligible courses Synergi4 students can take in Section: 2 Eligible Courses. Montwood High School's Synergi4 students have access to courses identified as college-level academic courses in the current edition of the EPCC Catalog or as a college-level workforce education course in the current edition of the Workforce Education Course Manual (WECM). WECM courses lead to a postsecondary certificate provided by EPCC. All courses that are approved for dual credit must be applicable to a college or university certificate or degree. Every college course a student takes for dual credit is paired with an equivalent high school course. Equivalency is determined by matching the college learning objectives to the TEKS. In cases where the courses have a significant overlap or match, the college course may count as dual credit. Any TEKS not covered by the college course will be taught by the high school and accounted for separately from the required content of the college course.

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirements: Policies for: 1) advising students on the transferability of all college credit offered and earned, 2) ensuring the IHE transcripts college credit earned through dual credit in the same semester that credit is earned, 3) advising students as to the transferability and applicability to baccalaureate degree plans for all college credit offered and earned (college credits earned during high school should allow students to progress from an associate degree to a bachelor's degree and beyond in their chosen field), 4) students accessing the IHE facilities, services and resources

All Montwood High School's Synergi4 students have access to EPCC Student Services including EPCC counseling services. Synergi4 students' dual credit courses are transcribed onto the high school transcript as outlined in Section 10 of the articulation agreement. When students take college courses at EPCC, the Synergi4 counselor and administrator are responsible for transcribing student grades following policy EIC(LOCAL). Students who take college classes at Montwood High School with a credentialed SISD teacher have their grades transcribed automatically through the student information system. All grades adhere to the requirements outlined in the IHE syllabus as well the appropriate grade conversion for the high school grade as stated in policy EIC(LOCAL). All Synergi4 students have full access to EPCC student services as outlined in Section 9 of the agreement. Student services provided by EPCC include the issuance of an EPCC ID, access to EPCC's online library databases, materials and resources, on-campus tutoring centers, Academic Computer Services labs and libraries, and access to participation in student government and clubs.

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirements: Transportation costs and fees including provisions for discontinuing operation while ensuring students previously enrolled will have opportunity to complete their course of study.

Transportation costs are covered by SISD's Career and Technical Education Department on an as needed basis. Fees for face-to-face dual credit students are waived and for those classes taught by an EPCC instructor online with an SISD facilitator, a \$100 fee is assessed per student. The current agreement between SISD and EPCC runs on a five-year cycle and is revised on an as needed basis.

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirements: Data sharing agreement that includes provisions for teacher data such as qualifications and student level data such as credit hours taken and earned, GPA, formative data to assess if student is on track for college readiness

Data is shared and collected for required reporting purposes and for internal purposes to include student level data. The school district, the IHE, and other regional education partners agree to share any data required for the successful completion of Synergi4 High School students' graduation plans and with the hiring of qualified staff members for dual credit teaching assignments. When sharing teacher data for qualifications, EPCC discipline faculty will serve on the Synergi4 teacher hiring committees The school district and EPCC will collect and review the following disaggregated data: number of credit hours taken and earned; GPAs; End-of-Course results; SAT/ACT/PSAT; TSIA2 readiness by grade level; qualifications of early college staff; and the location(s) where courses are taught. Any program improvements are based on the collection, review, and sharing of the following data: EPCC data; SISD data; articulation of high school students in four-year colleges/universities and level of entry and enrollment/retention rates; and leaver codes and attrition rates by grade level. Additionally, Synergi4 T-STEM will participate in instructional success and facility satisfaction surveys. Survey data is shared by EPCC the semester following the evaluations and may be used in program improvements.

# **Business Partners: Hiring Priority**

List the business partner(s) that have an agreement with the district that students completing the P-TECH program and otherwise meet hiring requirements have priority interviewing with the employer.

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The Libre Initiative

# Narratives: Regional Workforce

# Alignment, Work-Based Learning

# Work-Based Learning

Add up to three activities offered to 9th grade students.

9th Grade Activities

College visit to the University of Texas at El Paso

College visit to New Mexico State University

Summer Bridge Biomedical Camp

Add up to three activities offered to 10th grade students.

10th Grade Activities

College visit to Texas Tech University

Summer Bridge Biomedical Camp

# Regional Workforce Alignment

List the regional high-demand occupations your academy intends to address through selected program(s) of study and work-based learning.

**Regional High-Demand Occupation** 

Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists

Biomedical

Education

Narratives: Advanced Academics

### **Advanced Academics**

DC

ΑP

What type of dual credit courses does your campus plan to offer?

**WECM** 

**AGCM** 

Describe any challenges in ensuring your academy has educators with qualification to teach dual credit. What steps did your academy take to address the need?

Recruiting and retaining educators who are credentialed through EPCC is one of the greatest challenges facing Synergi4. When a credentialed teacher leaves, it is very difficult to find teachers who have the correct SBEC certificate and EPCC credentialing. To address these challenges, the district has implemented a dual credit teacher scholarship. Through a partnership with UTEP and Grand Canyon University (GCU), SISD has implemented a Dual Credit Scholarship where interested teachers apply for, and if accepted, take graduate level coursework that leads to credentialing in areas of high demand such as biology and economics. To address retention of credentialed staff, teachers who receive the Dual Credit Scholarship must commit to three years with the district upon credentialing and will receive a stipend for each dual credit section they teach. At the campus level, the Synergi4 assistant principal supports the dual credit scholarship by identifying future courses based on student need to recruit teachers to apply for the scholarship. To support current staff, EPCC hosts faculty and online facilitator workshops at the beginning of each college term as well as required discipline meetings that include learning objective and syllabus updates. The Synergi4 assistant principal also provides specific professional development for the faculty to enhance classroom instruction and provides TSIA2 workshops to ensure purposeful student tutoring. With the combined efforts of the campus, district, and IHE, the district continues to recruit, educate, and place credentialed teachers in the P-TECH academy.

Is the academy a TSIA testing	site?	
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Yes

# Narratives: Curriculum and Support

Curriculum and Support

Provide examples of how the campus plans to provide students with academic services. List activities and brief descriptions of the activities. Add a new row for each provided service.

Activity	Description
Before school, after school, and lunch tutoring	College tutors are hired to provide Synergi4 students with academic support at Montwood High School.
Advisory Period (AVID/ Peer Assist)	Montwood Synergi4 students are enrolled in an advisory period all year long. This course is designed to be used as an intervention period to assist students with their studies and TSIA2 preparation.
Intersession Boot Camps	Week-long TSIA2 boot camps are held in October, March, and June to assist students with TSIA2 preparation.

Provide examples of how the campus plans to provide students with wrap-around services. List activities and brief descriptions of the activities. Add a new row for each wrap-around service.

Activity	Description
Monthly Leadership Socials	Montwood's Synergi4 officers are invited to participate in monthly leadership socials hosted by various organizations at Montwood High School. Students gain leadership skills by organizing team building activities. All students are being trained in leadership development as part of these organizational meetings.
Parent Information Sessions	Parent meetings are scheduled to inform parents of important upcoming items and events. Guest speakers come in to present to parents on a variety of topics, including workforce needs and awareness. During this time, we also have sessions for parents and students addressing social and emotional learning.
Middle School Presentation	Parent meetings are scheduled to inform parents of important items taking place during the period of recruitment and immediately before entrance to the program at the high school level. Guest speakers come in to present to parents.

# How does your academy use the access, achievement, and attainment data for program improvement?

Montwood's Synergi4 uses the access, achievement, and attainment data as a guide for our program improvement plan. All stakeholders are aware of the blueprint and the OBMs associated with each of these areas. Campus personnel are consistently reviewing the data and implementing interventions and strategies to obtain them.

# Narratives: Leadership Team

# Leadership Team

List the Leadership Team's three priorities for the next year and describe how the selected priority contributes to the academy's success. Each priority should be a benchmark from the ECHS/T-STEM/P-TECH Blueprint.

Benchmark	Description
Benchmark 2	Ensure that we target the correct demographics to obtain our OBMs
Benchmark 3	Improve our relationships with current alliances and establish more business and industry partnerships
Benchmark 5	Improve our work-based learning opportunities

# Narratives: Benchmark Products

# Benchmark Products

On this page, you must provide a hyperlink to the location where your digital products corresponding to the product and activities that are required to be posted by the first day of serving students. Enter the hyperlink here. Hyperlinks must be entered with the fully qualified URL including "HTTP://" or "HTTPS://".

https://www.sisd.net/domain/884