



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function Board of Education Meeting: 09/01/2026

Item Title: Approval to accept the Communities X Action
Foundation of Texas-Educate Texas Information
PTECH Support Sub-grant Discussion

BACKGROUND:

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department requests approval to accept the Communities Foundation of Texas (Educate Texas) P-TECH Support Subgrant in an amount of up to \$15,000.00. The grant will support the expansion of Brownsville ISD's P-TECH programs by increasing access to dual credit and workforce-aligned pathways through teacher dual credit faculty credentialing, industry-based certifications, professional development, curriculum enhancement, and instructional materials. Grant funding includes up to \$15,000.00 for Porter Early College High School P-TECH. All grant funds must be expended by April 15, 2027, in accordance with the grant agreement.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of the Communities Foundation of Texas-Educate Texas P-TECH Support Subgrant in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Adrian Dorsett 
Submitted by: Principal/Program Director

Dr. Norma Ibarra-Cantu 
Recommended by: Executive Director


Dr. Alma Cardenas-Rubio
Approved by: Assistant Superintendent


Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent

When Necessary, Additional Background May Follow This.

Communities Foundation of Texas

Educate Texas

Grant Agreement

Recipient: Brownsville Independent School District

Total Grant Amount: Up to \$15,000

Source: The Educate Texas Fund of Communities Foundation of Texas



EDUCATE TEXAS

a public-private initiative of Communities Foundation of Texas

Date: 5/14/2026

Communities Foundation of Texas
5500 Caruth Haven Lane
Dallas, Texas 75225
(214) 750-4222

Communities Foundation of Texas

Educate Texas

Grant Agreement

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Date: 5/14/2026
Project/Fund: F-03094

I. TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THE GRANT

- A. This Grant Agreement is entered into in connection with a grant by **Communities Foundation of Texas** ("CFT") and **Educate Texas**, a public-private initiative of CFT, to **Brownsville Independent School District** (the "Recipient" or "Recipient Organization"). The funds provided pursuant to this grant (the "Granted Funds") may be used only in accordance with the provisions stated in this Grant Agreement. The designated use of Granted Funds is subject to modification only with prior written approval of CFT. No grant provided by CFT may be used for any political campaign or to support attempts to influence legislation by any body. No charitable grant provided by CFT may directly benefit or pay a personal pledge or obligation of the donor who created the source fund, the donor's family, a CFT trustee, a CFT employee, or an advisor for the source fund. The Recipient represents and affirms that the Granted Funds shall not create any personal benefit for the donor who created the source fund, the donor's family, a CFT trustee, a CFT employee, or an advisor for the source fund. The Recipient also represents and affirms that the Granted Funds are not in payment of any legally binding pledge, written or verbal commitment or obligation of any individual or entity other than CFT.
- B. The Recipient, following appropriate internal review and accounting procedures, agrees to apply best efforts to receive, process, and use the Granted Funds (as described in Section II below), in a timely way, without unreasonable delay, and in a facilitative manner.
- C. No portion of the Granted Funds may be "taxed" by the Recipient to fund the Recipient's operations at an institutional, local, state or national level without prior written approval of CFT. Unless specifically authorized in writing by CFT, Granted Funds may not be directed, appropriated, assigned or shared to fund the Recipient's institutional or developmental overhead costs, direct or indirect costs, or general overhead or administrative operations costs, other than those identified in the CFT-approved budget for the project described in Section II of this Grant Agreement (the "Project"). All Granted Funds must be used by the Recipient for the designated Educate Texas grant purpose stated in Section II of this Grant Agreement. Should any Granted Funds be used to sponsor or fund independent or individual research, investigation, discovery or invention, CFT or its designee must be assigned and legally possess all intellectual property rights in and to the direct results of such sponsored or funded activity or project. Granted Funds may not be used to provide private inurement to fund, directly or indirectly, for-profit ventures, organizations or projects. The Recipient is responsible for the legal use of Granted Funds as designated in the Grant Agreement and for maintaining accurate financial records consistent with generally accepted government accounting practices.
- D. The Recipient will furnish Educate Texas and CFT with written evaluation reports in the form and format required by Educate Texas and CFT, its donors and major funding partners on at least an annual basis, or as requested in writing by Educate Texas or CFT, its donors and major funding partners, and at the conclusion of the Project. These reports must include a complete financial statement, quantitative information regarding the progress of the Project goals to date, and a detailed narrative describing the progress of the Project. These reports shall supply sufficient information for Educate Texas and CFT to determine that the grant has been or is being used for the purpose intended (as described in Section II below), to monitor the progress of the Project, and to fulfill its public reporting responsibilities. The Recipient agrees to maintain adequate records to enable proper expenditure of the Granted Funds to be easily confirmed. The Recipient agrees to make its books and records available for inspection at a time and location mutually agreeable to the Recipient and CFT and to permit CFT or its designated representatives to monitor and conduct an evaluation of operations under this grant at a time and location mutually agreeable to the Recipient

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and CFT, which may include visits by CFT or Educate Texas staff or other designated representatives or contractors to observe the Recipient's operations, discussions of the Project with the Recipient's staff, and reviews of financial and other records connected with this grant.

- E. If CFT is not satisfied with the progress of the Project or the content of any written report from the Recipient regarding the Project, then CFT may, at its discretion, (i) require that any deficient report be rewritten, and/or (ii) cancel the grant and discontinue funding the Project and/or require that the Recipient return any unspent and uncommitted portion of the Granted Funds previously distributed to the Recipient by CFT. Without limiting the foregoing, CFT reserves the right to withhold funds or terminate this Grant Agreement if the Recipient has significant organizational or Project leadership changes that CFT believes may compromise the Project or adversely impact the Recipient's viability or ability to function as intended and described in Section II below. Recipient agrees to notify CFT immediately regarding any significant organizational or Project leadership changes that occur. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Grant Agreement, in the event that this Grant Agreement is terminated for the reasons set forth in the foregoing sentence, no amount of any unpaid Granted Funds will be paid to the Recipient.
- F. The Recipient agrees to collaborate with Educate Texas and CFT by implementing a framework for Project evaluation to gather essential information and data, and to conduct an independent assessment of the Project's progress. As part of the evaluation process, the Recipient agrees to:
1. Allow, coordinate and facilitate the collection of data by CFT or its evaluation contractor;
 2. Allow the dissemination of evaluation and research findings; and
 3. Allow CFT or its evaluation contractor to implement a plan for analysis of student work, including professors' assignments. CFT acknowledges the Recipient's obligations to abide by all FERPA requirements and any district/university requirements with regard to individual student and teacher identification. The Recipient agrees, with appropriate protections and assurances to its students and teachers from CFT or its evaluation contractor, to provide samples of student work and teacher assignments, as requested by CFT or the contractor.
- G. In crediting the grant for all reporting purposes, credit must be given to the Trustees of Communities Foundation of Texas for their awarding of this grant. **All public announcement, credit and reporting of this grant must list the source of the grant as:**

“Educate Texas, a public-private initiative of Communities Foundation of Texas”

- H. The Recipient agrees to permit CFT and/or its representatives and/or its major funding partners to include information on this grant in its/their periodic reports and to permit reference to this grant in press releases. CFT agrees to provide the Recipient with reasonable advance notice of any public press announcement related to the Project that requires the attendance of any of the Recipient's officials. Following guidelines established by Educate Texas concerning public announcements, communications and marketing, the Recipient will use its best efforts to publicize and promote public knowledge of the grant, unless otherwise instructed in writing by CFT. Any written credit line and/or any camera-ready art supplied by CFT will be employed by the Recipient, in the design, format, specification and size determined to be appropriate by CFT, in all printed announcements, press releases, publications and media briefing materials or announcements related to the Project, provided there is no conflict with the Recipient's media requirements and guidelines. Any public announcement of this grant and/or the Project that may be made by the Recipient must first be reviewed and approved by CFT. Copies of news releases

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and other published materials, pictures etc., that may be developed by the Recipient in connection with this grant, will be provided to CFT for its review and approval before being released. The Recipient agrees to consult with Educate Texas in order to develop an appropriate naming opportunity, credit and acknowledgement strategy and methods and forms of public recognition that are acceptable to CFT and are suitable for a grant of this magnitude and timeliness.

- I. Written acknowledgement of CFT's support in programs or other materials must include the source of the grant as stated in Section G above. The Recipient agrees to permit CFT, at CFT's option and expense, to change, replace or modify any plaques, signs or other forms of public acknowledgement of the grant made by the Recipient, should CFT determine, at any time in the future, that a change in the name of CFT or in the granting fund warrants such a change in the interest of clarity, proper credit and historical accuracy.
- J. To the extent not prohibited by the constitution and laws of the State of Texas, the Recipient shall indemnify CFT and hold CFT harmless from and against any liability, loss damage, suit, claim, action or proceeding suffered or incurred by CFT, or any of its officers, directors, trustees, partners, employees or agents as the result of the Recipient's failure to observe, perform or discharge the Recipient's duties hereunder, or in any matter arising out of the making of this grant by CFT, excluding in any event any of the foregoing resulting from CFT's gross negligence or willful misconduct. The obligation of the Recipient under this Section J shall survive the termination of this Grant Agreement for any reason. The foregoing indemnification shall apply whether or not the indemnified claims are in any way or to any extent owed, in whole or in part, under any claim or theory of strict liability, or are caused, in whole or in part, by any negligent act or omission of CFT or any of its officers, directors, trustees, partners, employees or agents.
- K. **IF THE RECIPIENT FAILS TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE CONDITIONS OF THIS GRANT AGREEMENT WITHOUT OBTAINING PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM CFT, THEN CFT MAY CANCEL OR MODIFY THE GRANT AND REQUIRE THAT ANY UNSPENT AND UNCOMMITTED PORTION OF THE GRANTED FUNDS BE RETURNED. CFT RESERVES THE RIGHT, IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION, TO ALTER THE PAY OUT SCHEDULE FOR THIS GRANT BY GIVING WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE ALTERATION TO THE RECIPIENT.**

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II. DESIGNATION/OTHER CONDITIONS OF THE GRANT

- A. Based upon the grant proposal submitted by the Recipient to Educate Texas on 4/14/2026 (the "Grant Proposal"), **Brownsville Independent School District** is awarded funds designated to be used by the Recipient to fund the activities of the **P-TECH Support Subgrant**. The Project to be supported by the Granted Funds is described in Section B of this Section II. The Recipient assures CFT that the Recipient's administration of the Granted Funds and the objectives of the Project thereby supported shall in all ways be consistent with the goals and objectives of Educate Texas, its major funding partners and Communities Foundation of Texas.
- B. The Recipient agrees to:
Expand high-quality P-TECH programs across the CCRSM network and increase student access to dual credit and workforce-aligned pathways by:
1. Supporting teachers in attaining dual credit faculty credentialing and industry-based certifications.
 2. Strengthening dual credit and program of study-aligned courses for students with staff and teacher professional development, curriculum development and course materials and supplies (excluding equipment and textbooks).
 3. Submit all required reports on time according to the schedule outlined in Section F of this Section II.
- C. Anticipated outcomes:
1. Increased number of teachers with or working toward dual credit faculty credentialing.
 2. Increased number of teachers with program of study-aligned industry-based certifications.
 3. Expanded access of dual credit courses for P-TECH students.
- D. Provided all terms and conditions of this Grant Agreement are met in the sole judgment of CFT and Educate Texas, payment of the Granted Funds shall be made by CFT to the Recipient as outlined below, up to the maximum amount of \$15,000. The Recipient acknowledges and agrees to fund the Project as designated in, and in the amounts and according to the budget submitted as part of, the Grant Proposal.

Recipient	Upon Signature	Upon submission of Activity Budget Plan September 2026	Total
2025-2026 PORTER EARLY COLLEGE H S PTECH Designated	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$15,000

All funds must be spent by April 15, 2027. The Recipient agrees to adhere to the approved budget for the Project. Any increase or decrease of more than 10% to an **individual budget line** included as part of the Project budget submitted by the Recipient and approved by Educate Texas and CFT must be approved by Educate Texas and CFT **in advance** in writing.

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The Recipient acknowledges, understands and accepts that funds granted under this Grant Agreement may not be used to support capital costs, permanent staff positions, any activities that can be construed as lobbying, and/or any activities that include payment to an elected official (e.g., conference participation, meals, travel, etc.).

- E. Future payment of funds awarded under the terms and conditions of this Grant Agreement is contingent upon the Recipient's maintenance of its status as an organization exempt from federal income tax under Sections 501 (c)(3) or 170(b), as applicable, of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition to the other terms of this Grant Agreement, payment of any funds granted under this Grant Agreement may be suspended or cancelled by CFT at its sole discretion should either of the following occur: 1) dissolution of the Recipient, or 2) termination of the Recipient's tax exempt status.
- F. Written **documentation/reports** must be submitted to Educate Texas and CFT on the following dates:
1. **September 15, 2026** – Activity Budget Plan listing the teachers pursuing dual credit faculty credentialing, industry-based certifications and projected budget for teachers' coursework, licensing, assessment, tuition, exam and other fees, professional development, and course materials and supplies. Template provided by Educate Texas.
 2. **April 15, 2027** – Updated and final Activity Budget detailing teachers' attainment or progress toward dual credit faculty credentialing, industry-based certifications and final expenses for teachers' coursework, licensing, assessment, tuition, exam and other fees, professional development, and course materials and supplies. Template provided by Educate Texas.
 - 3.
- G. In addition to the evaluation and accountability requirements detailed in Section I above, the Recipient agrees to monitor, support and track Project performance against expected Project outcomes and to monitor and/or audit the appropriate use of Granted Funds. The Recipient, working with the staff of Educate Texas and its outside professional advisors, agrees to assist in the implementation of a detailed program to collect data needed to evaluate the Program and Project performance in meeting the Educate Texas goals and to participate fully in a range of data collection and evaluation activities that will be required by Educate Texas, except as may be prohibited by law.
- H. The Recipient acknowledges that neither CFT nor Educate Texas makes any assurances of, and is in no way obligated to provide, additional, future or supplementary funding to support the continuation of the programs created, enhanced or transformed by this grant.
- I. An annual site visit at a date and time mutually agreeable with the Recipient and CFT may be conducted by the Educate Texas Program Officer to assess progress on the stated goals of the Project. Site visit and meeting attendance by Educate Texas staff will discontinue at the termination of this Grant Agreement or in the event that Educate Texas funding is discontinued by its major funding partner, the Texas Education Agency.

III. NOTICE

The terms of this Grant Agreement shall be governed by Texas law applicable to agreements made and to be performed in Texas. The terms of this Grant Agreement may be amended only by a written instrument signed by the Recipient

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and CFT. Use of the Granted Funds must be appropriate under the terms and provisions of this Grant Agreement and Sections 501(c)(3) or 170(b), as applicable, of the Internal Revenue Code and conform to all state and federal laws. Permission to alter the designated purpose or use of the Granted Funds must be obtained in writing from CFT. This is a one-time grant and CFT's entire and total grant commitment under this Grant Agreement shall not be more than the sum of \$15,000. Payment of this grant is subject to the availability of funds in the Educate Texas Fund of the Communities Foundation of Texas as provided by its major funding partner, The Texas Education Agency.



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IV. THE RECIPIENT'S ACCEPTANCE

For: Brownsville Independent School District

By:

(Signature)

Date

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff
(Print Name)

Superintendent
(Title)

Important Note:

This Grant Agreement must be signed by the Chairman of the Governing Body [Board of Directors/Trustees] of the Recipient Organization or by the primary Executive Officer of the Recipient Organization who is specifically empowered by the Governing Body to make legally binding agreements on its behalf.

V. CFT's ACCEPTANCE

The foregoing is agreed to as of: 8/12/26

By: Reo D. Pruiett
Dr. Reo Pruiett
Chief Programs and Engagement Officer

Communities Foundation of Texas

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VI. GRANT SUMMARY (For Information Only)

Recipient: Brownsville Independent School District
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Date: 5/14/2026
Recommended by: Education Committee

Payout schedule: Beginning upon signature of both parties to this Grant Agreement and ending on April 15, 2027. CFT reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to alter the payout schedule for this grant after providing written notice to the Recipient.
All funds must be spent by April 15, 2027; a final report is due on April 15, 2027.

Contact Name: Santiago Salazar Jr.
Title: Assistant Principal

Address: 3500 International Blvd, Brownsville, Texas, 78520
Phone: 956-698-1851
Email: ssalazarjr@bisd.us

Contact Name: Rosario Pena
Title: Chief Financial Officer

Address: 1900 Price Rd. Suite 305, Brownsville, Texas, 78521
Phone: 956-547-4113
Email: rompena@bisd.us

Other: All reports due as described in Section II above

Brownsville Independent School District



Transmittal Form

TO: Miguel Salinas, BISD Staff Attorney

THRU: Dr. Alma C. Rubio, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary

FROM: Adrian Dorsett, CTE Administrator

DATE: August 12, 2026

RE: **General Function Board Agenda Item-Communities Foundation of Texas-Educate Texas PTECH Support Sub-Grant Approval for Porter ECHS**

☒	<i>For Your Approval</i>	☐	<i>As Per Your Request</i>
☐	<i>For Your Signature</i>	☐	<i>Please Advise</i>
☐	<i>For Your Information</i>	☒	<i>For Your Review</i>
☐	<i>Please Reply by: <u>August 18, 2026</u></i>		

Comments: For review and acceptance.

Reviewed & Approved as to form.
Salinas 8/13/26