2022-2023 School Improvement Grant FAQs

General Application Info

When can we see the grant application posted in eGrants?

- The grant application will not be seen in eGrants until September 13th, 2021. It will close on November 12th, 2021.

Where can I access this grant application?

- https://tealprod.tea.state.tx.us/TSP/TEASecurePortal/Access/LogonServlet

So, a school can receive both SIG and ESF but not both SIG and SAF (or ESF and SAF)?

- While all three grants may be awarded, campuses awarded the SAF grant that are in the continuation or implementation phases are not eligible to also receive the SIG and/or ESF FSG.

Participation

If we received the ESF Support Grant and will be engaging in those activities, is it necessary for us to participate in this grant opportunity as well?

- If the LEA/Campus received an award for the ESF Focused Support Grant, it is not required that the LEA/campus participate in this grant opportunity. However, if the LEA/Campus chooses not to apply for SIG funding, the LEA/Campus is still required to participate in all required interventions found on the campus intervention matrix: https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/acct-campusinterventionsmatrix-23.pdf

Are eligible campuses required to apply for the SIG?

- No, eligible campuses are not required to apply for the SIG. However, eligible campuses are still required to participate in all required interventions found on the campus intervention matrix: https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/acct-campusinterventionsmatrix-23.pdf These funds go to support the implementation of those interventions.

Are 22/23 SIG districts required to submit the 21/22 PR9100 before accessing the 22/23 SIG application?

- No, districts who were awarded the 21/22 SIG have 60 days to complete their PR9100 which is well after the opening of the 22/23 SIG application. However, we do encourage districts to complete that form ASAP.

How should districts treat campuses that have combined with other campuses?

- SIG eligibility is based on a campus' CDCN. For example, if two campuses (one with federal identifications and one without) are combined and made into an entirely new campus with a new CDCN, they will not have a federal identification this year and therefore are not eligible to receive SIG funds.

Funding

What is the award amount for the 22/23 SIG?

- Each campus with a comprehensive support and improvement identification will receive a $43,000 entitlement. The grant award is at the LEA-level, so the total of all participating campus' entitlements will roll up into one final award amount.

What is the total payroll cap for the 22/23 SIG?

- There is no payroll cap this year.

Is paying for a membership to a Texas Organization such as TEPSA (Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association) considered "lobbying funds" (referencing the final assurances page)?

- No, that is not considered lobbying.

Will there be reallocation of funds for districts that choose not to participate in the 2022-23 SIG program? Meaning - could the carryover include additional funds beyond what we calculate locally would be our carryover?

- No. Carryover will only include the funding that was unused from the 2021-2022 SIG for the individual district. We will not be reallocating funds from other LEAs.

Carryover

Will Districts have to amend their budget report to get their carryover funds?

- Yes, once the carry over process is complete the LEA will be alerted to return to the eGrants system and make an amendment to add the carry over funds to the budget.

Is there a carryover fund percentage limit?

- There is not a carryover percentage limit for this grant. All unused funds from the 2021-2022 SIG will carry over at the district level.

Are carryover funds subject to the 20% limit when used in the LEA reserve?

- Yes, the total award, including the carryover once that is applied is limited to 20% total limit at the LEA reserve.

LEA Reserve

Do districts have to reserve funds at the LEA level?

No, districts do not have to utilize the LEA reserve. If you do choose to do so, there is a 20% limit to the LEA reserve. **What are considered reserved funds?**

- Reserved funds can be used at the district level to support students who have exited or are entering the comprehensive support and improvement campus. The funds may be used on Title I, served campuses with in one level of the direct feeder pattern of the SIG eligible campus.

Does the feeder pattern have to be Title I served?

- Yes, feeder pattern campuses must be Title I served. This grant is funded with Title I - Part A funds.

Pre-award

What is the pre-award window?

- Pre-award begins 8/01/2022 and ends when the LEA submits their eGrants application known as the 'stamp in' date.

Is the pre-award section required to be completed?

- Pre-award is not required but any expenses encumbered prior to submission/stamp in date of grant application should be budgeted in pre-award.

Plan4Learning

Do we pay for Plan4Learning access separately or with our grant money?

- Access to the Plan4Learning portal is automatically given to each eligible campus that receives the SIG award. Eligible campuses do not have to use this grant to purchase access. However, if you are serving students in Title I feeder schools with your LEA reserve, you may choose to use grant funds to give Plan4Learning access to those other campuses. This is not required.

Will the budget amount be prepopulated on the budget page in the web-based TIP?

- The budget will not be pre-populated in the web-based TIP plan. The LEA will enter budgeted dollar amounts for each campus or share with campus leadership the amount allocated to each campus to be budgeted on the TIP.

Does the data listed in the Plan4Learning Cycle Action Steps come from the 2021-2022 Application or are you adding action steps from scratch?

- The cycle action steps are updated by the campus/LEA in the 806 web-based TIP at each cycle submissions for the 2022-2023 SY.

Will this be a separate login connected to TEA for those campuses that already use Plan4Learning?

- If the LEA is already using 806/Plan4Learning they system will link to the already established login information for the system. If there are challenges with this, please reach out.

For budgeting in Plan4Learning, we are not including anything reserved at the district level?

- No, budgeting in Plan4Learning is campus specific and will not include any LEA reserve amounts.

ESCs/VIPs

Are all applicants for this non-competitive SIG required to work with a vetted partner as they are with the competitive grant? If so, will this cause confusion when completing the PS3010 schedule if they think they can check Local Effort?

- The 2022-2023 SIG requires 'evidence' of support through either the ESC or an external VIP. This does not have to be formal participation in a TIL cohort. The LEA can also check local efforts assuming they do in fact have the internal capacity to support campuses in TIP implementation. TEA School Improvement Specialists will be evaluating this evidence.

Do campuses have to use funds with a VIP? If so, does the LEA reserve allow them to keep 20% to not use with a VIP?

- Campuses do not have to utilize a VIP. To meet grant requirements, an LEA must indicate if funds will be leveraged with one or more of following: the ESC, a VIP, or through local efforts (should the LEA have capacity).