



**2021-2023 Title I, 1003 ESF-Focused Support Grant
Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, April 21, 2021**

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, 2021**.

Grant period from

July 8, 2021-September 30, 2023

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 Pathway Attachment
3. Pathway 2: Pathway 2 Supplemental Pathway Attachment

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 CDN Campus ESC DUNS

Address City ZIP Vendor ID

Primary Contact Email Phone

Secondary Contact Email Phone

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 Title

Email Phone

Signature Date

RFA #

SAS #

Shared Services Arrangements

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

Number of Campuses Included in this Application

Pathway 1	<input type="text" value="2"/>
Pathway 2	<input type="text" value="0"/>

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 2021-2023 Title I, ESF-Focused Support Grant Program Guidelines.
- 4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2021-2023 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. For all pathways, the applicant will budget at least the minimum amount indicated in the Budget Object Code 6200 - Profession and Contracted Services.

Statutory/Program Assurances, cont'd.

- 10. The applicant will identify a campus leader, on each awarded campus, who will be responsible for managing the grant project.
- 11. The applicant will provide access to TEA and its Vetted Improvement Partners for on-site visits to the district and campus(es) as appropriate.
- 12. The applicant will attend and participate in grant orientation meetings, technical assistance meetings, other periodic meetings of grantees, and sharing of best practices through the TEA program office.
- 13. 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 web-based improvement plan, submission of funding and pathway progress reports.

Summary of Program

1. Describe how the LEA will support campus(es) in carrying out school support and improvement activities, including how the LEA will develop a web-based improvement plan for the eligible campuses selected for this grant.

The district will provide opportunities for ongoing support and coaching of the campus leaders in order to ensure the campus leaders will have the skills and knowledge to improve the student outcomes. The district will also provide policies and practices that align with and promote a positive school culture to ensure that student outcomes will improve due to positive relationships created between student and teacher. The district will ensure there is effective systems for identifying and supporting struggling learners. The district will commit to providing access to student academic, behavioral, and on-track to graduate data (present and historical).

2. Describe how the LEA will monitor schools receiving the ESF-Focused Support Grant, including how the LEA will: (a) Monitor a web-based improvement plans upon submission and during implementation, and (b) Implement additional action following unsuccessful implementation of such plan after the first year of the grant cycle.

The LEA will follow the TEA Targeted Improvement Plan model of baseline and then quarterly assessments. After each quarter we will meet as a school district team with our ESC 3 TIL contact person to analyze our data and evaluate the implementation of our action steps. In this meeting we will determine which action steps are working and which ones are not. At these quarterly meetings, we will identify any areas where we are not seeing academic progress of the students or where we are seeing unsuccessful implementation of the plan. We will evaluate our action steps to determine what adjustments should be made and update our plan to reflect the adjustments. District and campus administrators will ensure clear communication and implementation of the adjustments that need to be made. In addition, we will use input from the implementation support visits made by the ESC 3 staff to track our progress and to support creation and implementation of the adjustments made to the plan throughout the school years.

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 aligned web-based Improvement Plan.

The LEA has and will continue to create a school calendar that is conducive to the implementation of the ESF targeted improvement plan. Strategies such as adding data and training days into the calendar to support teacher reflection, analyzation, preparation and growth will continue to be utilized.

The LEA has repositioned leadership on the campuses where there is the most need. In addition, the LEA has repositioned teachers on the campuses where there is the most identified need of support.

The LEA will continue to monitor and adjust teacher and administrator positions to ensure continued progress toward the academic goals of the TIP. The LEA has will provide flexibility and support for extended learning opportunities for students such as before or after school tutorials and summer camps to support students in identified areas of academic need.

Budget Narrative

1. Describe how the proposed budget will meet the needs and goals of the program, including for staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, travel, etc. If applicable, include a high-level snapshot of funds currently allocated to similar programs. Include a short narrative describing how adjustments will be made in the future to meet needs.

To meet the needs and goals of our ESF essential actions and targeted improvement plans we chose to partner with our Region Service Center for TIL and we have budgeted \$45,000 for this contracted service. Through this process we will be focusing on high quality lesson planning with appropriate formative assessments as well as aggressive monitoring in the classroom with data driven instruction. This will require additional training throughout the summers for our administration and teacher leaders and a portion of the payroll budget is for compensation to the teachers for their time. In addition, through the data obtained via the targeted improvement process we participated in this year we have identified areas where we need systemic targeted interventions to support our students in closing gaps. Therefore, we are proposing a part time reading specialist position to provide Tier II and Tier III interventions for our students needing the greatest support. We also budgeted to provide before and after school subject specific tutorials for students that have been identified through data as needing further support in mastering not only grade level content but also areas where students have fallen behind their grade level peers. These tutorials will be provided by subject area specific teachers. Another measure we are using to close gaps in student learning is a four-week summer camp full of fun and enriching activities targeted at areas where our data shows our systemic weaknesses in learning. The proposed budget contains pay for the tutorial and summer camp activities for teachers and paraprofessionals. The paraprofessionals will be used in summer camp to support teachers in the classroom that are providing direct instruction. Lastly, the training that will be provided via the Region Service Center requires the purchase of books for all administrators and teacher leaders. Plus, the tutorials and summer camps will require supplies such as hands on activities and supplemental instructional materials. Therefore, the proposed budget also allows money for the purchase such items.

An evaluation of the use of the funds will be conducted at the end of each semester by the leadership team to monitor how funds are being used and to make suggestions to the program coordinators about any adjustments that need to be made. These adjustments will be communicated to and evaluated by the grant bookkeeper for fidelity and documentation of the grant expenditures.

Budget Narrative, cont'd.

2. Describe how the LEA will align other Federal, State, and local resources to carry out the activities supported with funds received under this grant.

The LEA will incorporate the ESF and targeted improvement plans into our district and campus improvement plans and processes. We will utilize not only this grant but our ESSA grant monies from Title I and II to provide necessary resources and trainings to implement these plans. In addition, the LEA is committed to budgeting necessary local monies to support the board approved goals and objectives in the improvement plans.

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	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>
Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>
Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>
Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>

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