



**FLORIDA'S
BEST**

Business and Education
Partnerships

A program of the
Florida Department of Education
Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Education

With a grant made possible through the
Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998
Grant administration through the
Florida Community College at Jacksonville

Florida's Best Business and Education Partnerships Awards, 2004

*A program of the Florida Department of Education,
Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Education*

Tips for Application Completion

Process Overview:

This year's awards competition, sponsored by the Florida Department of Education, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Education seeks to spotlight and promote best practices in business and education partnerships around Florida. To be eligible the partnership must be an ongoing, mutually beneficial arrangement in Florida between education and business with at least one business partner and one education partner from public education – high school, vocational-technical school or community college. Entries will be judged by a panel of educators and business leaders. Entries must be received by 5 p.m. on March 29, 2004 at the address on the application form. Questions – contact Dorothy Bouie, DOE, phone 850/245-9061 or Dorothy.bouie@fldoe.org.

Training comments to assist you with each section are provided. You may wish to print out this page to have as you complete the application form.

Section 1: Contact Information

1. Contact:

- a. Fill out completely/carefully – be specific.
- b. Lead partner contact is the person who coordinates the partnership.

1. Contact

Name of Participating Business _____

Name of Participating Educational Institution _____

School Type, circle one: high school vocational-technical school community college

Name of Project _____

Lead Partner Contact _____

Address _____

County(ies) in which program operates _____

Phone Number (day) _____ (night) _____

E-mail _____

Section 2: Qualification

2. Qualification:

- a. Check only the focus areas that specifically apply to your partnership.
- b. The remainder of the entry form will be your opportunity to demonstrate evidence of the partnership qualification components you check in this section.

2. Qualification

On what date did this partnership program begin? _____

Focus areas this project applies to (check all that apply):

- ___ establishing rigorous academic content and performance standards;
- ___ developing new curriculum or revisions to existing curriculum to meet current and future workforce needs;
- ___ mentoring students in workforce development;
- ___ providing pre-apprenticeships, youth apprenticeships and apprenticeship programs;
- ___ establishing teacher internships to expose teachers to skills needed in today's workforce environment;
- ___ providing services to a select student target group such as: low income youth, limited English speakers, youth with disabilities, academically talented youth and areas of non-traditional employment for women:
- ___ providing professional development activities to students and teachers;
- ___ assisting in creating school-based enterprises to develop business skills of students;
- ___ assisting in matching students and their interests with employers;
- ___ designing, developing, and providing the opportunity for student internships;
- ___ providing transportation or underwriting the cost of local school initiatives.
- ___ national or international external validation of the exemplary nature of the program and partnerships;
- ___ evidence of significant student success rates on industry-validated standards/certifications;
- ___ evidence of setting standards and establishing benchmarks for exemplary programs that are sought out beyond state borders;
- ___ providing service learning opportunities to students that substantially help the community;
- ___ creating international awareness of the program.

Section 3: Program Description

3. Program Description:

- a. The workforce education qualifications you checked in Section 2 above will be the guidelines for you to describe your partnership program in detail
- b. Carefully review and fine-tune your description comments so that you can tell your story in the space provided. The judging panel will not consider material that does not fit in the space provided.

- A. Program Overview – this section sets the tone for understanding by the judging panel for your partnership program – what you want to achieve, what activities you conduct – what bottom line result you demonstrate
- B. Core Objectives – specifically explain what the partnership wants to achieve
- C. Partnership – list who is involved in the partnership and how and why the partnership works well
- D. Major Activities – list specific activities conducted that make the partnership program work to achieve its objectives
- E. Achievements – this section is your opportunity to really sell the judging panel on your partnership program. Specifically discuss the measurable accomplishments, what makes them innovative and useful to students and members of the community
- F. Program Awareness – this section discusses how your partnership program is marketed to students and to your community and to other sections of the state
- G. Replicating Success – this section gives specific information that would be useful for other programs in other sections of Florida to create a similar partnership program. Replication capability of partnership programs being considered by the judging panel is important
- H. Student Success Story – this section is your chance to put the “icing on your cake” by demonstrating to the judges how, using a specific student’s experience, the partnership program positively impacts students.

3. Program Description. The following section provides an opportunity to describe your program in detail, through seven sections. This section will be used extensively by judges in deciding the overall winners. Please look to the **16 workforce education qualifications** section (#2 above) of this application for guidance in the content of your answers. Responses must be limited to the space provided.

A. Program Overview – please provide a overview of your program’s objectives, activities and outcome:

B. Core Objectives – explain the central reasons for the program’s creation:

C. Partnership – List the partners (business and education) involved in this program, as well as how and why the partnership was formed.

D. Major activities – Please list the activities in which students and partners engage to achieve the program’s objectives.

H. Student Success Story – briefly describe how the program improved a specific student’s life.

This year’s Florida’s Best Entry Forms must be sent by mail to:

Dorothy Bouie
Florida Department of Education
325 W. Gaines Street
Suite 714
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Or emailed to: Dorothy.bouie@fldoe.org

Entries must be received by 5 p.m. on March 29, 2004. Late entries will be disqualified.

Partners may submit more than one project for consideration but each project must utilize a separate entry form. Good Luck!