

Local Workforce Development Board for Area 9

2016 Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP 2.0)

Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Pathway
Local Workforce Development Board for Area 9

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

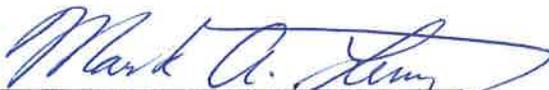
1. The Tennessee College of Applied Technology Nashville (Fiscal Agent)
Nashville State Community College
Tennessee State University
2. Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, Office of the Academies/CTE
Roberston County Schools, CTE
3. Cummins, Inc. of Nashville
Hollingsworth Tire and Fuel of Springfield
Rods Tire Company of Springfield

Paul Haynes, Project Director
Nashville Career Advancement Center
1417 Murfreesboro Pike
Nashville, TN 37219
(615) 862-8890
Paul.Haynes@Nashville.Gov



Funding Request:

Grant Contract: \$571,998.00


Mark Lenz, Director of TCAT Nashville


Paul Haynes, Project Director

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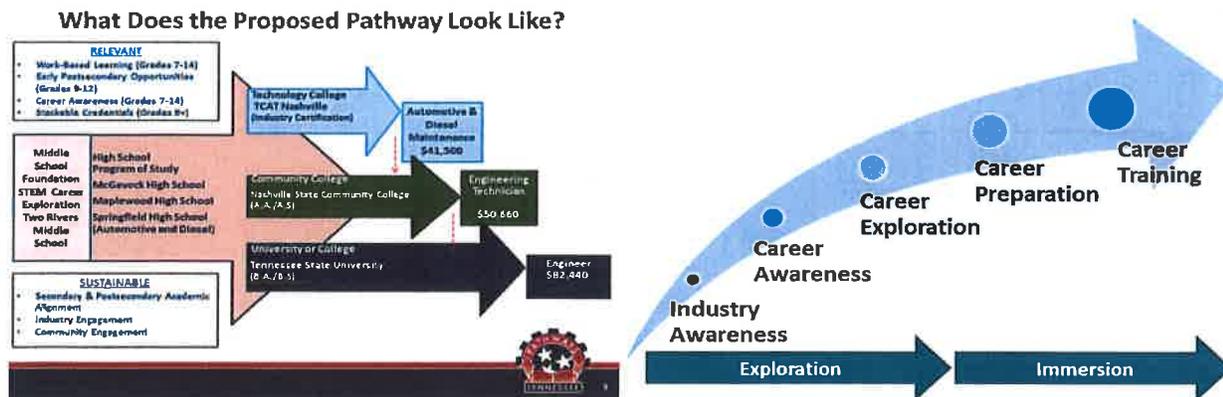
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New Diesel Maintenance Building to open Fall, 2017 at TN College of Applied Technology Nashville

A. One Page Abstract/Project Summary - The Nashville Area LEAP 2.0 proposal will develop a Diesel Maintenance career pathway beginning in middle school and fully engaging students from McGavock High School (Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools) and Springfield High School (Robertson County Schools) in order to recruit them to TCAT Nashville’s Automotive and new Diesel Maintenance program. Work Based Learning will be offered to 160 students according to the internships model described in the grant. The pathway will extend to the Nashville State Community College and the Tennessee State University Engineering programs through summer career awareness efforts. In addition, the project will be part of the Nashville Mayor’s “Opportunity Now” vision to place 10,000 youth into summer jobs.

Partner Role	Partner Organization	Contact Name	Contribution
Lead Entity	Local Workforce Development Board #9	Paul Haynes, Executive Director	Submit application and serve as Project Director
Fiscal Agent	TCAT Nashville	Mark Lenz, Director	Grant development and Fiscal Agent
Other Higher Education	Nashville State Community College	Dr. Reginald Garner, Dean of Engineering	Conduct 2 day Summit to attract students to future education opportunities in the pipeline
	Tennessee State University	Dr. Kenneth Hargrove, Dean of Engineering	Conduct 2 day Summit to attract students to future programs in the pipeline
Career and Technical Education (CTE)	Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools	Donna Gilley, CTE Director	Conduct Diesel 1 Course at McGavock and Antioch High Schools and place students in Work Based Learning Internships
	Robertson County Schools	Mark Gregory, CTE Director	Conduct Automotive Maintenance Course at Springfield High School and place students in Internships, Year 1
Workforce Development	Local Workforce Development Board #8	Marla Rye, President	Refer candidates to new programs in Diesel and Automotive Maintenance at our Robertson County campus.
Employers	Cummins, Inc.	Joseph M. Hass	Internship site for MNPS and TCAT students
	Hollingsworth Tire and Fuel	Mark Hollingsworth	Internship site for RCS and TCAT students
	Rods Tire Company	Barry Poss	Internship site for RCS and TCAT students



1. Section 1: Program Need

In response to a continued shortage of skilled workers in maintenance occupations, the Middle Tennessee Workforce Development Board (MTWDB) and the Tennessee College of Applied Technology Nashville (TCATN) are proposing the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Pathway** project in response to the LEAP 2.0 Request for Proposals in support of the Governor's Drive to 55 Goals. By expanding our program offerings to include new Diesel Maintenance Programs of Study, recruiting students from Automotive Maintenance Programs of Study to these higher paying careers, and adding a Diesel Maintenance Program and new, \$3.2 million state of the art facility at the TCATN (funds already secured), a pool of new students will be ready to take advantage of the internships offered through the LEAP 2.0 grant. Both the academic offerings and the work based learning experience will 1) get students ready for the workforce, 2) get additional students into school, 3) enhance retention by keeping them in school through completion, 4) provide clear pathways beyond secondary education to certificate, 2-year and 4-year programs that allow the students to finish what they started and 5) tie education directly to the workforce needs.

The metropolitan region in northern Middle Tennessee has experienced tremendous economic growth over the past five years, with the greatest impact in the Nashville, Davidson County Metropolitan Service Area (MSA). According to the Strengthening Middle Tennessee Region 2020 Report: Building a Vital Workforce to Sustain Economic Growth, the largest gains in population from 2010-2015 were in the Nashville MSA at 7.7% growth that will be sustained through 2020 at continued 7.1% growth. While the Unemployment Rate has remained relatively low at 3.3% as reported by the US Census for May, 2016, the poverty rate is relatively high at 18.8%. Unemployment for youth is much higher than the overall average at over 10 points higher for 16-20 year olds and over 5 points higher for 20-24 year olds according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Based on this information and the predicted labor shortages in many industries, the newly elected Nashville Mayor, Megan Berry, has announced a large scale project modeled after the city of Boston to place over 10,000 Nashville youth into jobs, heavily concentrated in the summer months, in 2017. The Middle Tennessee Workforce Development Board will lead this effort for the city under the program name "Opportunity Now." As part of this initiative, MTWDB is proposing

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this LEAP 2.0 grant as the lead entity to provide a career pathway for area youth from middle school to high school, high school to postsecondary at the TCATN (fiscal agent), and offering career awareness beyond to Nashville State Community College (NSCC) and Tennessee State University (TSU). The industry focus will be in the Automotive and Diesel Maintenance field that will incorporate 1) Industry Awareness, 2) Career Awareness, 3) Career Exploration, 4) Career Preparation and 5) Career Training through work-based learning internships that offer academic credit and internship positions at local area employers.

In addition to the urban model being proposed, the project will expand into Local Workforce Development Board #8, Robertson County. This county has been selected because of the TCATN satellite campus in Springfield that offers an Automotive Maintenance dual enrollment program at Springfield High School (SHS) in Robertson County. Robertson County is similar to Davidson County with an Unemployment Rate of 3% and a Poverty Rate of 12.3 as reported by the US Census in May, 2016.

Finally, this project has been designed around the projected expansion of the TCATN main campus with the addition of a Diesel Maintenance program and new \$3.2 million state of the art facility to open in the Fall of 2017. This new program offering is directly in line with the Drive to 55 Goals to make postsecondary education more affordable and currently the only Diesel Maintenance program in the area is offered at a cost of over \$20,000 per student at a competing proprietary school. By expanding this program to TCATN, programs like TN Promise and TN Reconnect may be used to attract students to this highly in demand occupation, without the high costs of tuition at the competing programs. The goal of this proposed project is to target secondary students who are enrolled in Automotive Maintenance and Diesel Maintenance programs and provide them with a direct pathway to the new Diesel program at TCATN that will start Fall of 2017 and to provide incentives in the form of internships to build program enrollment. The costs of the new facility have been fully covered through previous funding allocations and this grant will have a direct impact on the addition of needed equipment and on the direct tie to the workforce through the work based learning internships.

The demand for Automotive and Diesel Maintenance has drastically increased proportionately to the population and economic growth being experienced in the region. In regards to the workforce

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demand projections in the Strengthening Middle Tennessee Region 2020 Report: Building a Vital Workforce to Sustain Economic Growth the highest number of job postings for 2015, Top 10 job postings were in the Heavy and tractor trailer industry (#1 Listing of 10) with 7,414 openings. According to the JOBS4TN.GOV Labor Market Services Occupational profile listings in June, 2016 employment of automotive/diesel service technicians and mechanics is projected to grow at 9% from 2012-2022, about as fast as all occupations and job opportunities should be best for those who have completed postsecondary training in diesel engine repair. According to the on-line advertised jobs in the area there were 2,464 job openings in Installation, Maintenance and Repair Occupations and 184 openings in Bus, Truck and Diesel Engine Specialists with only 19 potential candidates in Davidson County on June 9, 2016 and only 18 potential candidates in Robertson County on June 9, 2016. This data reflects a labor shortage that will continue to grow and the industry growth is projected at 9% over the next five-seven years. Regarding local supply and demand reports, the Labor Market Services reports, "Cluster 16.4300000, Diesel Technology, the outlook for the cluster statewide is *VERY GOOD*. Occupations in this cluster are expected to be *IN DEMAND* with employers, the growth rate is positive and there are more job openings expected annually than there were training completers in the recent year."

A June, 2016 report from Economic Modeling, EMSI, economicmodeling.com indicates that for Davidson and Robertson Counties specifically, for 2016 the number of position for Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists is 33% above the national average and wages for these occupations are projected at \$22.13 per hour, while the national average is \$21.27 per hour.

This grant proposes to begin with Career Awareness in the Middle Schools by focusing on Science, Technology and Math (STEM) careers in general where STEM job growth is expected to grow at 16% according to 2014 and 2024 as reported by ACT in their publication, The Condition of STEM 2014-15. Once students become aware of their choices in early college credit as they enter high school, they will be introduced to dual enrollment opportunities at McGavock High School (MHS) in Davidson County and Springfield High School (SHS) in Robertson County. As part of their academic credit program, many of the students will be able to participate in internships through this grant during the school year at SHS at and during the summer for MHS. By providing credit and actual career training through these

internships, students will then be introduced to the Automotive and Diesel Maintenance programs at TCATN, where internships will be incorporated for the postsecondary students during their enrollment in these programs of study. As students who have earned early college credit in high school see the opportunity to continue their internship employment into the Fall, there is an added incentive to move directly into the new program as they graduate high school. Industry and Career Awareness will be offered through mini camps during the summer months at the feeder Middle Schools and at both NSCC Computer and Engineering Technology Department and the Engineering Department at TSU.

By improving the educational pathway between secondary and postsecondary institutions, the attainment of certificates, diplomas and added work experience will have a profound impact on meeting goals of the Drive to 55 initiatives by attracting a new pool of students that would begin working toward a postsecondary credential through dual enrollment at area high schools, leading them on to options at the technical, community and four year institutions in the area. In collaboration with industry leaders this grant would have a major impact on the availability of skilled workers in the future. The proposed project will assist in the creation of a new postsecondary Diesel Maintenance program and support dual enrollment/early college credit and internships at area high schools while developing the clear pathway from middle school to postsecondary opportunities through the Bachelor's Degree.

2. Section 2: Program Plan

The following table provides an overview of the 1) month by month activities, 2) direct ties to Drive to 55 goals and 3) measurable objectives on how they will produce credentialed job candidates:

Year/Quarter/Month	Convening/Activity/Action	Alignment	Measurable Objectives
YI Start Up: Sept. 16	Governance Meeting Announced and Agenda circulated. New Diesel Maintenance Building Ground Breaking at TCATN.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education.	. Extensive media coverage to include at least 3 major outlets of the groundbreaking of the new Diesel program at TCAT with mention of LEAP 2.0.
Y1 Q1 :Oct. - 16	Governance Meeting conducted, Order Equipment funded in the grant and Internship Planning for SHS. Classes offered at MHS in Diesel Maintenance I to 75 new students. Classes offered to 25 students at SHS, and to TCATN, 30 students in Automotive	Getting students ready for the workforce.	95% attendance at first governance meeting. Recruitment for 15 internship placements set for January at SHS, students and worksites set for 2 nd semester.

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	Maintenance. Pathway presentations made at both schools and internships announced to students.		
Y1 Q1: Nov. -16	Agreements with SHS employers in place. Classes at the 3 program sites continue. Pathway presentations at each of the feeder middle school in STEM.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Promoting demand occupations and getting more students into postsecondary.	Employers provided orientation to billings and job descriptions and plans set for students. 90% of students retained in programs. 15 students identified at SHS for internships.
Y1 Q1: Dec.- 16	Meetings and planning solidified for Summer Career Summits at TSU and NSCC. Classes continue at the 3 program sites. Internships orientations for SHS students at worksites.	Clear pathways beyond secondary education	Dates, locations and logistics set for two summer events for all Interns with colleges. Student retention remains at 90%. 15 students participate in internship orientations.
Y1 Q2: Jan. - 17	15 SHS interns begin work at the two employer sites in Robertson County. Classes at the 3 program sites continue.	Getting students ready for the workforce.	15 students placed and begin their internships. Student retention remains at 90%.
Y1 Q2: Feb. - 17	15 SHS internships continue. Pathway presentations at the feeder Middle Schools in STEM. Classes at the 3 program sites continue.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	Student retention remains at 90%.
Y1 Q2: March - 17	15 SHS internships continue. Agreement with Cummins Inc. in place for summer internships in both the production/maintenance facility and the new distribution center. Classes at the 3 program sites continue and Governance Meeting held.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Promoting demand occupations and getting more students into postsecondary.	Student retention remains at 90%. 95% participation at the Governance meeting.
Y1 Q3: April - 17	15 SHS internships continue. Interns interviewed and selected for summer placement at Cummins from both MHS Diesel Maintenance Program and the TCATN Automotive Maintenance Program. Classes at the 3 program sites continue.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	30 students selected from MHS. 20 students selected from TCATN to participate in summer internships at Cummins, Inc..
Y1 Q3: May - 17	Internships end for SHS students. Site visits and orientation for summer interns at Cummins.	Getting students ready for the workforce	90% or 13 students from SHS complete internships. 50 students participate in orientation for summer internships at Cummins, Inc.

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Y1 Q3: June - 17	Summer break from secondary programs but TCATN program continues. 30 students from MHS and 20 students from TCATN begin summer internships as part of Opportunity Now.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	90% retention in summer internships.
Y1 Q4: July - 17	30 students from MHS and 20 students from TCAT Nashville continue summer internships as part of Opportunity Now. NSCC and TSU Host Two Day Career Summits for all prospective students in all 3 programs.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	90% retention in summer internships.
Y1 Q4: August - 17	Summer internships end and secondary programs return to school. Classes resuming at the two high schools and continuing at the TCAT. Governance Meeting Held to debrief Spring and Summer internship process and develop improvement strategies.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Promoting demand occupations and getting more students into postsecondary.	80% of summer interns work the entire summer period. 95% participation at the Governance Meeting.
Y1 Q4:Sept. -17	Grand Opening and beginning of the New Diesel Maintenance Program at TCATN. A contingency plan is in place if the building has not received the certificate of occupancy to begin classes in the current Automotive Maintenance Building. Classes at the 3 program sites continue. Cummins Inc. internships continue for students desiring continued participation.		30 students begin Diesel Maintenance at TCATN and baseline of recruitment from the project is established. Cummins, Inc. internships continue for approximately 10 of the 50 summer interns, primarily at TCATN.
Y2 Q1:Oct. - 17	Classes at the 3 program sites continue. Some interns continue at Cummins, Inc.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	Student retention remains at 90%.
Y2 Q1:Nov. - 17	Agreements with Robertson County employers in place. Classes at the 3 program sites continue. Pathway presentations at each of the feeder middle school in STEM. 15 interns identified to begin placements in January.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Promoting demand occupations and getting more students into postsecondary.	Employers provided orientation to billings and job descriptions and plans set for students. 90% of students retained in programs.
Y2 Q1:Dec. - 17	Meetings and planning solidified for Summer Career Summits at TSU and NSCC. Classes continue at the	Clear pathways beyond secondary education	Dates, locations and logistics set for two summer events for all Interns with colleges.

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	3 program sites. Governance Meeting held.		Student retention remains at 90%.
Y2 Q2: Jan. - 18	15 SHS interns begin work at the two employer sites in Robertson County. Classes at the 3 program sites continue. Some interns continue at Cummins, Inc.	Getting students ready for the workforce.	15 students placed and begin their internships. Student retention remains at 90%.
Y2 Q2: February - 18	15 SHS internships continue. Pathway presentations at the feeder Middle Schools in STEM. Classes at the 3 program sites continue.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	Student retention remains at 90%.
Y2 Q2: March - 18	15 SHS internships continue. Agreement with Cummins Inc. in place for summer internships in both the production/maintenance facility and the new distribution center. Classes at the 3 program sites continue. Governance Meeting held.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Promoting demand occupations and getting more students into postsecondary.	Student retention remains at 90%. 95% participation at the Governance Meeting.
Y2 Q3: April - 18	15 SHS internships continue. Interns interviewed and selected for summer placement at Cummins from both McGavock High School Diesel Maintenance Program and the TCAT Nashville Automotive Maintenance and Diesel Programs. Classes at the 3 program sites continue.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	30 students selected from MHS. 20 students selected from TCATN.
Y2 Q3: May - 18	Internships end for SHS students. Site visits and orientation for summer interns at Cummins.	Getting students ready for the workforce	90% or 13 students from SHS complete internships.
Y2 Q3: June - 18	Summer break from secondary programs but TCATN program continues. 30 students from MHS and 30 students from TCATN begin summer internships as part of Opportunity Now.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	90% retention in summer internships. 30 students from MHS and 30 students from TCATN begin summer internships as part of Opportunity Now.
Y2 Q4: July - 18	30 students from MHS and 30 students from TCATN continue summer internships as part of Opportunity Now. NSCC and TSU Host Two Day Career Summits for all prospective students in all 3 programs.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	90% retention in summer internships. 30 students from MHS and 30 students from TCATN begin summer internships as part of Opportunity Now.
Y2 Q4: August - 18	Summer internships end and secondary programs return to school. Classes resuming at the	Getting students ready for the workforce.	80% of summer interns work the entire summer period.

	two high schools and continuing at the TCATN. Governance Meeting held to debrief progress with Spring and Summer internships.	Promoting demand occupations and getting more students into postsecondary.	
Y2 Q4:September - 18	Continuing of the New Diesel Maintenance Program at TCATN. A contingency plan is in place if the building has not received the certificate of occupancy to begin classes in the current Automotive Maintenance Building. Classes at the 3 program sites continue. Governance Meeting held.		60 students being Diesel Maintenance at TCATN and enrollment measured from baseline to gage success of the project. 95% participation at Governance meeting.
Y3 Q1:October - 18	Classes at the 3 program sites continue.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	Student retention remains at 90%.
Y3 Q1: November- 18	Classes at the 3 program sites continue.	Getting students ready for the workforce. Clear pathways beyond secondary education. Enhanced retention.	Final results of performance outlined for Governance Meeting.
Y3 Q1: December 18- March 19. Y3: Q2: Close Out	15 SHS interns begin work at the two employer sites in Robertson County. Classes at the 3 program sites continue. Some interns continue at Cummins, Inc. if funding still available. Sustainability plan solidified and program close out. Final Governance Meeting.	Clear pathways beyond secondary education.	Final Governance Meeting reflects that project deliverables were met and that numbers to be served have been achieved. New programs and employer worksites are retained beyond the life of the grant. TCAT Nashville Diesel Maintenance program has 70 students with 30 having participated in internships through LEAP 2.0.

In order to meet the requirements of a Project Governance and Accountability Plan, the table above reflects the quarterly project Governance Meetings to be convened by the Project Director at the Middle Tennessee Workforce Development Board and all mandatory partners. During these meetings the project deliverables will be reviewed and accountability measures put into place to insure that the project

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stays on target. The Project Director will maintain the project plan that tracks all activities and intended outcomes to keep the project team on track throughout the course of the grant period.

The role of the proposed equipment request is to insure that all of the participating educational entities have the proper equipment to train students in the most current aspects of the automotive and diesel maintenance industry. Our industry partners have provided guidance on the needed equipment and materials in order to insure success once the students are placed into work based learning. All equipment purchased will be placed on inventory with the fiscal agent, the TCATN.

The structure of the work based learning program will be the internship model described in the request for proposals. A partnership will exist between MNPS, RCS and the TCATN that adds a Diesel Maintenance program at MHS, where students will be placed in internships at Cummins, Inc. and expands work based learning to SHS's current Automotive Maintenance program at two local employers:

Hollingsworth and Rods Tire and Automotive Companies. In year one, RCS students (approximately 15) will begin the internships in the Winter/Spring semester of 2017 and the MNPS students (approximately 30) will begin in the Summer, 2017 as part of the Mayor of Nashville's Opportunity Now program. In year two, the program will be expanded to the newly established TCAT Nashville Diesel Maintenance program, where an additional 20 students will begin internships at Cummins, Inc. in the Fall, 2017 and then an additional 30 the Fall of 2018. The RCS internship program will continue with 15 students in the Fall, 2017 and 15 students in the Spring, 2018, for a total of 45 Robertson County interns. The MNPS internship program will operate in the Summer months only but will increase from Summer 2017 with 30 students to an additional 30 students the Summer, 2018. The TCATN will serve a total of 50 students, bringing the total number of proposed internships over the 30-month period to:

Robertson County Schools – 45 (20 students Winter/Spring 2017 and 25 students Winter/Spring 2018)

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools – 65 (30-35 students per Summer, 2017-18)

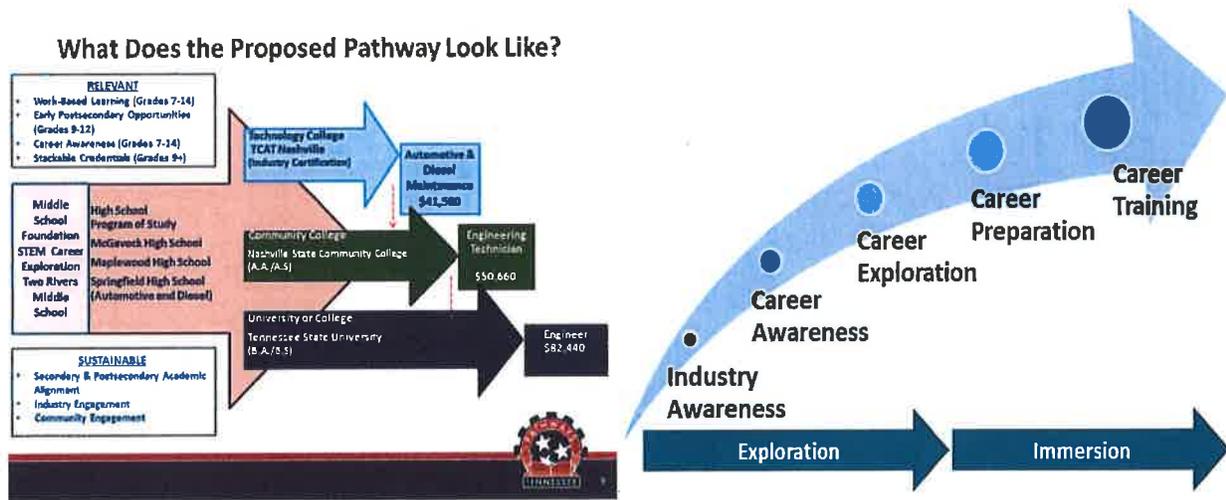
TCATN – 50 (20 students in Fall, 2017 and 30 Students Fall 2018)

The total number of internships will be 160 and in order to meet the internship requirements, the following criteria will apply:

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The time and projected duration for the internships is 8-16 weeks, 8 weeks during the summer and 16 weeks per term during the academic school year. A job description and standards for learning will be established in collaboration between the TCATN and the participating employers. Upon completion of the internship, the employer will provide an evaluation of the student performance to be provided to the applicable educational entities charged with providing academic credit to the students. The results of the internship will be factored into the final grade for the student.

All students enrolled in secondary educational programs will be provided early college credit and all students enrolled at the TCATN will be provided college credit. All students will be paid a rate of \$10.00-\$12.00 per hour and the employers will be compensated for 50% of the paid wages through internship agreements to be invoiced monthly to the TCATN and reimbursed to the employer as part of the agreement. In addition, articulation agreements will be set forth with our 2-year and 4-year postsecondary partners to insure continued opportunities for students to progress further through the Automotive and Diesel Maintenance pathway that is diagramed below.



3. Section 3 – Strength of the Partnership

The following is a description of each partner’s role and contributions in implementation. All mandatory partners will serve as governance oversight and have provided the attached letters of support (11 total).

Partner Role	Partner Organization	Contact Name	Contribution
Lead Entity	Local Workforce Development Board #9	Paul Haynes, Executive Director	Coordinate the development of and submit grant application and serve as Project Director, convening and leading quarterly governance

		Brian Clark, Deputy Director	meetings to insure accountability for project timelines and deliverables.
Fiscal Agent	TCAT Nashville	Mark Lenz, Director	Serve as the Grant Recipient and Fiscal Agent for the project. Expand program offerings at the TCATN to include Diesel Maintenance by Fall, 2017 and place 50 student interns enrolled in Automotive and Diesel Maintenance. Manage all work based learning agreements, placements and payments with area employers. As Fiscal Agent provides all necessary reports and complies with all provisions in the contract.
Other Higher Education	Nashville State Community College	Dr. Reginald Garner, Dean of Engineering	Conduct 2 day Summit to attract students to future education opportunities in the pipeline during the Summer 2017 and 2018.
	Tennessee State University	Dr. Kenneth Hargrove, Dean of Engineering	Conduct 2 day Summit to attract students to future education opportunities in the pipeline during the Summer 2017 and 2018.
Career and Technical Education (CTE)	Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools	Donna Gilley, CTE Director	Conduct Diesel 1 Course at MHS and provide 60 students for placement in Work Based Learning Internships.
	Robertson County Schools	Mark Gregory, CTE Director	Conduct Automotive Maintenance Course at SHS and place 45 students in Internships, over three semesters beginning the Winter/Spring, 2017.
Workforce Development	Local Workforce Development Board #8	Marla Rye, President	Refer candidates to new programs in Diesel and Automotive Maintenance at our Robertson County campus. Assist with identifying additional work based learning sites for students.
Employers	Cummins, Inc.	Joseph M. Hass	Internship site for MHS and TCATN students
	Hollingsworth Tire and Fuel	Mark Hollingsworth	Internship site for SHS and TCATN students
	Rods Tire Company	Barry Poss	Internship site for SHS and TCATN students

Each partner is fully capable of ensuring project success as stated in the attached letters of support.

4. Section 4: Budget Plan

A detailed financial plan is attached, Appendix B, and includes Grant Budget Line Item Details. Funding structures for student payment, record keeping and reimbursement procedures will be established in accordance with TBR policy and procedure guidelines. Agreements will be in place with employers to include job descriptions, training outlines, maintenance of time and payroll records and reimbursement procedures for 50% of wages paid to interns who participate in the work based learning component.

5. Section 5: Sustainability

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology Nashville has been in existence since 1963 and continues to maintain strong enrollments, completion and placement of students. With the onset of the TN Reconnect program in the Fall of 2015, enrollments surpassed prior years and record enrollment is anticipated for the Fall of 2016. In response to a tremendous demand by our employer community and a prior grant from the TBR central office, the College will be adding a Diesel Maintenance program. As incentive for students to take advantage of these higher paying job opportunities, the work based learning component provided in the LEAP 2.0 grant is an ideal resource to recruit and retain students throughout a pathway from middle school to high school and on to postsecondary. The TCATN has been offering a Dual Enrollment program in Machine Tool at MHS for the past three years with great success in early college credit. The new Diesel Maintenance program will expand this proven partnership and enhance the employer relationship with the primary branding from Cummins, Inc. In addition, the TCATN has prior experience with SHS's Automotive Maintenance Program and the relationship through our satellite campus in Portland. The LEAP 2.0 program will be an ideal way to increase the feeder path to the new TCATN Diesel Maintenance program that will be sustained at the TCATN for many years beyond the life of the grant. It is the desire of the governance that the employers will see the value of the addition of this workforce and that internships will continue without the LEAP 2.0 funding beyond the life of the grant.

Communication with each of the partner will continue after the grant period through the TCATs general advisory committee, continue focus of the MTWDB and through outreach of the TCATN staff. Instructors and staff at the TCATN maintain constant contact with the community at large and the employers in the region. The Governance and Oversight workgroup will provide a detailed plan for maintain communication and sharing resources among all program partners beyond the 30-month period.

The internal maintenance department at the TCATN will provide the needed long term resources to maintain and repair equipment and the housing and upkeep of equipment purchased. As indicated in the attached support letters, our private industry partners will be on board well beyond the 30-month project period.

APPENDIX B – Budget

GRANT BUDGET					
LEAP Program Competitive Grant					
The grant budget line item amounts below shall be applicable only to expenses incurred during the applicable period:					
		BEGIN: September 14, 2016	END: March 13, 2019		
Policy 03 Object Line Item Reference	EXPENSE OBJECT LINE-ITEM CATEGORY	GRANT CONTRACT	GRANTEE PARTICIPATION	TOTAL PROJECT	
1,2	Salaries, Benefits, Taxes	0.00	193,573.00	193,573.00	
4,15	Professional Fee, Grant and Award	230,400.00	0.00	230,400.00	
5,6,7,8,9,10	Supplies, Telephone, Postage and Shipping, Occupancy, etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	
11,12	Travel, Conferences and Meetings	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
18	Other Non-Personnel	0.00	0.00	0.00	
20	Capital Purchase	321,598.00	0.00	321,598.00	
22	Indirect Cost	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00	
24	In-Kind Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	
25	GRAND TOTAL	571,998.00	194,573.00	766,571.00	

Grant Budget Line Item Details

1,2 Salaries, Benefits and Taxes

Grantee participation will include the full time salaries and associated benefits for the 3 instructors to be hired to teach the Automotive and Diesel Maintenance courses at McGavock High School in Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) , Springfield High School in Robertson County (RCS) Schools as at the Tennessee College of Applied Technology Nashville.

Institution	Base Salary	Benefits	Total
MNPS	\$44750	\$23,109	\$67,859
RCS	\$44750	\$23,109	\$67,859
TCAT Nashville	\$43,500	\$14,355	\$57,855
			\$193,573

4, 15 Professional Fee, Grant and Award

The Grant Contract would fund Work Based Learning Internships for 160 students for an average of 12 weeks (some longer placements during the school year and shorter placements during the summer ranging from 8-16 weeks), at 20 hours per week and at ½ of the \$12.00/hour wage of \$6.00/hour.

$160 \times 12 \times 20 \times 6 = \$230,400$

11, 12 Travel, Conferences and Meetings

The project will provide funds in the estimated amount of \$1,000 for quarterly governance meetings.

20 Capital Purchase

The following equipment will be purchased for the Automotive and Diesel Maintenance courses:

	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Coleman Generator	1	1299	1299
Portable Air Compressor	1	799	799
Laptop	1	699	699
Ford Diagnostics breakout box	1	2500	2500
Front end tools - speciality	1	1800	1800
Brake tools - speciality	1	1200	1200
Tire Changing Machine	1	5000	5000
SNAP- on U.S. Diesel Set*	4	3788.43	15153.7

LEAP 2.0 Proposal, Local Workforce Investment Board #9 (Lead Entity), TCAT Nashville (Fiscal Agent)

SNAP- on Diesel HeavyDuty Add On Set	4	1021.48	4085.92
SNAP- on 401N Flip LID Red	4	1235.5	4942
SNAP- on Foam Cut Blu-Yel	4	1210.88	4943.52
SNAP- on Big Set Orange Box	1	8788.39	8788.39
SNAP- on Impact Wrench, Air Heavy Duty	4	343.47	1413.88
SNAP- on 3.8" Air Drill	4	248.47	993.88
SNAP- on 3.8" Sleeve Air Ratchet	4	251.97	1007.88
SNAP- on 1/2 Li-ION Impact Wrench	1	454.97	454.97
SNAP- on 18V Hammer Drill Body Only	1	216.97	216.97
SNAP- on Tire Changer	1	7883.01	7883.01
SNAP- on Wheel Balancer	1	14730.1	14730.1
SNAP-on Jack Air Manual Service - 4 Ton 24" lift	2	1256.5	2513
SNAP-on Jack Air Manual Service - 10 Ton 27" lift	2	1995	3990
SNAP-on HTD Aqueous Parts Washer	1	2243.5	2243.5
SNAP-on 6 ton Pneumatic Jack Stand	4	95.2	380.8
SNAP-on 1/2 Ton Telescoping Trans Jack	2	1207.5	2415
SNAP-on 1250 Engine Staud U Type	2	166.6	333.2
SNAP-on Crane 2 Ton Engine	1	576.54	576.54
SNAP-on 3 Tier Rack Starter	2	334.46	668.92
SNAP-on 1500 PST CRT MNTD Electric Press Washer	1	1736	1736
SNAP-on Air Mover, Heavy Duty	2	327.6	327.6
SNAP-on Rechargeable COB Worklight	4	97.97	391.88
SNAP-on Prolink Ultra Elite	1	11059.99	11060
SNAP-on Meter Cert. Kit	1	7452.8	7452.8
Cummins Engine Trainer	1	40,000	40,000
Cummins Wheel Balancer	1	19,200	19,200
Cummins Heavy Duty Tire Charger	1	17,100	17,100

LEAP 2.0 Proposal, Local Workforce Investment Board #9 (Lead Entity), TCAT Nashville (Fiscal Agent)

Cummins Tool Kits X 4 at 11,750	4	11750	47,000
Cummins Heavy Duty Diagnostic Tool	1	16,000	16,000
Cummins 6.6 Duramax Trainer	1	70,000	70,000
Tax Exempt	0	0	0
Shipping			298
Total Equipment Request			\$321598

22 Indirect Costs

As stated on the Bidder's Conference Call, Indirect Costs of up to 8% of the total grant is allowable. The project is requesting \$20,000 or less than 3% if needed to successfully operate the project.

Data Source List – Localized Data demonstrating the need for action

- JOBS4TN.GOV, Labor Market Services, Occupational Profiles, June 10, 2016
- U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey bls.gov
- U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Nashville Area Economic Summary, blsinfoatlanta@bls.gov
- Strengthening the Middle TN Region 2020, J.P. Morgan Chase and the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, August, 2015
- EMSI Occupation Overview for Automotive and Diesel Maintenance, Davidson and Robertson Counties in Tennessee, www.economicmodeling.com
-



MTWDB

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**
ADMINISTERED BY: NASHVILLE CAREER ADVANCEMENT CENTER

July 14, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Local Workforce Development Board in Area 9 is the lead entity for the LEAP 2.0 proposal for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway**, in conjunction with the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville as the proposed fiscal agent. The Executive Director of our agency, Mr. Paul Haynes, is proposed as serving as the Project Director. On Monday, July 11, Mr. Haynes announced his retirement effective September 30, 2016. While this date is after the projected grant start date, he will be leaving during the course of the 30 month grant period. As Deputy Director, I am writing to affirm our organizations commitment to the project. Until a new Director is named, I will be happy to immediately step in and serve as the Project Director upon Mr. Haynes departure.

We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,

Brian Clark
Deputy Director



TENNESSEE COLLEGE
OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY
NASHVILLE

June 15, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830



New Diesel Maintenance Facility, Fall 2017

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology Nashville is pleased to submit the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** project proposal as the leader of the partnering educational institution requesting to serve as the fiscal agent. Our project will serve students from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs in conjunction with the lead entity, the Middle Tennessee Workforce Development Board. This partnership is the result of many years of collaboration between the various institutions who are writing to participate in the proposed LEAP 2.0 project. When the group first convened, the selection of the Automotive and Diesel Maintenance pathway was the obvious choice, centered around the expansion of our campus with a new Diesel Maintenance facility to open in the Fall, 2017. We will build upon our early college credit relationships with two area high schools and expand dual credit programs there as part of this project. Most importantly, we will begin to address the labor shortage being experienced by area employers with collaboration between our programs and Cummins, Inc. and a small rural collaboration with two Automotive employer partners in Robertson County.

We are excited about the possibility of the meaningful and sustainable work experiences that these work based learning opportunities will provide. If funded, this program will insure that all of our educational partners are producing the credentials that employers need while also driving new industry to the region.

We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark A. Lenz'.

Mark Lenz
Director

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



MEGAN BARRY
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
METROPOLITAN COURTHOUSE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37201
PHONE: (615) 862-6000
EMAIL: mayor@nashville.gov

July 15, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

As Mayor Megan Barry's Youth Policy Advisor, I am writing in support of our Local Workforce Development Board, Area 9 and the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville's grant application for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. These partnerships will create long term relationships between employers, secondary education partners, area community colleges and the TCAT. I believe that these efforts will address the existing skills gaps in the local workforce pool.

As the Mayor's Office strives to create real-world opportunities for interns and to address youth unemployment, we are planning a 2017 launch of an initiative to put over 10,000 Nashville Youth into jobs, to be branded as "Opportunity Now".

Efforts such as this grant opportunity will contribute to the overall success of the initiative by providing funding for these student internships in demand occupations. We are excited about the possibility of the meaningful and sustainable work experiences that these work based learning opportunities will provide. If funded, this program will insure that our educational partners are producing the credentials that employers need while also driving new industry to the region.

I hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and I would be pleased to announce that the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and the Governor's Drive to 55 initiatives are partners in this large scale endeavor, Opportunity Now.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ronnie Steine".

Ronnie Steine
Youth Policy Advisor
Office of Mayor Megan Barry





523 Madison St. Ste. A
Clarksville, TN 37040-3619

Solutions that work.

June 15, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Local Workforce Development Board in Area 8 is writing in support of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville and the Local Workforce Development Board in Area 9's grant application for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. Our Local Board and Workforce Essentials, Inc. have been engaged with the partners on this grant application since the LEAP 2.0 grants were announced. We have confidence that the collaboration will result in meaningful and sustainable work experiences that these work based learning opportunities will provide.

If the project is funded, we commit to insuring that additional employer partnerships are added in Robertson County to add to the two companies who have already issued support, Rods Tire Company and Hollingsworth Tire and Fuel. We anticipate that over 50 students will be engaged in summer work-based learning internships through this grant in Roberson County alone and the result will be insurance that our educational partners are producing the credentials that employers need while also driving new industry to the region.

We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maria Rye". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maria Rye
President



June 15, 2016
Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Cummins, Inc. is writing in support of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville and the Local Workforce Development Board in Area 9's grant application for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. Our company has been working with McGavock High School on the development of the Diesel Maintenance Program of Study and the added partnership with the TCAT will allow us to serve additional students who are engaged in postsecondary education as they open their new Diesel Maintenance program and facility in the Fall of 2017. We have been engaged with the partners on this grant application since the LEAP 2.0 grants were announced and have confidence that the collaboration will result in meaningful and sustainable work experiences for over 150 secondary and postsecondary students over the projected 30-month project period.

If the project is funded, we commit to insuring that our employer partnership is the key location for area youth to being internships that lead to long term careers in high paying jobs. We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,

Joseph Hass

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph M. Hass".



June 15, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Cummins, Inc. is writing in support of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville and the Local Workforce Development Board in Area 9's grant application for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. Our company has been working with McGavock High School on the development of the Diesel Maintenance Program of Study and the added partnership with the TCAT will allow us to serve additional students who are engaged in postsecondary education as they open their new Diesel Maintenance program and facility in the Fall of 2017. We have been engaged with the partners on this grant application since the LEAP 2.0 grants were announced and have confidence that the collaboration will result in meaningful and sustainable work experiences for over 150 secondary and postsecondary students over the projected 30-month project period.

If the project is funded, we commit to insuring that our employer partnership is the key location for area youth to being internships that lead to long term careers in high paying jobs. We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Stefani L. Tucker'.

Stefani L Tucker

Cummins Inc.
2501 McGavock Pike, Ste 302
Nashville, TN 37214
Tel (615) 871-5222
Fax (615) 871-5542
cummins.com



498 Industrial Dr.
Springfield, TN 37172

615-384-2451

June 15, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Hollingsworth Tire and Fuel of Springfield, TN is writing in support of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville and the Local Workforce Development Board in Area 9's grant application for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. Our company has been working with Robertson County Schools on the development of the Automotive Maintenance dual enrollment program and the added partnership with the TCAT will allow us to serve additional students who are engaged in postsecondary education as they open their new Diesel Maintenance program and facility in the Fall of 2017. We have been engaged with the partners on this grant application since the LEAP 2.0 grants were announced and have confidence that the collaboration will result in meaningful and sustainable work experiences for secondary and postsecondary students in Robertson County over the projected 30-month project period.

If the project is funded, we commit to insuring that our employer partnership is the key location for area youth to being internships that lead to long term careers in high paying jobs. We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,


Mark Hollingsworth



Tire & Automotive

Service Center

Barry Poss Rod's Tire Company

4002 Memorial Blvd Springfield, Te 37172
(615) 384-1048

June 15, 2016

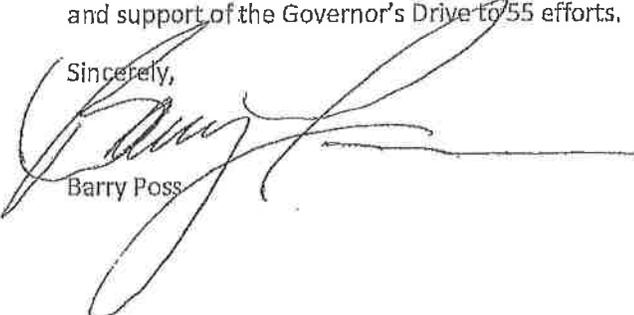
Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Rods Tire Company of Springfield, TN is writing in support of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville and the Local Workforce Development Board in Area 9's grant application for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. Our company has been working with Robertson County Schools on the development of the Automotive Maintenance dual enrollment program and the added partnership with the TCAT will allow us to serve additional students who are engaged in postsecondary education as they open their new Diesel Maintenance program and facility in the Fall of 2017. We have been engaged with the partners on this grant application since the LEAP 2.0 grants were announced and have confidence that the collaboration will result in meaningful and sustainable work experiences for secondary and postsecondary students in Robertson County over the projected 30-month project period.

If the project is funded, we commit to insuring that our employer partnership is the key location for area youth to being internships that lead to long term careers in high paying jobs. We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,



Barry Poss



METROPOLITAN
Nashville
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Donna G. Gilley

*Director of Academies of Nashville/Career and Technical Education
p 615.259.8716 • donna.gilley@mnps.org
2601 Bransford Ave • Nashville, TN 37204*

July 12, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools (MNPS), Office of Academies of Nashville/CTE is writing in support of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville and the Local Workforce Development Board in Area 9's grant application for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. Our school district actually approached the TCAT as a key partner to expand our dual enrollment program at McGavock High School and to partner on our upcoming Diesel Maintenance Program of Study. In addition, we have a desire to expand on our efforts to recruit students from Automotive Maintenance to these higher paying careers. We have been engaged with the partners on this grant application since the LEAP 2.0 grants were announced and have confidence that the collaboration will result in meaningful and sustainable work experiences for over 100 MNPS students over the projected 30-month project period.

If the project is funded, we commit to insuring that additional employer partnerships are added in Davidson County to add to the strong support from Cummins, Inc., our partner in the Academy of Aviation and Transportation (Diesel pathway) at McGavock. We anticipate that a growing number of our students will be engaged in summer work-based learning internships through this grant in the Nashville Area and the result will be insurance that our educational partners are producing the credentials that employers need while also driving new industry to the region.

We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,

Donna Gilley, Director of Academies of Nashville/Career and Technical Education



Robertson County Schools
Career and Technical Education Department
800 M.S. Courts Blvd.
615-384-5588
mark.gregory@rcstn.net

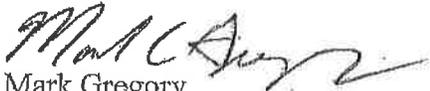
June 15, 2016
Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Robertson County Schools (RCS), Career and Technical Education Office is writing in support of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville and the Local Workforce Development Board in Area 9's grant application for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. Our school district is thrilled to be a key partner to expand our dual enrollment program at Springfield High School. In addition, we have a desire to expand on our efforts to recruit students from Automotive Maintenance to these higher paying careers in Diesel Maintenance. We have been engaged with the partners on this grant application since the LEAP 2.0 grants were announced and have confidence that the collaboration will result in meaningful and sustainable work experiences for over 30 RCS students over the projected 30-month project period.

We are pleased to be the first group on the implementation timeline to begin internships with two local employers; Hollingsworth Tire and Fuel and Rods Tire Company in the Spring semester, 2017. We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,


Mark Gregory
CTE Director



June 15, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Nashville State Community College is writing in support of Local Workforce Development Board, Area 9 and the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville's grant application for the Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. These partnerships will create long term relationships between secondary education partners, postsecondary education and area employers.

The College of Computer and Engineering Technology has been engaged with the partners on this grant application since the LEAP 2.0 grants were announced and, if funded, involvement in the project is to commit to a two-day Career Awareness program both in the summers of 2017 and 2018, where the 200 students engaged in summer work-based learning internships will have the experience of coming to our campus to gain an understanding of further educational opportunities and career options beyond high school and technical training.

We are excited about the possibility of the meaningful and sustainable work experiences that these work based learning opportunities will provide. If funded, this program will insure that all of our educational partners are producing the credentials that employers need while also driving new industry to the region.

We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,

Reginald J. Gardner

Reginald Gardner, DM
Nashville State Community College
Dean, Computer and Engineering Technologies



"Think. Work. Serve."

College of Engineering
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd., Nashville, TN 37209-1561
Phone: 615-963-5401 | Email: skhargrove@tnstate.edu

July 5, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson, LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Tennessee State University (TSU), is writing in support of our collaborative partners for the LEAP grant opportunity entitled "**Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway**" proposal. As a group of secondary schools that provide certificates, and 2-year and 4-year programs, TSU, the Local Workforce Development Board - Area 9, and the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) are excited about our institutions providing a training and education program to impact our regional workforce in the growing profession of vehicle maintenance.

The College Engineering at TSU has been engaged with the partners on this grant application since the LEAP 2.0 grants were announced and, if funded, involvement in the project is to commit to a 2-day Career Awareness program both in the summers of 2017 and 2018, where the 200 students engaged in summer work-based learning internships will have the experience of coming to our campus to gain an understanding of further educational opportunities and career options beyond high school and technical training for a bachelor degree in the fields of engineering and industrial technology.

We are excited about the possibility of the meaningful and sustainable work experiences that these work based learning opportunities will provide. If funded, this program will insure that all of our educational partners are producing the credentials that employers need while also driving new industry to the region.

We hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal, and we would be pleased to continue our strong partnership and support of the Governor's Drive to 55 efforts.

Sincerely,

Dr. S. Keith Hargrove, Dean

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



MEGAN BARRY
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
METROPOLITAN COURTHOUSE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37201
PHONE: (615) 862-6000
EMAIL: mayor@nashville.gov

July 15, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnson
LEAP RFP Coordinator
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243-0830

Dear Mr. Johnson:

As Mayor Megan Barry's Youth Policy Advisor, I am writing in support of our Local Workforce Development Board, Area 9 and the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Nashville's grant application for the **Nashville Area Automotive and Diesel Maintenance Pathway** from our secondary schools through certificate, 2-year and 4-year postsecondary programs. These partnerships will create long term relationships between employers, secondary education partners, area community colleges and the TCAT. I believe that these efforts will address the existing skills gaps in the local workforce pool.

As the Mayor's Office strives to create real-world opportunities for interns and to address youth unemployment, we are planning a 2017 launch of an initiative to put over 10,000 Nashville Youth into jobs, to be branded as "Opportunity Now".

Efforts such as this grant opportunity will contribute to the overall success of the initiative by providing funding for these student internships in demand occupations. We are excited about the possibility of the meaningful and sustainable work experiences that these work based learning opportunities will provide. If funded, this program will insure that our educational partners are producing the credentials that employers need while also driving new industry to the region.

I hope that you will give strong consideration to this grant proposal and I would be pleased to announce that the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and the Governor's Drive to 55 initiatives are partners in this large scale endeavor, Opportunity Now.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronnie Steine".

Ronnie Steine
Youth Policy Advisor
Office of Mayor Megan Barry