

Abstract El Paso Community College, located in El Paso, Texas, is applying to implement the very successful EPCC-HEP program. EPCC-HEP will have the following objectives with measurable outcomes:

1. To recruit no less than 100 eligible participants.
2. Provide GED classes virtually and in-person to no less than 100 participants and ensure that at least 70% earn a GED certificate.
3. Assist no less than 80% of GED graduates in accessing post-secondary education or employment.
4. To foster flexible and affordable paths to obtaining knowledge and skills to ensure that students' learning goals align with employment.
5. To provide 10 hours of science-based education to participants.
6. To provide creative writing workshops and publish student's work in a creative writing journal.

This project has 19 years or prior experience, meeting the competitive preference priority. The project will have a strong focus on aligning careers with students' educational goals through collaborations with Workforce Solutions and MET (competitive priority 1). It will also collaborate with multiple community organizations.

This project is community-based, serving all 100 participants in community-based sites throughout El Paso County. Approximately ten different locations in El Paso's Upper and Lower Valley colonias will be used to deliver instruction. Partners will facilitate the instructional sites at no cost to the program.

Project Outcomes: To meet the GPRA 1 target, the program will recruit no less than 100 participants and ensure that at least 70% earn a GED certificate. To meet the GPRA 2 target, the program will ensure that no less than 80% of GED graduates enter post-secondary education or upgrade employment.