



**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 [Redacted]

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 [Redacted] **Award Date** [Redacted]

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): [Redacted]

Applicant Information

Organization CDN Campus ESC UEI

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

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

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.

Por Vida Academy use Plan4Learning, to assist in combining all aspects of a campus' needs. An ESF diagnostic has been conducted with the assistance of the Education Service Centers. Once a Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) is created through a comprehensive needs assessment (CNA) process, the campus includes the results of the diagnostic and CNA into a Campus Improvement Plan (CIP). A CNA is conducted with a diverse team including campus administrators, teachers, staff, parents, students and community members. Por Vida Academy reinforces the CNA/CIP process by including training in weekly Unit meetings that allow for application of the focused skills for the week. Our process includes a data analysis of the campus using the multiple measures of data (Student Learning, Demographics, Campus/District processes and Programs, and Perceptions). Results from the data analysis allow campuses to identify priority areas for improvement and strengths, which in turn help to identify root causes. Once priority areas and root causes have been identified, goals and strategies are created. Within the Plan4Learning platform, a budget tool is available for administrators to assign/plan use of money for each identified activity in the plan (including TIP activities). Por Vida academy is also committed to growing district coaching staff and teacher leaders in data analysis to support the campus. Por Vida Academy utilizes the Educator Effectiveness Process to ensure effective teacher observations, pre and post conferences, as well as to identify strengths and deficits needing to be addressed in weekly unit meeting as well. By aligning all campus initiatives into and with our TIP and CIP we are better able to effectively drive and measure all initiatives.

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.

In order to effectively monitor improvement plans, Por Vida Academy provides timelines and guidance for the CNA/CIP process using training sessions throughout the year. The sessions focus on the reflection/review of the submitted improvement plans based on data. Por Vida Academy requires three formative reviews and one summative of all improvement plans. Based on the reviews and progress we determine if new goals are needed or if any changes should be made. The TIPs/CIPs are presented to the school board and superintendent annually. The TIPs are also reviewed regularly through the partnership with the Texas Education Agency. Campus leaders can collect data on how to best implement strategies or gather new ideas to utilize on their own campuses and are given opportunities for growth and resources through ESC 20, TCSPA, and individual coaching.

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.

The Por Vida Academy Principal has autonomy of their campus budget as well as staffing allowing flexibility to fit their campus specific needs. One of Por Vida Academy's key practices is transparent communication. Although autonomy is provided, communication is key to keeping all staff and district leaders aware of any adjustments needed. Another barrier is often due to lack of Professional Development often times due to lack of funding. Por Vida Academy has created a strong process within the Educator Effectiveness Process that allows the teachers and teacher leaders to observe other classrooms, identify strengths and weaknesses and then present them along with options and solutions when needed, during weekly unit meetings. Professional development of leaders and staff will continue to be a focus into the next school year and coaches as well as ESC 20 will continue to be regular resources for all teachers and leaders.

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.

Por Vida Academy plans to use the proposed budget to support the Effective Schools Framework for our San Antonio campus within ESC 20.
ESC 20 Support- 10,000 to help build capacity during the two years and to create and maintain strong leadership and teaching practices.
Teacher/teacher leader/leadership stipends and bonuses- 50,000 to help retain current teachers, teacher leaders, and leaders and promote high levels of effectiveness as aligned with our Educator Effectiveness Process protocols and ESF standards as aligned to our TIP
Grant Program Manager Stipend-20,000 to ensure fidelity to the grant and retain strong leadership and data evaluation and tracking
Professional Development- 5,000 to provide opportunities for teachers to seek professional development in areas that is of interest as well as beneficial to them (were a small campus with 6-7 teachers)
Instructional Materials- 5,000 TEKS based and TEKS aligned materials as well as any materials needed by teachers to effectively complete high level tasks and assignments
Other material/supplies for grant activities- 10,000 there may be minimal travel costs or unforeseen costs related to grant

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 and District leaders have created this LOI and all grant budgets and plans together as a strategic team. The campus leader has full access to the campus budget and full autonomy as far as staffing, budgets, and curriculum planning and design. The campus leader as reviewed the current TIP with her strategic team to ensure alignment and make adjustments and plans for the next 1-3 years. This grant directly aligns with current campus initiatives and further solidifies ESC 20 partnerships to ensure an effective TIP.

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