



2023-2025 Title I, 1003 ESF-Focused Support Grant
Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, April 21, 2023

NOGA ID []

Authorizing legislation

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), P.L. 114-95, Section 1003, School Improvement

This LOI application must be submitted via email to loiapplications@tea.texas.gov.

The LOI application may be signed with a digital ID or it may be signed by hand. Both forms of signature are acceptable.

TEA must receive the application by **11:59 p.m. CT, April 21, 2023**.

Grant period from **July 3, 2023-September 30, 2025**

Pre-award costs permitted from **Award Date**

Required Attachments

1. Excel workbook with the grant's budget schedules (linked along with this form on the TEA Grants Opportunities page)
2. Pathway 1: Pathway 1 Supplemental Attachment
3. Pathway 2: Pathway 2 Supplemental Attachment
4. Memo of Discussion

NOTE: All applicants MUST submit an appropriate Supplemental Pathway Attachment for EACH CAMPUS on behalf of which the applicant is applying.

Amendment Number

Amendment number (For amendments only; enter N/A when completing this form to apply for grant funds): []

Applicant Information

Organization Newman International Acade CDN 220817 Campus Newman Internat ESC 11 UEI UMHAM35VH2J8

Address 6801 Meadowbrook Dr City Fort Worth ZIP 76112 Vendor ID 1752679597

Primary Contact Jay Tinklenberg Email jtinklenberg@newmanacademy.org Phone 682-507-2165

Secondary Contact Dr. Sheba George Email shebakg@newmanacademy.org Phone 682-207-5175

Certification and Incorporation

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by TEA or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance and compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

I further certify my acceptance of the requirements conveyed in the following portions of the LOI application, as applicable, and that these documents are incorporated by reference as part of the LOI application and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA):

- LOI application, guidelines, and instructions
- Debarment and Suspension Certification
- General and application-specific Provisions and Assurances
- Lobbying Certification

Authorized Official Name Dr. Sheba George Title Superintendent

Email shebakg@newmanacademy.org Phone 682-207-5175

Signature *Sheba George* Date 04/20/2023

Shared Services Arrangements

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) are NOT permitted for this grant.

Number of Campuses Included in this Application

Pathway 1

1

Pathway 2

Statutory/Program Assurances

The following assurances apply to this program. In order to meet the requirements of the program, the applicant must comply with these assurances.

Check each of the following boxes to indicate your compliance.

1. The applicant provides assurance that program funds will supplement (increase the level of service), and not supplant (replace) state mandates, State Board of Education rules, and activities previously conducted with state or local funds. The applicant provides assurance that state or local funds may not be decreased or diverted for other purposes merely because of the availability of these funds. The applicant provides assurance that program services and activities to be funded from this LOI will be supplementary to existing services and activities and will not be used for any services or activities required by state law, State Board of Education rules, or local policy.
2. The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain any information that would be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general release to the public.
3. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Statutory and TEA Program requirements as noted in the 2023-2025 Title I, ESF-Focused Support Grant Program Guidelines.
4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2023-2025 Title I, ESF-Focused Support Grant Program Guidelines, and shall provide to TEA, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.
5. The applicant provides assurance that they accept and will comply with the requirements of [Every Student Succeeds Act Provisions and Assurances](#).
6. The applicant assures that any Electronic Information Resources (EIR) produced as part of this agreement will comply with the State of Texas Accessibility requirements as specified in 1 TAC 206, 1 TAC Chapter 213, Federal Section 508 standards, and the WCAG 2.0 AA Accessibility Guidelines.
7. Title I served Federally Identified campuses awarded this grant will engage in the Effective Schools Framework (ESF) continuous improvement process and create a plan to be submitted to TEA that addresses the selected pathway aligned to the Essential Actions (EA) from the ESF.
8. The applicant ensures it will notify the Vetted Improvement Program provider of intent to apply and, if awarded, will work in good faith with the Vetted Improvement Program.
9. The applicant will identify a campus leader, on each awarded campus, who will be responsible for managing the grant project.

Statutory/Program Assurances, cont'd.

- 10. The applicant will provide access to TEA and its Vetted Improvement Partners for on-site visits to the district and campus(es) as appropriate.
- 11. The applicant provides assurance it will participate in all grant requirements including but not limited to an ESF Self-Assessment and ESF Diagnostic, developing a Targeted Improvement Plan, and submission of funding and pathway progress reports.
- 12. The applicant provides assurance it will provide awarded campuses access to grant funding and funding information in a timely manner, so that funding can be used to meet the needs and action steps of the campus during the grant period.

Summary of Program

1. Describe how the LEA will support campus(es) in carrying out school improvement activities, including how the LEA will help develop a Targeted Improvement Plan for the eligible campus(es) selected for this grant.

The district will support the campus in carrying out school improvement activities by providing additional support, designated funding, and implementation of the TIL emphasis. In addition to the Assistant Superintendent who oversees elementary campuses, the district will appoint a District Coordinator of School Improvement (DCSI). The Assistant Superintendent will meet regularly with the elementary principals and will be a resource for operation, implementation of policy, staffing, and overall support. The Assistant Superintendent will regularly be on campus to support and coordinate with campus leadership.

The DCSI will schedule one day per week on campus and will also be on campus additional days as needed to assist with staff development, TIP Cycle submissions, TIL implementation, TIL lab days, class and campus observations, and special events. In particular, the DCSI will help develop and manage continuation of LAFA and DDI from previous TIL initiatives as well as Observation Feedback for the 23-24 School Year. The DCSI will provide training, coaching, and cooperative planning to assist the campus leadership team. Each Cycle, the DCSI will meet for several days to review data, assess fulfillment of action steps, analyze effectiveness of achieving campus goals, and craft reflection statements on the previous cycle.

The TIP will be developed by a thorough review of campus and student performance data and planning Essential Actions and Action Steps that are aligned to campus needs and TIL implementation. The CLT and the DCSI will set specific performance goals based on the historical performance data and include the goals in the TIP submission.

2. Describe how the LEA will monitor schools receiving the ESF-Focused Support Grant, including how the LEA will: (a) Monitor Targeted Improvement Plans upon submission and during implementation, and (b) Implement additional actions as needed to meet barriers and challenges, after the first year of the grant cycle.

The district will monitor the campus receiving the ESF-Focused Support Grant by cooperative planning and support between the DCSI and Campus Leadership Team (CLT).

(a) Monitoring TIP:

The CLT and DCSI will meet weekly to plan for implementation of TIL strategies and achievement of Action Steps in the TIP. Student performance will be analyzed and reported for each Cycle Review in the TIP. The CLT, DCSI, and Instructional Support team will monitor student performance throughout the year including review of BOY MAP Performance, Quarterly Benchmark performance, MOY MAP Performance, STAAR Interim Assessment Performance, and EOY STAAR and MAP Performance. Performance data is shared with the District Admin at least quarterly. During their weekly meetings and scheduled coaching sessions as part of TIL Implementation, the CLT and DCSI will discuss barriers to full implementation and develop plans to overcome the barriers and achieve implementation goals.

(b) Implement additional actions as needed to meet barriers and challenges after the first year of the grant cycle.

After the first year of the grant cycle, the DCSI and CLT will review the implementation plan and achievement of TIP Goals from the previous year. The campus will identify obstacles and barriers to greater achievement of TIP action steps and overall student performance. The CLT will seek input from the ESC Regional Case Manager and TIL Coach assigned to the campus as they develop plans for year 2 of the grant cycle. The team will consider staffing challenges, specific needs of the campus, and strategies to overcome issues that may have impacted campus performance and implementation of TIL Levers. Based on the evaluation of the prior year and potential needs for the upcoming year, the team will identify a TIL Lever for emphasis in year 2. The team will determine if additional training is needed and the best way to meet other needs that are identified. The team will also determine if the budget needs to be changed and amendment to the grant needs to be submitted.

Goals, Objectives, and Strategies, Performance and Evaluation

1. Describe how the LEA will modify, as appropriate, practices and policies to provide operational flexibility to the awarded campus, that enables full and effective implementation of the Effective Schools Framework Essential Actions and aligned Targeted Improvement Plan.

First, the district will enable the CLT to participate in ESF and TIL trainings leading to the effective preparation of the TIP and development of action steps aligned to TIL Implementation. In addition to approving and assisting with covering for staff members who will be engaged in training, the district will compensate staff members who engage in training outside of their scheduled work days. Unlike the master schedules of other campuses, the district will approve a unique schedule for the campus to build TIL time into teacher schedules. Creating additional time in teacher schedules will improve effectiveness, remove barriers, and provide dedicated time for feedback sessions, DDI meetings, and lesson planning in alignment with the TIL Levers adopted by the campus. Based on evaluation of needs in the weekly meeting with the CLT, the DCSI will communicate specific needs of the campus to the district leadership team for support and approval.

Each Cycle, the DCSI will meet with the CLT to determine if TIP Cycle Action Steps have been met. If the team determines that changes are required for effective implementation of ESF Essential Actions aligned to the TIP, the team will develop a plan to meet the identified needs. Changes may include increasing the frequency of TIL aligned activities such as DDI Meetings and Scheduled Observations. The team may also add additional professional development and training related to the highest leveraged actions required to improve success in instruction and implementation of Actions aligned to the TIL levers adopted by the campus.

Budget Narrative

1. Describe how the proposed budget will meet the needs and goals of the program, including staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, travel, etc. Include a short narrative describing how adjustments will be made in the future to meet needs.

The proposed budget focuses on the service agreement with the ESC providing TIL services and prioritizes for staffing to provide intentional intervention to help meet student and campus needs.

Committing to the professional services provided by regional service center for implementation of TIL: Observation Feedback in year one will ensure the campus has the training, support, coaching and system development to achieve maximum success in the ESF focus area. Funds are also budgeted to engage with the regional ESC for TIL Services in year 2.

Additional funding to provide intervention services will support students, teachers, and campus leadership. Grant funding for additional intervention services will include small group instruction for identified students as well as support in cooperating with campus leaders to assist with preparing, reviewing, and sharing student performance data. Each budget item will be selected in alignment with the TIP goals and action steps that are aligned with the Levers selected for TIL Implementation. Finally, funds will assist with professional services provided by the ESC and/or approved entities for additional services.

During the year, and after the first year of implementation, the campus will review success that was attained and identify needs that can lead to greater success in meeting TIP goals, action steps, and high leverage actions correlated to the TIL Implementation. After the CLT evaluates and assesses their performance in year 1 and determines their needs, they will select an appropriate focus area for year 2 from among the ESF Essential Actions. The budget also includes funds for necessary summer training to prepare for the Essential Action Focus area that the campus will be engaged in through their year 2 TIL partnership with ESC Region 11. Any adjustments or amendments will be made within the parameters of the grant funds.

Budget Narrative, cont'd.

2. Describe how the LEA will ensure campus leaders have direct access to grant funding to ensure alignment to the Targeted Improvement Plan.

Campus Leaders will have direct access to grant funding to assure that necessary service agreements are met to ensure full implementation of the TIL services agreement. Through their participation in the ESF diagnostic, meetings with the DCSI, and conversations with current TIL partner, the campus leaders selected the Essential Action focus areas leading to the drafting of the MOU for TIL Services for 23-24. Campus leaders will be the primary voice in identifying a focus area for securing a TIL Service Partnership Agreement for year 2. In addition, in order to identify candidates who will provide maximum impact with TIL Implementation, Campus Leaders will identify staff members to participate in the TIL training.

In the area of staffing, Campus Leaders will identify and select prospective staff members or approve any staff members who may wish to transfer to serve in roles providing additional student intervention and support of TIL implementation. Once the funds are approved and allocated, campus leaders will coordinate with the DCSI and business office to submit POs that are aligned to the TIP and meet the needs associated with TIP Action Steps. Within parameters of the grant funds and the approved budget, the CLT will be able to make direct requests for funding by submitting POs. The business office will work with the CLT and DCSI to assure that expenditures are meeting the stipulations associated with use of grant funds.

Equitable Access and Participation

Check the appropriate box below to indicate whether any barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups that receive services funded by this program.

- The applicant assures that no barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups receiving services funded by this program.
- Barriers exist to equitable access and participation for the following groups receiving services funded by this grant, as described below.

Group Barrier

Group Barrier

Group Barrier

Group Barrier

Appendix I: Amendment Description and Purpose (leave this section blank when completing the initial application for funding)

An amendment must be submitted when the program plan or budget is altered for the reasons described in the "When to Amend the Application" document posted on the [Administering a Grant](#) page. The following are required to be submitted for an amendment: (1) Page 1 of the application with updated contact information and current authorized official's signature and date, (2) Appendix I with changes identified and described, (3) all updated sections of the application or budget affected by the changes identified below, and, if applicable, (4) Amended Budget Request. Amendment Instructions with more details can be found on the last tab of the budget template.

You may duplicate this page

Amended Section

Reason for Amendment