JOY HOFMEISTER
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

2014-2015 QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY APPLICATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT _____ **SCHOOL SITE (If Applicable)** _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____ **FAX NUMBER** _____

CONTACT PERSON _____ **TITLE** _____

AMOUNT OF BOND REQUESTED _____ **($1,000,000 MAXIMUM)**

I hereby certify that this application is complete and truthful to the best of my knowledge.

_____
Superintendent

_____ _____ _____
Notary **Date** **Commission Expires**

<u>NOTICE</u>: All sections of this application must be fully completed in order for this application to be considered for Qualified Zone Academy status: <u>Please submit the original to the State Department of Education</u>.

Definitions:

"Qualified contribution" means any contribution of a type and quality acceptable to the eligible local educational agency (LEA) of equipment to be used in the qualified zone academy; technical assistance in developing curriculum or in training teachers in order to promote appropriate market-driven technology in the classroom; services of employees as volunteer mentors; internships, field trips, or other education opportunities outside the academy for students; or any other property or service specified by the eligible LEA.

"Qualified Zone Academy" means any public school or academic program within a public school which is established by and operated under the supervision of an eligible LEA to provide education or training below the postsecondary level if such school or program is designed in cooperation with business to enhance the academic curriculum, increase graduation and employment rates, and better prepare students for the rigors of college and the increasingly complex work force; students in such public school or program will be subject to the same academic standards and assessments as other students educated by the LEA; the comprehensive education plan of such school or program is approved by the LEA; and the school is located in an empowerment zone or enterprise community or there is a reasonable expectation that at least 35 percent of the students attending the school or program will be eligible for free or reduced-price lunches under the National School Lunch program.

"Qualified purpose" means rehabilitating or repairing the public school facility in which the academy is established, providing equipment for use at such academy, developing course materials for education to be provided at such academy, and training teachers and other school personnel in such academy.

"Davis-Bacon Act" means all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors or subcontractors on projects funded by Qualified Zone Academy Bond proceeds shall be paid wages and fringe benefits at rates not less than those prevailing on similar projects in the locality.

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Statement of Assurances by the Superintendent:

(1) This public school is in an empowerment zone or enterprise community

_____ (initial)

OR

Thirty-five percent (35%) or more of the students (or participants in the program) are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches under the federal school lunch program.

_____ (initial)

(2) This school has entered into public-private partnership which will result in a qualified contribution to the school of at least ten (10) percent of the capital provided. Qualified contributions include: equipment for use in the school, technical assistance in developing the curriculum or in training the teachers, services of employees as volunteer mentors, internships, field trips, or other educational opportunities outside the academy, or other property or service specified by the local school board.

_____ (initial)

(3) Please provide a brief description of the partnership, including the private partner, the program or benefit to the school and the dollar equivalent benefit to the school.

_____ (initial)

(4) The program has been designed to enhance the academic curriculum, increase graduation and employment rates, and better prepare students for the rigors of college and the increasingly complex work force.

_____ (initial)

(5) Ninety-five percent (95%) of the proceeds of this bond will be used for a qualified purpose. Please describe the proposed use of the proceeds.

_____ (initial)

(6) In accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors or subcontractors on projects funded by QZAB proceeds shall be paid wages and fringe benefits at rates not less than those prevailing rates on similar projects in the locality.

_____
Superintendent's Signature

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Statement of Assurances by the Issuer of the Bond or Loan:

1. I certify that I/we have received written assurances that the private business contribution requirement will be met with respect to the school.

2. I certify that I/we have the written approval of the local school board for the issuance of the bond.

3. I am/we are reasonably certain investors can be found to purchase these bonds.

_____
Authorized Person (Signature)

_____
Authorized Person (Print Name)

_____
Bonding or Loan Company

_____
Address

_____
City, State, Zip

_____
Telephone Number