



**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

Shared Services Arrangements

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

Number of Campuses Included in this Application

Pathway 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 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.

Monte Alto ISD continues to support all campuses in the district in all ways including but not limited to academic, social, emotional, extra activities, parental and any other opportunities or other function that is needed by the campuses. Even though the district does completely support all campuses in their endeavors, the two campuses with the most academic need at this time are the middle school campus and the high school campus. Therefore, the intention of this grant is to bring extra assistance to those two campuses in order to bring them to where they should be academically. The district must provide extra support and continue to support their endeavors in every way possible.

The district will support the campuses by assisting in school support and activities by including the following activities:

Allowing the flexibility of operation of the campuses by assuring that resources are made available to these campuses.

Reviewing the practices and processes used at each campus and assure that the critical needs of each campus are identified and strategically assist in accomplishing what is needed for the processes and practices to be carried out with fidelity.

Review barriers that might hinder the campus from carrying out the activities and processes needed and eliminate the barriers so that improvement can take place and give the staff the latitude that they need to carry out the needed functions and assure that staff is responsive to the school leadership by providing any type of assistance that may be needed to the staff.

Utilize internal and external human capital such as resources that are necessary to meet all needs for a successful and safe learning environment for all parties involved.

Systemic protocols need to be in place and these will be prioritized through teaching and learning processes and training.

The district will communicate to the campuses a very clear and focused vision and mission for continued improvement that is aligned to the effective school framework and will work collaboratively with the efforts for student success.

The district will offer support by leading the needs as outlined in the Targeted Improvement Plan of the campuses.

The district will convene a diverse, representative team that will have definite assigned roles and responsibilities. This will include representatives of the campus staff as well as leadership and other stakeholders.

Pertinent and targeted training will be made available to assist the campuses in the identified prioritized areas through teaching and learning processes of instruction. The district will communicate to the campuses a very clear and focused vision and mission for continued improvement that is aligned to the effective school framework and will work collaborative with the efforts for student success. The district will offer support by leading the needs as outlined in the Targeted Improvement Plan of the campuses and to assure that the Effective Schools Framework is carried out with fidelity.

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 district will continuously monitor schools in the following ways in order to ensure compliance with the web based improvement plan:

1. Quarterly review of the plan to have a formative review of the plan
2. The principal will be provided the supervision and coaching needed for success of the plan
3. Training and professional development will be provided continuously throughout the entire process of the development of the plan
4. There will be continuous campus visits to observe the participation of all staff in implementing of the plan.
5. Coaching for the principal and teachers will be provided on an as needed basis.
6. Feedback will be provided in written as well as post conference reviews and the progress of the plan (calendars, agendas, written feedback, minutes)
7. Artifacts and data will be reviewed as evidence that the plan is being followed and monitored
8. Compliance will be measured by reviewing artifacts such as benchmarks, grades, discipline, teacher records or anecdotes or through meetings with teachers
9. Direct teaching will be monitored and modeled if necessary
10. There will be a root cause analysis completed to assist in understanding the factors in contributing to lack of academic success.

If a campus is not experiencing success in the implementation of the plan in the first year of the grant cycle the district will review all sources of data, develop a strategic action plan for corrective implementation and monitor the implementation of a corrective action plan and project strategies.

It will be up to the district to continuously monitor the progress of each campus and adjust strategies as required and make the appropriate adjustments if targets and goals are not being met at either campus.

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 district will modify, as appropriate and as needed, the different practices and policies that are in place in order to provide the flexibility of the operations at the campuses level that is awarded the grant. This will enable the campuses to be assured of having full and effective implementation of the Effective Schools Framework Essential Actions that are aligned with the web based implmenentation Plan.

The campuses will be able to prioritize the changes at the campuses that are not effective practices and processes and are hindering substantial academic student success as recorded by state assessments.

Explicit and rigorous standards with be put in place so that it becomes the common method of practice for teaching and learning.

The campus leadership team at each campus will be well versed in curriculum alignment in order to take the campus to a higher standard of learning and teaching. This will in turn be brought to the teaching levels so that teachers truly understand the curriculum and the rigor that must be used to assure that students are way beyond success that is to the highest level.

The district will remove barriers that keep the campus from accomplishing any of the success standards needed. This must occur so that there is effectiveness at each campus.

The campuses with the guidance of the district will identify and use the tools and metrics for evaluating the effective of the web-based improvement plan.

The goals and objectives of this plan will constantly be monitored to ensure that they are met in a timely manner. Time is of the essence as students cannot waste a day without having a sound standard of teaching and learning environment.

All stakeholders will be involved through interaction to plan and to implement the improvement initiatives that will be outlined in the goals and objectives.

The district will reach out to all stakeholders through meetings, surveys, campus visits, parent meetings and parent feedback, and include students in understanding the goals and objectives that are to be accomplished.

Human resources as well as any other resources such as monetary and flexible time resources to accomplish the effective of the improvement at each campus.

The campuses will be given wide latitude to address and modify the support areas needed including personnel changes or added personnel if needed.

The district will be the supporting partner in all endeavors of the campus meeting standard on all academic fronts. The value and effectiveness of the goals and objectives will be evaluated on a constant basis by the district along with the campuses. The district will take the lead in the educational process at each campus so that each milestone is monitored for progress and that interventions are taking place for all student groups. The district will make sure that campus leadership is well versed in planning and implementing PLCs and then in turn, teachers will understand the concept of the PLC and the advantages of carrying out an efficient and effective PLC. The district will constantly monitor classrooms to assure that the students are receiving the types of instruction necessary to lead to student success. The district will set measurable and reasonable goals for each campus and will assist them in reaching these goals.

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.

The budget that is being submitted is based on the needs of each campus. The proposed budget was collectively and collaboratively developed by the instructional leaders at the district and campus levels. The budget is specific to meet the prioritized needs of the students and staff that were identified during a comprehensive needs assessment process for the district and specifically at each of the two campuses that are failing to meet academic standards. In order to achieve the goals necessary for success and the increase the effectiveness of each program, the district will coordinate these supplemental funds with federal, state and local funds to provide appropriate programs, instruction and services to all students while maximizing the impact of the available resources of the district.

The most substantial expenditure for the proposed budget will be within the 6200 object code for contracted services. This will be for the work that will be provided with the district's strategic partnership with E3 Alliance RAISE -up Texas towards improvement in the focus areas of leadership, culture and effective instruction in guiding the campuses to realize their academic success for students. District leaders, principals, campus leaders and instructional staff will partner with E3 Alliance RAISE up Texas facilitators, in activities such as but not limited to coaching sessions, professional learning, transformative work, connecting to the Effective Schools Framework, enhancing strategic plans, instructional models, the utilization of data to lead in the utilization of data that shows best practices for success, the use of a multi-tiered system of support for student attendance, student engagement, and leads to academic performance. They will provide personalized pathways for supporting the campus and district instructional staff by providing coaching, feedback from observations and evaluation and provide feedback which will all lead to continuous improvement.

To build capacity and be able to provide for a deeper implementation and improvement, personnel costs (6100) will be budgeted for teacher leaders be compensated for supplementary stipends and for teachers to be provided extra duty pay as possibly Lead Teachers or Master teachers and for additional days or hours for additional training and professional development. There will also be a stipend for the supervision of the grant in the form of a small stipend to assist in assuring that logistical matters are carried out throughout the grant cycle. This person will answer to the principal and district leaders and will supervise all aspects of the grant and monitor the grant program.

The two year grant will allow the district to plan for budgeting for the awarded schools and other district schools to receive similar supports and provide stipends to receive similar supports for leading the work on their campuses. The district's goal with this grant is to improve the selected campuses but also ensure consistency across all of the campuses for continuous improvement and leadership development. The budget also includes substitute costs to cover classroom instruction as teachers attend professional learning opportunities with E3 Alliance RAISEup Texas.

Supplies/materials (6300) will include instructional materials, instructional manipulatives, technology as well as hardware and software, supplemental materials, books for professional development, student texts, and supplies to enhance culture and climate. Travel costs (6400) will be at a minimum but will be budgeted for attendance to certain training and possibly consultant training. Under 6400, allowable educational field trips can be taken by students.

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 district will align other Federal, State and local resources to carry out the activities that are supported from the funding received from this grant. The district will use the new funding to supplement what is received from other sources in order to provide and enhance the instructional needs of the campuses while maintaining all campuses within the district to the high standards expected by the district.

All funding as proposed in the application will be used to provide a comprehensive instructional program. Many of the costs of the district are provided by federal, state and local funding. The funding that is currently in place supports the major initiatives of the district and will continue to do so. No funding from this grant will be used in place of what is presently allocated at this time. The district will use the new grant money to assist students, teachers and leaders to make each program and service more resourcesful and helpful to the campuses. The district uses every resource that is presently available to provide the highest level of academic support and safety for all. There will be intentional efforts to maximize all funding streams to support all programs in the district.

All activities proposed will be coordinated across multiple fnding sources to ensure supplementing of services and not supplanting any portion of the new funding. This new source of funding assists the campuses in alleviating any barriers that may exist because of a lack of funding. The district federal programs' director will assure that all grant funding from the ESF Target Support grant is carried out as intended by law and that the district will comply with the funding by assuring that allowable activities and use of funds for this grant are as presented in program guidelines.

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"/>