



**Wharton County
Junior College**

**Proposed Agenda Item
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Complete this form and submit it to the Office of the President by 5:00 pm on the eleventh day before the following Tuesday meeting of the Board of Trustees. If this form does not provide enough space, you may use an expanded version *as long as you follow the format specified below.*

Date of Board Meeting: September 20, 2016 Date of This Proposal: September 12, 2016

SUBJECT (item as it will appear on agenda):

Information Item: Funding from Texas Workforce Commission for Jobs and Education for Texans Grant Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review information item.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The JET Program provides funding for the purchase of instructional equipment necessary to support a program or course(s) for the operation of career and technical education courses or programs that train technicians for high-growth, high demand occupations in the Texas Gulf Coast Region.

Estimated Cost and Budgetary Support (how will this be paid for?): \$350,000

Matching requirement of \$18,642.00. Grant funds will be deposited for expenditure from the Current Restricted Fund.

RESOURCE PERSON(S) [name(s) and title(s)]:

Danson Jones, Director of Institutional Effectiveness

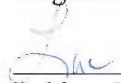
SIGNATURES:



Originator

9-14-16

Date

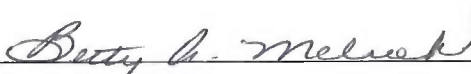


Cabinet-Level Supervisor

9-14-16

Date

PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL:



9-12-16



Wharton County Junior College

Overview

Grant Award – Texas Workforce Commission

Grant Title – Jobs and Education for Texans Grant Program

Award period – August 31, 2016 to August 31, 2017

Award Amount – \$350,000.00

Matching Requirement – \$18,642.00

Source of Matching – WCJC Plant Fund

Requirements for Consideration:

The JET Program provides grant funding for the purchase of instructional equipment necessary to support a program or course(s) for the operation of career and technical education courses or programs that train technicians for high-growth, high-demand occupations in the Texas Gulf Coast Region.

Under this provision the College requested and received funds for the purchase of state-of-the-art equipment for the Welding Program. This equipment includes seven VRTEX 360 virtual reality arc welding trainer systems and accessories. The VRTEX 360 is a best-in-class advanced level welding training system. These computer-based training systems are education tools designed to supplement and enhance traditional welding training. They allow students to practice their welding technique in a simulated and immersive environment. The VRTEX systems promote the efficient transfer of quality welding skills and body positioning within a welding booth while reducing material waste associated with traditional welding training. The combination of realistic puddle, arc welding sound, and real time feedback tied to the welder's movement provides a valuable hands-on experience.