

EDGERTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION & CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

THIS COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT made and entered into as of October 1, 2025, by and between the EDGERTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION, (EEF) and CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, (CCC).

WHEREAS, In July 2024, CCC service area stakeholders met and prioritized Trades Workforce Development as a Central Nebraska priority project as part of 6 Regions, 1 Nebraska initiative of the Nebraska Governor's office, Nebraska Economic Development and Nebraska Chamber, and

WHEREAS, EEF has an established Edgerton Explorit Center drawing thousands of youth and adults from across the state to their center in Aurora, and has a very successful Edgerton On the Move program for taking exhibits across the state to expose youth and adults to careers, science and technology.

WHEREAS, CCC desires to improve the exposure of youth and adults to trades careers and pipeline of future students/graduates to assist with economic development, housing and meet workforce through central Nebraska through cooperative measures with other entities consistent with the mission, vision and values of the CCC's strategic plan; and

WHEREAS, EEF and CCC intend to cooperatively develop Trades on the Move programming and center exhibits as deemed appropriate to meet the needs of area students and communities.

THEREFORE, in consideration of the shared goals, the parties agree as follows:

SECTION 1. Cooperative Measures

1. Edgerton Center & On the Move Programming: EEF owns and operates the Edgerton Explorit Center, hires staff and maintains operations of the center and on the move programming.
2. Advisory Role: CCC agrees to meet biannually with representatives of EEF to provide advice on programming and scope of trades programming. More regular communication can be initiated at will (and vice versa) between EEF and CCC representatives, including, but not limited to CCC-College President, Career & Technical Sciences Dean, Associate Dean and faculty, admissions or career services staff.
3. Operational Funding: CCC agrees to cooperatively fund up to \$100,000 a year for three years (\$300,000) to assist Edgerton in staffing, supplies, exhibits or other project expenses as estimated in Appendix A. CCC will make annual payments as of October 1 upon invoicing by EEF along with an annual report from EEF regarding actual expenses incurred to date and planned for the upcoming year. CCC also agrees to donate a surplus trailer should EEF deem necessary for implementation of the project.
4. Capital Funding & Staffing: EEF will be solely responsible for capital funding of their center, managing center staff, including insurance and maintenance of trailer to implement the planned programming.
5. Other Funding: Nothing in this Agreement precludes negotiations of shared funding sources or expense sharing between CCC and other public and private entities including, but not limited to, school districts,

municipalities, county, state or federal resources, private donations, foundations or businesses.

6. Signs: EEF agrees to allow CCC recognition of donations through mutually agreed upon signage, electronic and/or physical, trailer wraps or other donor recognition within the guidelines of EEF.
7. Indemnification: To the extent permitted by applicable law, but without waiving any rights under any applicable state governmental immunity act or constitutional provision, each party agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other party from and against any loss, cost, or damage of any kind (including reasonable outside attorneys' fees) to the extent arising out of its breach of this Agreement, and/or its negligence or willful misconduct.
8. CCC Employee Admission: As part of the Trades Science Grant Partnership, all CCC employees and their immediate family members will receive complimentary admission to the EEF. To redeem this benefit, CCC employees must present valid proof of employment, such as a CCC identification badge or employee card, at the front desk upon arrival.
9. Miscellaneous Provisions: The words "EEF" and "CCC" shall include the plural, wherever the context requires, and all pronouns used herein and referring to said parties shall be construed accordingly, regardless either of the number or gender thereof.

Headings of the various paragraphs are inserted merely as a matter of convenience for reference and shall not be considered as defining, limiting or describing the scope or intent of the particular paragraphs to which they refer or as affecting the meaning or construction of the language in the body of such paragraphs.

All provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto, their legal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns, subject however, to provisions requiring EEF's consent to any assignment by CCC.

Every notice or consent authorized or required by this Agreement shall be effective when delivered if written and hand delivered or when deposited in the mail sent by United States registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, with postage prepaid, and addressed to EDGERTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION, 208 16th St. Aurora, Nebraska, 68818, and to CCC Central Community College, Attn: VP of Administrative Services, P.O. Box 4903, Grand Island NE 68802, or at such other address as either party shall from time to time designate in writing.

In the event that any of the provisions of this Agreement shall by court order be held invalid, such invalidation shall not affect the remainder of this Agreement, which shall be construed to enforce the remaining understandings of the parties. The Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Nebraska.

Time shall be of the essence of every part of this Agreement.

SECTION 3. Other

1. Term: The term of this Agreement shall be for a period of three (3) years, commencing on October 1, 2025 and ending on September 30, 2028, unless sooner terminated as hereinafter provided. In the absence of a notice of intent to terminate, this Agreement shall continue for successive terms of one year. In the event that CCC wishes to terminate this agreement during the term of this agreement, written notice of intent to terminate shall be given to EEF at least twelve (12) months prior to the date of

termination. In the event that EEF wishes to terminate during the term of this agreement, written notice of intent to terminate shall be given twelve (12) months prior to the date of termination.

2. No Agency: No agency, partnership, joint venture or any other special relationship between the EEF and CCC is created by this Agreement.
3. Governing Law: This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Nebraska without regard to the conflict of laws provisions therein. Any legal action involving this Agreement in any way shall be instituted in a court of competent jurisdiction located in the State of Nebraska.
4. Entire Agreement: This Agreement contains the entire Agreement and understanding of the parties and no representations or promises have been made except those set forth herein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement on the date first above written.

EDGERTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Executive Director

President

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)

The foregoing Agreement was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 2025, by _____, Executive Director of the Edgerton Education Foundation, a Private Foundation, on behalf of the foundation.

Notary Public

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF HALL)

The foregoing Agreement was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 2025, by _____, President for the Central Community College, a Public Corporation, on behalf of the corporation.

Notary Public

Appendix A

Integrating Trades Science into Edgerton's Hands-On Learning Budget

Proposed Project / Program Budget

Salary cost to allocate educator time to development of Trades On The Move curriculum and programming (Hire part-time trades educator if needed)

Administrative Support

Trades On The Move Vehicle (if Donated)

On The Move Trailer and Larger Edgerton On The Move Trailer (if Donated)

Trades On The Move Traveling Explorit Zone Hands-On Education Area, maintenance, upgrades

Trades On The Move Trailer Exhibit Maintenance

Vehicle Maintenance

Trades Science Explorit Zone Exhibits at the Edgerton Explorit Center

Travel, food and lodging

Supplies (Exhibit supplies that need to be replenished after use)

Project/Program Budget

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
\$35,000	\$36,750	\$39,225	\$110,975
\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$15,000
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$52,500	\$2,500	\$24,000	\$79,000
\$500	\$500	\$500	\$1,500
\$500	\$500	\$500	\$1,500
\$0	\$50,000	\$23,000	\$73,000
\$2,500	\$2,650	\$2,775	\$7,925
\$4,000	\$2,100	\$5,000	\$11,100
\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$300,000

\$0

*Trades On The Move Vehicle and Trailer Wraps (only need this \$8,000 if new vehicle/trailer are donated)

\$8,000	\$0	\$0	\$8,000
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Integrating Trades Science into Edgerton's Hands-On Learning

Edgerton Explorit Center – Aurora, Nebraska

Introduction

Trades Science: Real-World Skills, Real-World Impact

The Edgerton Explorit Center currently reaches between 150,000 and 200,000 students, families, and educators annually through hands-on STEAM programming that sparks curiosity and discovery. Building on this success, we propose the integration of Trades Exhibits & Programming into both our Explorit Zone in Aurora and our On the Move outreach model. This initiative will empower students to explore high-demand careers—such as carpentry, electrical work, welding, plumbing, and HVAC—while connecting STEAM concepts to practical, real-world applications.

By acting now, we can cost-effectively inspire career awareness, strengthen Nebraska's workforce readiness, and expand Edgerton's mission to prepare learners for a successful future. Aurora will become the hub for trades science innovation, while our mobile programs will bring these transformative experiences statewide.

Why Now? – The Case for Trades Science

- **Workforce Urgency:** Nebraska faces critical shortages in skilled trades. Students need exposure today—not years from now.
- **Closing the Gap:** Young people often encounter trades education too late. This program provides early, hands-on exploration.
- **Mission Alignment:** Trades science strengthens Edgerton's mission by showing how STEAM drives innovation in essential careers.
- **Momentum & Growth:** Starting now ensures immediate community benefit while laying the foundation for a future stand-alone Trades On The Move program.

Program Components

1. On-Site Trades Exhibits (Explorit Zone – Aurora)

- Permanent, interactive displays in carpentry, circuits/electrical, plumbing/HVAC, and welding/metalwork.
- Possible activities include: building structures, safe circuit wiring, airflow/water puzzles, and magnetic welding simulations.
- Seamlessly integrated into the existing Explorit Zone.

2. Trades On The Move – Expansion of Mobile Programming

- Incorporate trades stations into our proven On The Move model.
- Leverage existing trailers and staffing to minimize costs.
- Partner with Central Community College (CCC), industry sponsors, and trade experts for equipment, expertise, and sponsorships.

Cost Efficiency

Instead of waiting for the Trades On The Move to be fully funded, we can integrate trades into existing infrastructure, saving time and resources:

- **Staffing** – Current program coordinators expand their roles; a part-time trades educator enhances delivery.
- **Mobile Infrastructure** – Use existing On The Move trailers, avoiding the cost of a second vehicle.
- **Facility Integration** – Add to the Explorit Zone without new building space.
- **Shared Resources** – Tools and teaching aids serve both on-site and mobile programs.

Estimated Cost Savings: Up to 75% lower than launching a stand-alone program.

Proven Success

- **On the Move Programs** like *Raptor On The Move* reach thousands of Nebraska students every year.
- **Explorit Zone Exhibits** consistently engage families and schools in Aurora.
- **Trusted Model** – Schools, funders, and partners already see Edgerton as an innovative leader in mobile education.

Trades programming is a natural, high-impact next step.

Benefits & Outcomes

- **Students:** Hands-on exposure to real trade careers.
 - **Educators:** New tools that connect STEAM to career readiness.
 - **Businesses & Workforce Partners:** Early engagement with future talent.
 - **Edgerton Explorit Center:** Strengthened role as Nebraska's hub for innovative, career-connected STEAM learning.
 - **Future Growth:** Establishes a scalable model to add a trades-specific educator or dedicated trailer as funding grows.
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Funding & Partnerships

- **Initial Investment:** \$100,000 for exhibit development, equipment, and materials.
 - **Ongoing Costs:** Minimal—shared with current programs.
 - **Potential Partners:** Workforce development boards, CCC, industry sponsors, trade unions, and education foundations.
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Conclusion

By integrating Trades Exhibits & Programming into Edgerton's proven model, we can act now, inspire curiosity, and address Nebraska's workforce needs immediately. With a track record of success and a vision for growth, Edgerton is uniquely positioned to launch this initiative today—and scale it into a statewide powerhouse of career-connected education tomorrow.

Examples of Trades Exhibits

Carpentry & Construction: Build-It Station, Balance & Load Testing, Tool Match-Up.

Electrical & Circuits: Light It Up, Conductors vs. Insulators, Switchboard Challenge.

Plumbing & HVAC: Water Flow Puzzle, Airflow Maze, Pipe Fitting Station.

Welding & Metalwork: Magnetic Welding Simulator, Spot the Welds, Virtual Welding Station.

Masonry & Concrete: Mini Bricklaying, Arch Challenge, Concrete Mix & Mold.

Automotive & Mechanics: Engine Puzzle, Tire Change Station, Gear & Pulley Play.

Welding/Metal Art: Metal Design Stamping, Art Meets Trade.

Cross-Trade Maker Activities: Tool Try-Outs, Tiny House Model, Career Wall.

RESOLUTION

The Central Community College Board of Governors authorizes the College President to sign the cooperative agreement with the Edgerton Education Foundation.