



**2024-2026
ESF-Focused Support Grant
Webinar
February 23, 2024**

Introduction

- Lindsay Denman
 - Division Director, School Improvement

- Scott Taylor
 - Director, School Improvement Strategy and Support

Agenda

- Submitting Questions
- Overview of Grant
- Application Content
- Application Scoring
- Budget and Use of Funds
- Grant Timelines

Questions?

- By March 1: Submit questions to SIDivision@tea.Texas.gov with the subject "ESF-FSG FAQ"
- By March 8: Q&A will be posted to [TEA Grant Opportunities webpage](#)

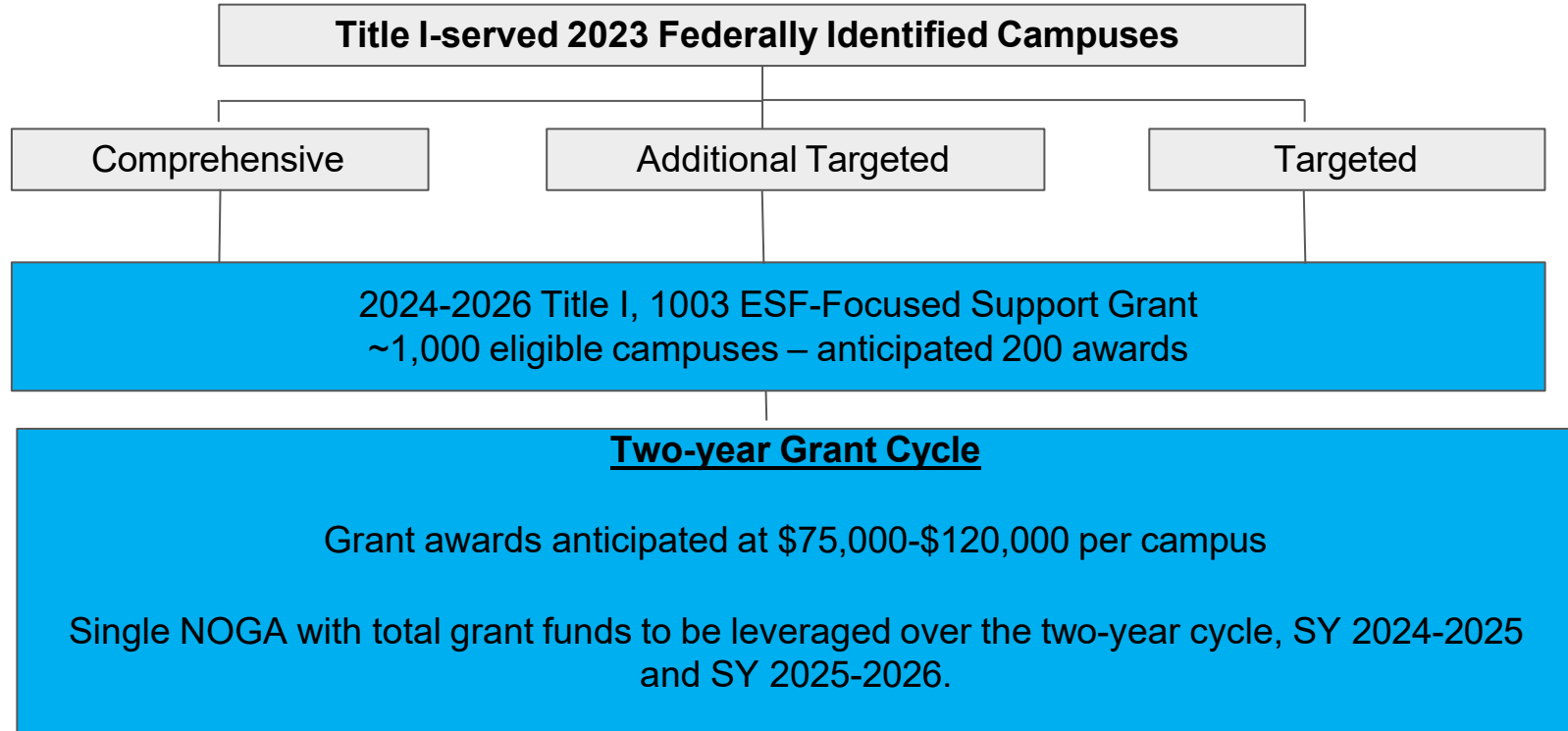
For more information:

[ESF FSG Program Guidelines](#)

2024-2026 Effective Schools Framework- Focused
Support (ESF-FSG) Grant
Program Guidelines



2024-2026 ESF-Focused Support Grant



2024-2026 ESF-Focused Support Grant Purpose

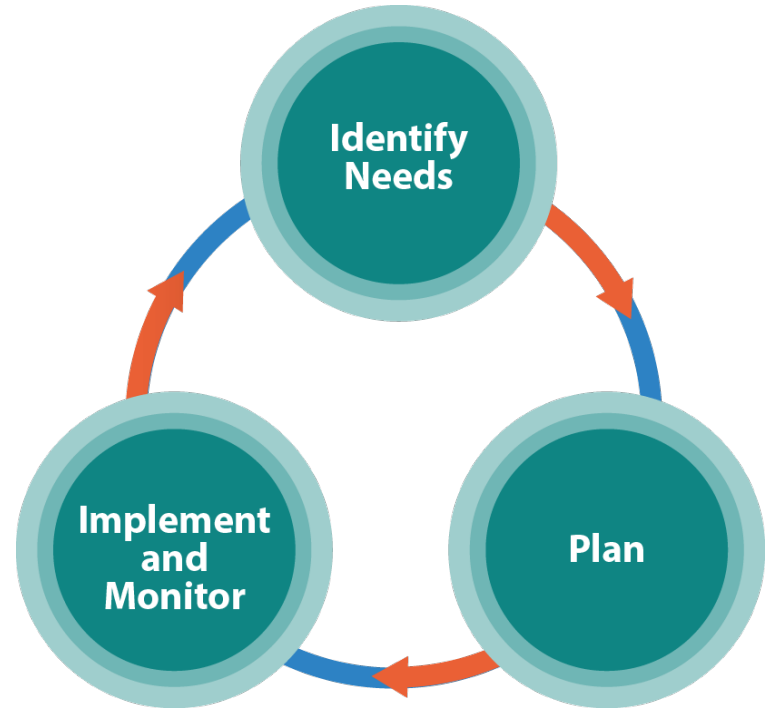
This grant program is intended to:

- Support the applicant with school-level improvement efforts
- Begin and/or continue engagement in the Effective Schools Framework continuous improvement process
- Strengthen campus systems
- Build staff capacity
- Improve school outcomes



ESF-Focused Support Grant General Requirements

The applicant (LEA/District) is responsible for assisting awarded schools in all aspects of the Effective Schools Framework (ESF) continuous improvement process.



ESF-Focused Support Grant Requirements

Grant requirements and submissions including but not limited to:

- Participation in an ESF-Diagnostic (if campus hasn't engaged in a Diagnostic in the last three years)
- Developing an ESF-aligned Targeted Improvement Plan
- Participation in ESF-aligned required trainings
- Funding report submissions and Progress updates
- Partnership with a VIP

What is a VIP?

Vetted Improvement Programs (VIP) are a selection of high-quality contracted services aligned with critical actions within the Effective Schools Framework to support LEAs in capacity building.

For more information please go to <https://texasesf.org/vetted-programs/>

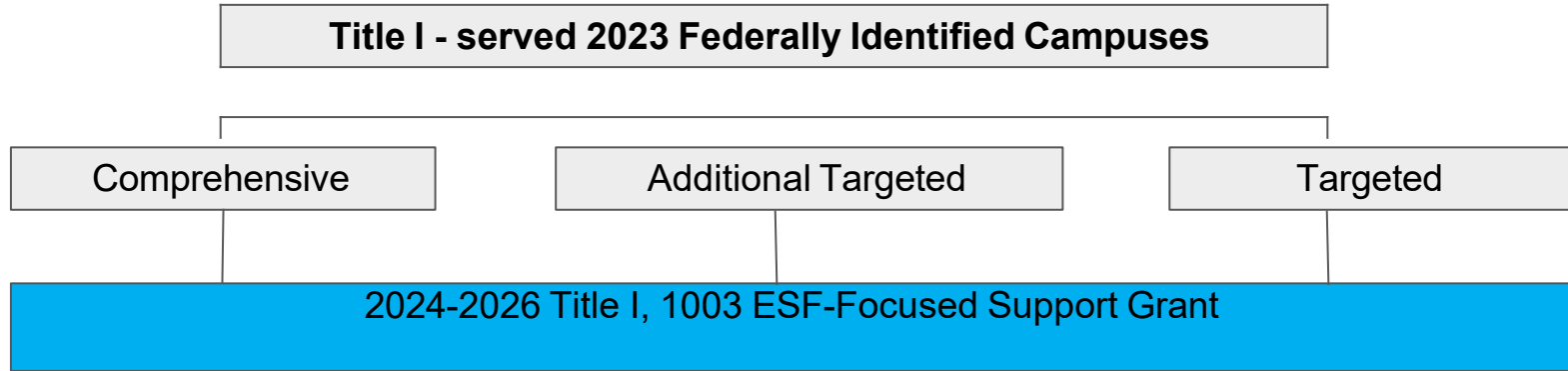
ESF Diagnostic Three Year Rule Clarification

If you received your ESF-Diagnostic on or before July 1, 2021 you will need a new Diagnostic no later than the Fall 2024 to participate in the 24-26 ESF-Focus Support Grant.



Application Content

Eligibility Requirements



Eligibility List

Application Questions: How to Access and Submit

- Each LEA with an eligible campus received a unique link to the grant application on Feb. 15, 2024 (emailed to superintendent)
- If your LEA did not receive this email and you have eligible campuses, please email SIDivision@tea.Texas.gov

Application Questions

- No narrative responses
- Yes/No Questions aligned to grant assurances and requirements

Application Questions: Program Requirements

- Do you agree to engage in all interventions and submissions communicated by the Texas Education Agency including, but not limited to:
 - ESF Diagnostic that results in a Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) focused on the highest priority or highest impact Essential Actions identified in the diagnostic (if the campus has not received a diagnostic within 3 years)
 - Funding Summary Report submissions aligned to the TIP
 - Fidelity of implementation trackers and/or evidence
- Do you agree to assign a Campus Intervention Team (CIT) that must include the District Coordinator of School Improvement (DCSI) who is responsible for overseeing fidelity to this grant program and the campus principal's supervisor (if not the DCSI)?
- Do you agree to engage with a [Vetted Improvement Program](#) to build capacity on the campus(es) and budget funds to support partnership with the VIP and implement new systems and processes with fidelity?
- Do you agree the LEA 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?

Application Questions: Eligibility

- Do you agree to meet the General and Fiscal Guidelines?
- Do you meet the eligibility that applying LEAs have Title I served campuses with federal identifications at the time of application (Comprehensive Identified, Comprehensive Re-Identified Comprehensive Progress, Targeted Support, Additional Targeted Support in the 2023 federal accountability identification)?
- Do you commit that the campuses in this grant application will remain in operation throughout the grant cycle and remain Title I served for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years?
- Do you comply that none of your campuses will receive funding concurrently from another ESF Focused Support Grant or any School Action Fund grant, School Redesign grant, or a School Transformation grant?

Application Questions: Assurances

- 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.
- 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.
- The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Statutory and TEA Program requirements as noted in the 2024-2026 Title I, ESF-Focused Support Grant Program Guidelines.
- The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2024-2026 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.
- The applicant provides assurance that they accept and will comply with the requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act Provisions and Assurances.

Application Questions: Assurances, cont'd.

- 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.
- Title I served Federally Identified campuses awarded this grant will engage in the Effective Schools Framework (ESF) continuous improvement process, including an ESF Diagnostic if the campus has not received a diagnostic in the last three years, and create a plan to be submitted to TEA that addresses how each campus will increase the implementation level of Essential Actions (EA) identified in the ESF Diagnostic.
- 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.
- The applicant will identify a campus leader, on each awarded campus, who will be responsible for managing the grant project



Application Scoring

Priority Points

Area Scored	Points Possible
Comprehensive Support Identification	15 points
Relative performance of campuses identified for Comprehensive Support for each school type (elementary, middle, high school/ K–12, and alternative education accountability) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bottom quartile-lowest 25% of performance (20 points)• Bottom half- Lowest 50%-25% of performance (10 points)	20 points
Economically Disadvantaged Campus (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 70.1-85% economically disadvantaged (5 points)• 85.1-100% economically disadvantaged (10 points)	10 points
Total Priorities for Funding Points Possible	45 points

Grant Application Score and Rank Process

Step 1: priority
points assigned



Step 2: priority based
on Fed. ID



Budget and Use of Funds

The budget is submitted in June 2024 after award.

Required Budget items

Required Expenses: VIP Costs - 6200 Professional and Contracted Services

- 2 year grant: must engage with VIP during 24-25 and 25-26 school year.

All expenses must be directly linked to the ESF Focus Area(s) for the awarded campus.

Allowable Use of Funds

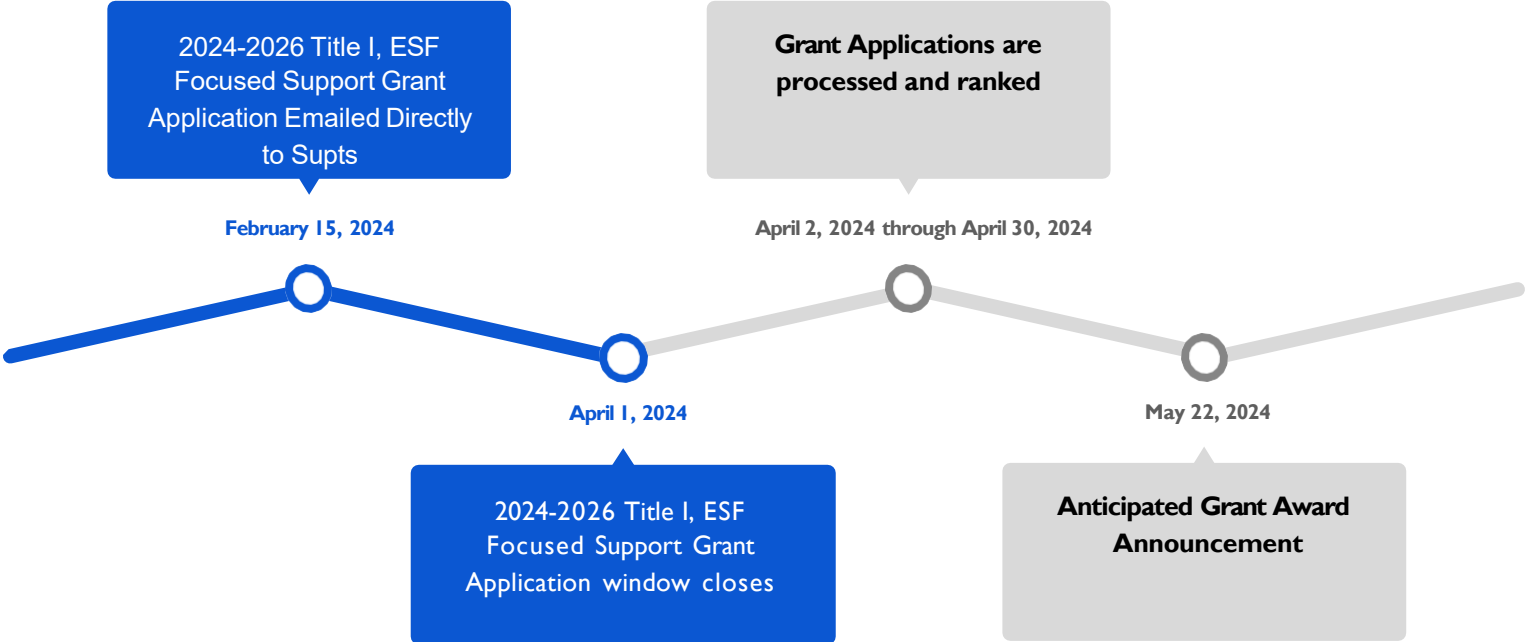
The purpose of the grant is to build systems and capacity to improve student outcomes.

- These funds must only be used to support LEA and school- level improvement efforts to directly benefit the awarded Comprehensive, Targeted or Additional Targeted schools. LEAs may reserve up to 30% of the total awarded funds at the district level to assist students who will be entering and/or have exited the federally identified campuses to address the gaps that were created on the Comprehensive, Targeted or Additional Targeted campus(es). These campuses must be Title I Served and be within one level in the direct feeder pattern of the awarded campus(es).
- Allowable costs under this grant are costs related to engaging with a Vetted Improvement Program and developing and implementing the Targeted Improvement Plan. Allowable uses of funds include, but are not limited to, costs associated with participation in the Vetted Improvement Program, supplies and materials to implement the Vetted Improvement Program and Targeted Improvement Plan, teacher stipends, professional development, instructional materials, and travel expenses.



Grant Timelines

2024-2026 Title I, 1003 ESF-Focused Support Grant Application Timeline



2024-2026 Title I, 1003 ESF-Focused Support Grant Timeline

- Present -> May 22, 2024
 - Schedule ESF Diagnostic if you haven't had one since July 1, 2021
- May 22, 2024-> July '24
 - Identify VIP provider based on Essential Actions identified in ESF Diagnostic
 - Notice of Grant Award (July)
- August '24 – September 30, 2026
 - Work with VIP to build capacity and enact continuous improvement on your campus

Questions



Please send any questions to SIDivision@tea.texas.gov by Mar. 1st 2024, with the subject "ESF-FSG FAQ". Questions will be compiled into an FAQ document which will be posted to the SI Grants Page on Mar.8th.

Thank you!

Lindsay Denman

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Scott Taylor

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