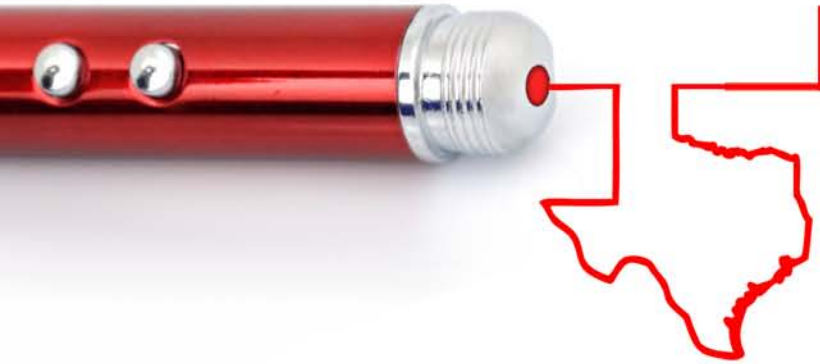
# Texas Literacy Initiative (TLI) Grant Application Webinar

**Texas Education Agency**

**Wednesday, October 19, 2011**

**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. CST**



LASERS ON LITERACY

# 6 States Awarded Striving Readers Funds

- Georgia
- Louisiana
- Montana
- Nevada
- Pennsylvania
- **TEXAS**

http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/180-million-awarded-six-states-comprehensive-literacy-program-aimed-children-bir

# Funding Structure for TLI

95 percent of the funds will be awarded through “sub-grants” to Texas independent school districts and open-enrollment charter schools (local education agencies, or LEAs) who partner with Early Childhood Education (ECE) Providers. Grantees must allocate their funding as follows:

- 16 percent for age zero to school entry;
- 42 percent for kindergarten through grade five; and,
- 42 percent for middle and high school, through grade 12 (with equitable distribution between middle and high).

# Purpose for TLI Webinar

- Review most important parts of RFA (program and funding)
- Give information about next steps of the grant process
- Share information about our Texas Literacy Initiative
  - Eligibility
  - Literacy Lines
  - TLI Support Structure
- Answer questions submitted

# http://www.tea.state.tx.us/

- Click on *Funding* (left side)
- Click on *Grant Opportunities* (left side)
- In the *Application Name* drop-down list, scroll down to *Texas Literacy Initiative Grant Application*.
  - All documents are on file to date.
    - Errata #1 (10-12-2011)
    - Announcement Letter
    - Table of Contents
    - Part 1: General and Fiscal Guidelines
    - Part 2: Program Guidelines
    - Part 3: Schedule Instructions
    - Part 4: Application
    - Notice of Intent to Apply form
    - Reviewer Information form
    - Description of Assessments by Grade Level
    - Evaluation Participation Request
    - Eligibility List
    - Texas Literacy Initiative Grant Webinar (posted post webinar)
    - Texas Literacy Initiative Grant PowerPoint (posted post webinar) http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=2147503221

# Questions

- After this webinar, you may continue to submit questions to kathy.stewart@tea.state.tx.us or iris.adams@tea.state.tx.us until 5:00 CST, Thursday, November 3, 2011.

- FAQ will be published Thursday, November 10, 2011.

# Important Dates to Remember!

- **November 3, 2011**: Notice of Intent and Last day to submit questions
- **November 10, 2011**: Final FAQ Published
- **November 17, 2011**: **Application Due**
- **November 21, 2011 - January 13, 2012**: Competitive Review Period
- **January 14, 2012 - March 7, 2012**: Tentative Award Dates
- **Spring, 2012**: TLI Summit for 2 ½ days. Pre-awards costs will be allowed from award announcement date.
- **March 8, 2012**: Project beginning date
- **September 30, 2012**: Project ending date, with possible extension period through **August 31, 2013**, based on funding availability

# ELIGIBILITY

- All applicants must have a student population whose passing rate is below 90 percent on the English language arts/reading portion of the 2011 Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) for Grades 3-11 according to the TEA 2011 District Accountability Data Tables, which may be generated online by following the District Data Table link at http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/account/2011/index.html.

- For applicants evaluated under the alternative education accountability procedures in the state accountability system, applicants must have a student population whose passing rate is below 90 percent on the English language arts/reading portion of the TAKS Met 2010 Standard (Sum of All Grades Tested) (Standard Accountability Indicator) of the 2009-2010 Academic Excellence Indicator System district report, which may be generated online by following the link at http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/aeis/2010/index.html.

- In addition, LEAs must have student populations that meet at **least two of the following three criteria in order to be eligible for grant funding:**
  - At least 59 percent are economically disadvantaged, with —economically disadvantaged defined as qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch based on Texas Department of Agriculture data for the 2009–2010 school year;
  - At least 16.9 percent have limited English proficiency, according to 2010 Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data;
  - At least 9 percent receive special education services, according to 2010 PEIMS data.

# Purpose of the TLI

- Improve school readiness and success in the areas of language and literacy for disadvantaged students in targeted school districts, including their associated ECE providers, who will use the model of Literacy Lines to implement the Texas State Literacy Plan (TSLP).

- Implement comprehensive literacy plan (Appendix 2 / Appendix B)

# GOALS OF TLI

- Increase the oral language and preliteracy skills of participating preschool children.
- Improve the performance of participating K-2 students on early reading assessments.
- Increase the percentage of participating students who meet or exceed proficiency on the state English language arts assessments in grades 3 through 12.
- Increase the use of data and data analysis to inform all decision making in participating districts, campuses, classrooms, and early learning settings.
- Increase the implementation of effective literacy instruction through *Literacy Lines* (Appendix 2 / Appendix B): Comprehensive Literacy Program).

# What is a Literacy Line?

"A **Literacy Line** is a vertical collaborative among feeder-pattern campuses within a Local Education Agency (LEA) or among partnering eligible LEAs (including prekindergarten, elementary, middle, and high schools) and their associated Early Childhood Education providers, which may include, among others, Early Head Start, Head Start, public or private or nonprofit licensed child care providers, and public prekindergarten programs."

# Literacy Line Summary Statement

Eligible LEA(s) must include representation from each sub group:

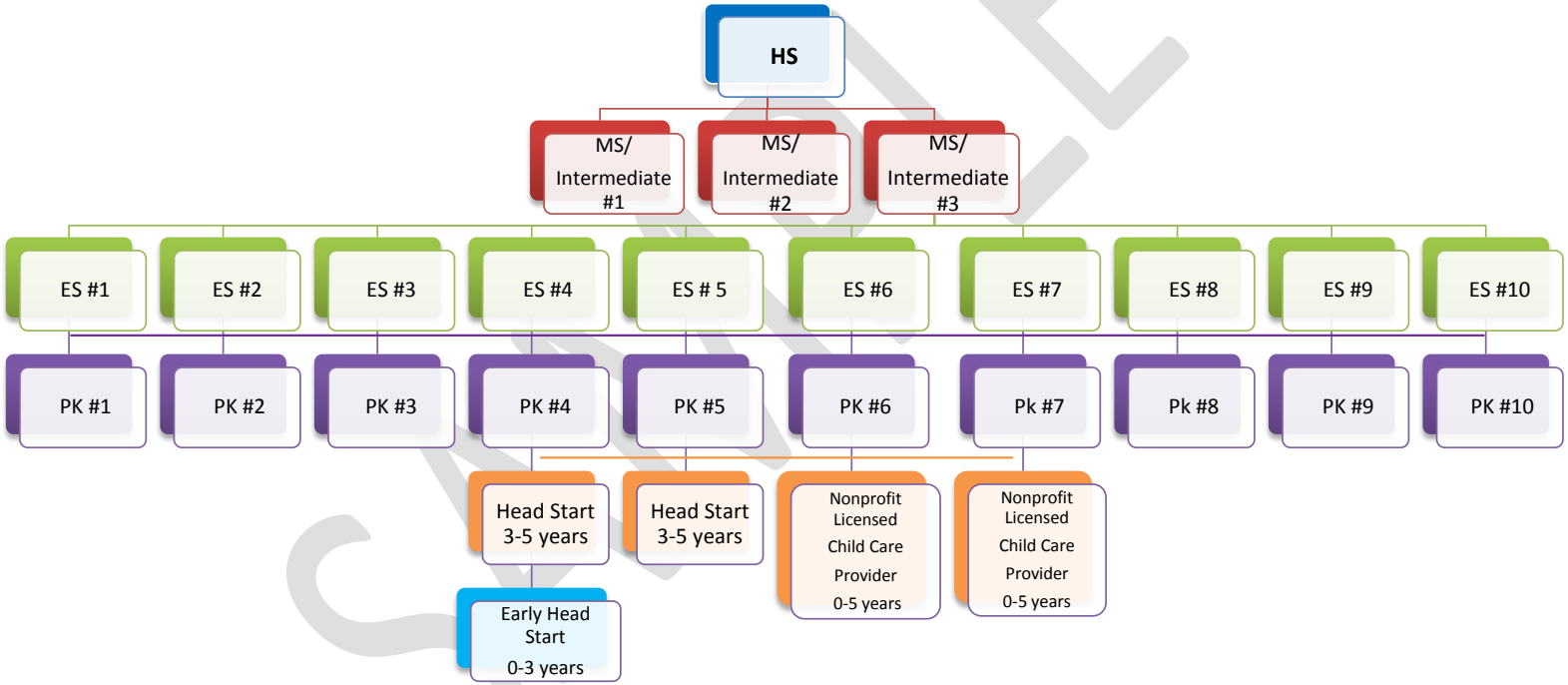
- Age 0 to School Entry
  - Early Childhood Education Providers
  - Prekindergarten
- Grades K-5
  - Elementary
- Grades 6-12
  - Middle/Intermediate/Junior High Schools
  - High Schools

# Forming a Literacy Line

Possible Scenarios

- Multiple sites/schools at an age/grade level
  - Prioritize sites/schools to be served
- Sites/schools within the Literacy Line who may not match LEA eligibility criteria may be served
- K-8 Charter/LEA that does not have representation from grades 9-12
  - Partners with high school where majority of students attend (natural feeder pattern)

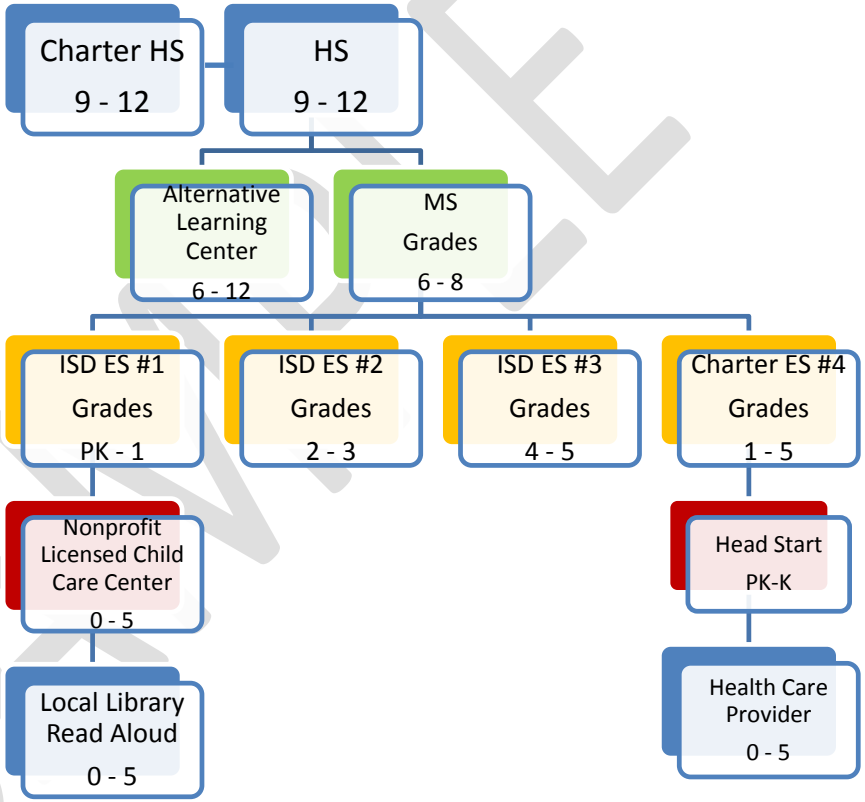
# Sample Literacy Line




SAMPLE

Key
HS = High School
MS = Middle School
ES = Elementary School
PK = Prekindergarten

# Sample Literacy Line




SAMPLE

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HS = High School
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# Important Reminder!!

Funds must be distributed in the following manner:

- 16 percent =age 0 to school entry
- 42 percent=kindergarten to grade 5
- 42 percent=grade 6 to grade 12*

*equitable distribution between middle and high school

# The Texas State Literacy Plan

Creating College and Career Ready Texans
Age 0 to Grade 12

# Texas State Literacy Plan

- Site/Campus-based Needs Assessment
- Texas State Literacy Plan URL: http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=2147503221
- 3 Age/Grade levels
  - 0 to School Entry
  - K-5
  - 6-12
- Framework of Six Components/Modules

# Six Modules
# LASERS on Literacy

- **L**eadership
- **A**ssessment
- **S**tandards-based Instruction
- **E**ffective Instructional Framework
- **R**eporting and Accountability
- **S**ustainability

# Texas Literacy Initiative Support Plan

Grantees will contract with the TLI Leadership Team:

- Education Service Centers
- Children's Learning Institute
- Institute for Public School Initiatives
- Vaughn Gross Center for Reading and Language Arts (Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk)

# TLI Support Plan

TLI Leadership Team will:

- Provide professional development for educators
  - Age or grade specific
  - Developmentally appropriate
  - Face-to-face and in online environment
- Appoint a Literacy Line Liaison
- Support facilitation of data meetings
- Support participation in Project Share

# Requirements

- **Statutory Requirements**
- **TEA Requirements**
  1. Significance and Need of Program
  2. Exploration, Interest, and Commitment
  3. School Readiness Integration (SRI) Partnership with Memorandum of Understanding
  4. Capacity to Implement
  5. Quality of Management Plan and Budget
  6. Literacy Line and Grant Implementation Team
  7. LASERS (Leadership, Assessment, Standards-based Instruction, Effective Instructional Framework, Reporting and Accountability, Sustainability)
  8. Professional Development
  9. Monitoring Progress

# Assurances

Program Assurances

- Literacy Line MUST include and represent age 0-grade 12.
- Provide assurance to participate in the Kindergarten Readiness System (KRS), submit required data, and implement curriculum from state adopted systems
- 16% for age 0 – School Entry
- 42% for K-5
- 42% for middle and high, through grade 12, with equitable distribution between middle and high

# Performance Measures and Program Evaluation

Evaluation criteria include:

1. Percentage of participating four-year-old children who achieve significant gains on an assessment of letter knowledge, vocabulary, phonological awareness, and oral language skills. The instrument or instruments monitoring student progress must be selected from the Commissioner's List of Pre-literacy Instruments that will be identified in the spring of 2012.
2. Number of participating K–2 students with improved performance in early literacy assessments. K-2 BOY, MOY, EOY data from Commissioner's List of Reading Instruments.
3. Percentage of participating third through eighth grade students who meet or exceed proficiency on the TAKS/State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR™) in the areas of reading and writing for 2011 -2013.
4. Percentage of participating high school students who meet or exceed proficiency on grades nine through eleven TAKS reading/ELA and/or STAAR English I, II, III (as appropriate) for 2011 through 2013.

## Allowable Activities and Use of Funds

Allowable activities and use of funds may include but are not limited to the following:

- Professional development, mentoring and coaching
- Technical assistance
- Using Texas Literacy Initiative (TLI) materials listed in the Texas State Literacy Plan (TSLP)
- Contracting with approved TLI Leaders
- Implementing a comprehensive literacy program as referenced in Appendix 2: Comprehensive Literacy Program
- Alignment of intervention materials
- Development and implementation of the School Readiness Integration partnership and memorandum of understanding (MOU)

## Unallowable Activities and Use of Funds

The following activities and use of funds may include but are not limited to the following:

- Debt service (lease-purchase)
- For additional guidance see Part 3- Schedule Instructions and Appendix 1, Guidelines Related to Specific Costs, for a summary of certain unallowable costs.

# Limitation of Administrative Funds

Federal statute limits the amount of funds that may be budgeted to administer the program, **including direct administrative costs and indirect costs, to no more than 5 percent of the total grant awarded for any fiscal year.** Funds requested for administrative use must be requested in the application on the appropriate budget schedules.

For federal grants, indirect costs may be requested at an amount not to exceed 5 percent or your approved federal indirect cost rate, whichever is less.

# Budget Schedules Summary

Applicants are required to complete the budget schedules to reflect the amounts they will spend on the three age groups. TEA needs to collect this information to ensure that applicants budget and then expend their funds according to the percentage split (16%, 42%, 42%) required by the authorizing statute.

| | | | Age 0 to School Entry (16%) | | Kindergarten-Grade 5 (42%) | | Grade 6-12 (42%) | | TOTAL | Preaward |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Class/Object Code & Description | | | Program | Admin | Program | Admin | Program | Admin | Total Budget | |
| 1 | Payroll Costs | 5B-6100 | $76,000 | $4,000 | $199,500 | $10,500 | $199,500 | $10,500 | $500,000 | $10,000 |
| **Total Budgeted Costs** | | | $76,000 | $4,000 | $199,500 | $10,500 | $199,500 | $10,500 | $500,000 | $10,000 |
| **Total Costs by Age/Percentage** | | | $80,000 | | $210,000 | | $210,000 | | $500,000 | $10,000 |

# Questions and Answers
# Submitted as of 10/18/2011

# TLI Updates

TEA's Texas Literacy Initiative Site:

http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=2147503221

Also continue to check the

Grants Opportunities for Updated Information:

www.tea.state.tx.us