



PORTCORPUS CHRISTI®

- **NEWS RELEASE** -
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Port of Corpus Christi Awards Education Grants to Expand STEM and Workforce Development Opportunities

Corpus Christi, TX, USA – The Port of Corpus Christi has awarded \$200,000 through its Education Grant Program to Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD) and Aransas Pass High School (APHS) to support innovative initiatives designed to strengthen STEM education and workforce readiness for Coastal Bend students.

CCISD received a \$100,000 grant to launch its Coastal Bend STEM Initiative, which will create STEM Innovation Labs across a vertically aligned group of elementary, middle and high school campuses. The project will provide students with hands-on learning opportunities and a continuous pathway to develop skills in engineering, robotics, computer-aided design and emerging technologies.

"We are incredibly grateful for this \$100,000 investment in the future of our students," said Dr. Roland Hernandez, CCISD Superintendent. "This grant will help us bring our Coastal Bend STEM Initiative to life by creating innovative STEM labs where students can explore, create and solve real-world problems. We are excited to strengthen our STEM pathway that prepares our students for future careers."

APHS also received a \$100,000 grant to establish a Process Technology Dual-Enrollment Program in partnership with Del Mar College. The initiative will create a direct pathway for students to earn college credit and gain specialized technical training aligned with careers in the industrial, manufacturing, energy and maritime sectors.

"The Port of Corpus Christi is committed to investing in educational opportunities that prepare students for the careers of tomorrow while supporting the workforce needs of our region," said Rosaura De Los Santos Bailey, Director of Government & Community Affairs for the Port of Corpus Christi. "These programs will provide students with valuable hands-on experiences and create pathways to high-demand careers that are essential to the continued growth of the Coastal Bend."

The Port of Corpus Christi Education Grant Program provides targeted funding to support high-impact STEM initiatives that enhance educational opportunities and workforce readiness across our region, with grant awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Designed to fund transformational projects with district-wide or regional reach, the program prioritizes high-impact initiatives that expand access to STEM education while strengthening pathways to careers in the maritime, industrial and emerging technology fields.

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About Port Corpus Christi

As a leading U.S. energy export gateway and a major economic engine of Texas and the nation, the Port Corpus Christi is the third largest port in the United States in total waterborne tonnage. Strategically located on the western Gulf Coast with access to 38 nautical miles of ship channel, including La Quinta Ship Channel and the now 54-foot (Mean Lower Low Water)-deep Corpus Christi Ship Channel, the Port Corpus Christi is a major hub for international and domestic maritime commerce. The Port of Corpus Christi is home to excellent railroad and highway network connectivity via three North American Class-1 railroads and two major interstate highways. With an outstanding staff overseen by its seven-member commission, the Port Corpus Christi is "Moving America's Energy." To learn more, please visit www.portofcc.com.

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