## Wharton County Junior College Nuclear Education Scholarship Program

## **Executive Summary:**

Wharton County Junior College proposes to continue its Nuclear Education Scholarship Program (NES Program) during the 2011-12 academic years. The goal of the NES Program is the improvement and expansion of educational opportunities for academically talented students as well as academically talented students with a demonstrated financial need who enroll in the Nuclear Power Technology degree program or the Process Technology (Nuclear Option) degree program at WCJC. The objectives of the program are to (1) recruit a 20-student cohort in the fall semester from among declared majors in Nuclear Power Technology / Process Technology (Nuclear Option) and through recruitment efforts at high schools in the WCJC service area, especially in communities near the South Texas Project Nuclear Power Plant located near Bay City, Texas; and (2) award at least 20 scholarships averaging \$6,000 per year. Maximum award: \$10,000. With this level of financial assistance to students in nuclear power majors at WCJC, the NES Program will enable at least 20 students per semester to enroll in the college's nuclear studies programs who might otherwise not be able to afford to enroll or to persist in college to graduation. Women, minority students, and physically challenged students will also be encouraged to apply. This program will provide benefits to both students and the nuclear industry. Upon graduating from the program, students will possess the prerequisite skills to become employed at a nuclear-related industry in the Gulf Coast Region or elsewhere. or to pursue a baccalaureate degree in nuclear studies.

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