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THIS GRANTSCAST® WILL BEGIN SHORTLY

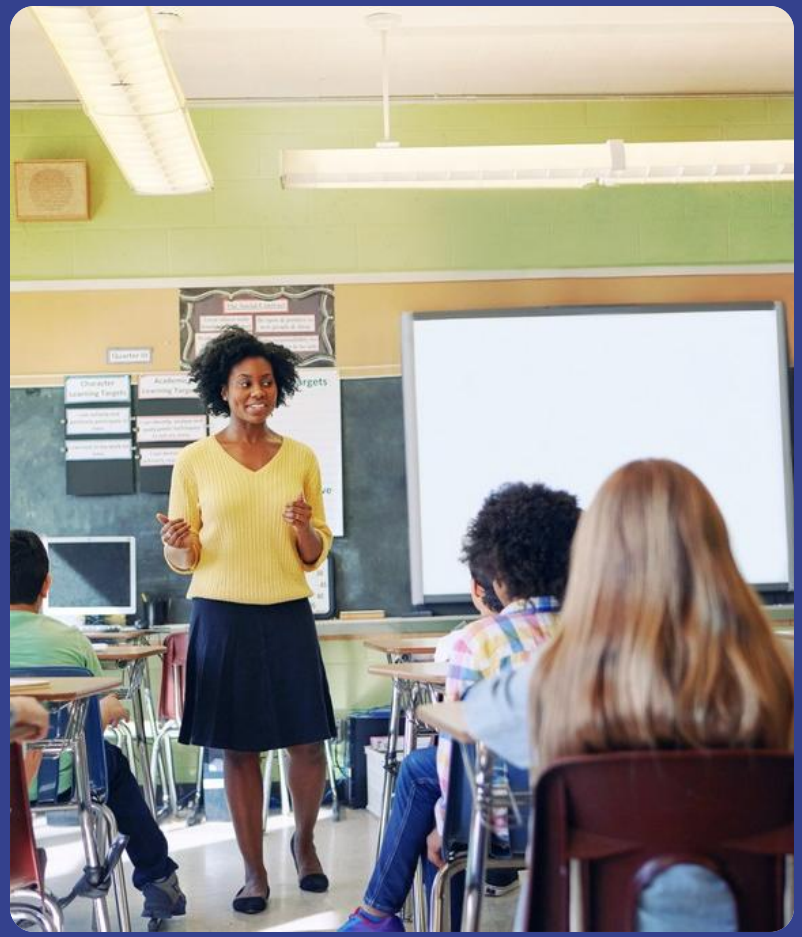
Write to Win: Grant Writing Strategies for Learning Acceleration Support Funding

This Grantscast is being **recorded** and will be available to view and download by close of business today.

Ask questions throughout the event using the **Q&A** feature on the right side of your screen.

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GRANTSCAST®

Learning Acceleration Support Funding Opportunities (Texas)

Write to Win: Grant Writing Strategies for LASO

25+ YEARS
of grants excellence

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TODAY'S PRESENTERS

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Meet your team



Elizabeth Evans

Grants Office

Manager of Research & Consultation



Christina Fernandez

Grants Office

Grants Development Consultant

TODAY'S AGENDA

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What we'll cover

01 Understanding Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities

02 Evaluating if LASO is right for you

03 Preparing a competitive LASO application

04 Engaging with Grants Office services

05 Q&A



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01

SECTION ONE

Understanding Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities

TIMELINE

LASO Timeline

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September

Application Opens

Application instructions will be available September 23, 2026

Sept - November

Webinars and Office Hours

TEA will host General Webinars, Program Specific Webinars, and Office Hours

December

Applications due

Must be submitted by 5 pm (central time) on December 1, 2026

February- May

Awards announced

A preliminary announcement is expected in February with the official Notice of Awards publication following between March and May 2027

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GRANT SPOTLIGHT

Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO)

SUMMARY

A consolidated application combining **21** grants, in-kind supports and services, and allotment opportunities, that support academic improvements.

DEADLINE

Applications will be accepted starting September 23 through **December 1**, 2026.

ELIGIBILITY

Texas public school systems.

*Eligibility criteria varies depending on applicant status, grade levels served, and district characteristics

FUNDING AMOUNT

$400M in competitive grants, allotments and in-kind supports for cycle five. Individual award amounts vary based on program.



Learn more

Scan or click for the full program profile.

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In- Kind Support Programs

Early Literacy Intervention Tool (ELIT)

New for Cycle 5

Math Supplemental Curriculum for School Improvement (MSC for SI)

New for Cycle 5

Strategic Compensation Cohort for Enhanced TIA (SCC for ETIA)

New for Cycle 5

Local Accountability System (LAS)

New for Cycle 5

Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP)

New for Cycle 5

Virtual and Hybrid Program Accelerator (VHPA)

Supports the development and refinement of high-quality virtual and hybrid programs.

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Allotment Programs

Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership (PREP) Programs



PREP: Grow Your Own
Prepare and retain educators through innovative staffing pipelines



PREP: Residency Pre-service
Support teacher residents in earning enhanced teaching certificates through hands-on classroom experience



PREP: Mentorship
High-quality, research-based training to mentor new teachers



PREP: Alternative Pre-service
NEW for Cycle 5



PREP: Traditional Pre-service
NEW for Cycle 5

Grant Programs

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Pathways in Technology Earch College High School (P-TECH)

Early College High School (ECHS)

School Action Fund

Additional Days School Year (ADSY) Pep Grant

Texas Strategic Staffing (TSS)



LIFT School Improvement Accelerator (LIFTSI)

Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT)

School Improvement C&I Support Grant (SICISG)

Blended Learning Grant (BLG)

AP Computer Science Principles

Slide Graphic: PresentationGO

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02

SECTION TWO

Evaluating which LASO Grant Opportunities are right for you

Five Learning Acceleration Strategies

Strategy 1: Strategic Planning

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Strategic Planning
***NEW for Cycle 5**

Curriculum and Instruction

Strategic Talent Systems

More Time

Innovative School Models

Best Fit for: Strategic planning and performance management to prioritize, launch, and continuously improve learning acceleration strategies *Limited to one district per ESC Region

- **Financial Support for Plan Development**
- **Technical Assistance**
- **Implementation and Ratings**

Five Learning Acceleration Strategies

Strategy 2: Curriculum and Instruction

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- Strategic Planning *NEW for Cycle 5
- **Curriculum and Instruction**
- Strategic Talent Systems
- More Time
- Innovative School Models

Best Fit for: Rigorous, high-quality instructional materials designed to make up ground and master grade-level TEKS

- **Targeted Assistance for Title I Campuses**
- **Digital Instruction and Adaptive Software**
- **Professional Development and Instructional Leadership**
- **Expanding Access to Advanced Coursework**

Five Learning Acceleration Strategies

Strategy 3: Strategic Talent Systems

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- Strategic Planning *NEW for Cycle 5
- Curriculum and Instruction
- **Strategic Talent Systems**
- More Time
- Innovative School Models

Best Fit for: Investing in strategic talent systems that sustain teacher pipelines to recruit and retain exceptional educators and elevate instructional quality.

- **Teacher pipeline and preservice pathways**
- **Teacher residency implementation support**
- **New Teacher Retention and Mentorship**
- **Career Advancement**

Five Learning Acceleration Strategies

Strategy 4: More Time

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- Strategic Planning *NEW for Cycle 5
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Strategic Talent Systems
- **More Time**
- Innovative School Models

Best Fit for: Restructuring the academic calendar through a Full Year redesign, or expanding instructional time through a Summer Learning model

- **Evidence-Based Programming**
- **Professional Development for Implementing Extended Learning**
- **Technical Assistance**

Five Learning Acceleration Strategies

Strategy 5: Innovative School Models

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- Strategic Planning *NEW for Cycle 5
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Strategic Talent Systems
- More Time
- **Innovative School Models**

Best Fit for: Incorporating the Learning Acceleration Framework

- **Whole-school Redesign**
- **Early College and Dual- Credit Pathways**
- **Virtual and Hybrid Campus Models**
- **Rural Support**

Recap of Grant Programs by Learning Strategy

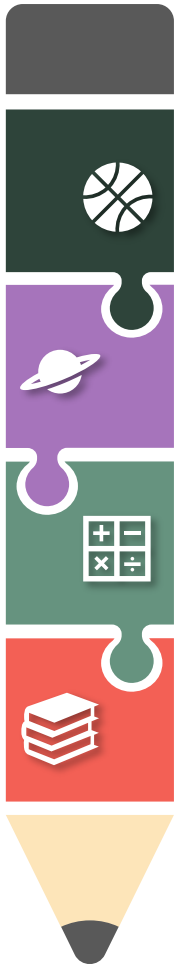
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Curriculum and Instruction

- Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT)
- LIFT School Improvement Accelerator (LIFTSI)
- School Improvement C&I Support Grant (SICISG).
- Blended Learning Grant (BLG)
- AP Computer Science Principles (APCSP)

Strategic Talent Systems

- Texas Strategic Staffing (TSS)



Innovative School Models

- School Action Fund (SAF)
- Early College High School (ECHS)
- Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH)

More Time

- Additional Days School Year (ADSY) PEP Grant

Graphic: PresentationGO

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SECTION THREE

Preparing a LASO Grant application

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How Selective are LASO *Grant* Programs

Cycle 4 results — Programs that districts applied for but were NOT selected for funding

Program	Applications Received	Selected (Yes)	Not Selected (No)	% Not Funded
School Improvement C&I Support Grant (SI CISG)	189	36	153	81%
Pathways in Technology ECHS (P-TECH)	37	9	28	76%
Blended Learning Grant (BLG)	76	23	53	70%
Texas Strategic Staffing (TSS)	140	54	86	61%
School Action Fund (SAF)	36	14	22	61%
ADSY PEP Grant	77	37	40	52%
LIFT	628	413	215	34%
LIFT School Improvement Accelerator (LIFT SI)	294	201	93	32%
Early College High School (ECHS)	11	8	3	27%
AP Computer Science Principles (APCSP)	77	77	0	0%

● Highly selective (61%+ not funded) ● Moderately selective (30–60%) ● Near-universal (under 30% not funded)

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Application Selection Criteria

Program	Eligibility	Scoring Factors
SI CISG	Title I campuses identified as CSI, ATS, or TSI, using non-Bluebonnet instructional materials.	Ranked by STAAR score (lowest first) within each federal accountability tier — no priority points or interview.
LIFT	Open to all districts that commit to Bluebonnet (2026-27) or a state-approved HQIM (2027-28).	Ranked by a 5-tier priority list, then STAAR score — no narrative or interview for most applicants.
LIFT SI (Add-on)	Campus must already have LIFT awarded with the same Approved Provider.	Same STAAR-rank formula as SI CISG, ordered by federal accountability tier.
TSS	Requires a signed EPP Verification Form from an approved residency partner; past TSS grantees are excluded.	Tiered by the raw number of new, inexperienced teachers hired — no narrative or interview scoring.
APCSP	Open to all Texas ISDs and charters — no cost match, no interview, no exclusions.	A 50-point formula based on course and teacher-training expansion, plus up to 30 priority points.

Source: LASO Cycle 4 Program Guidelines and FAQs (SI CISG, P-TECH, BLG, TSS, SAF guidelines/FAQs). Cycle 5 requirements not yet published — patterns are from Cycle 4.

Application Selection Criteria

Program	Eligibility	Scoring Factors
SAF	Max 6 awards, 4 per action, per district — multi-campus districts can stack awards.	Priority points reward existing infrastructure, then a live interview worth two-thirds of the total score.
BLG	Reward tier only — required prior Strong Foundations (Academic) or a past Blended Learning grant (Strategic Operations).	New Coherent Systems Cohort scoring to be announced; Strategic Operations cohort was scored on 2025 usage data plus a live interview.
ADSY PEP	Campus must reach a 175-day calendar (or have a board-approved plan to) using an IMRA-approved product.	A base-points formula plus a scored interview — both carry hard minimum scores to advance.
P-TECH	New P-TECH sites only, grades 9-12, with a required 20% local cost match.	Scored on written narrative responses (50 points) plus priority points favoring rural, small, and Board of Managers districts.
ECHS	New ECHS sites only, grades 9-12, with a required 20% local cost match.	Same 50-point narrative rubric as P-TECH — but historically draws far fewer applicants.

Source: LASO Cycle 4 Program Guidelines and FAQs (LIFT, LIFT SI, ADSY PEP, ECHS, APCSP guidelines/FAQs). Cycle 5 requirements not yet published — patterns are from Cycle 4.

What Reviewers Reward

Application Materials to Prepare Now

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Not every application will be scored the same. Competition looks different for each program.

Documents

Eligibility Documentation
Title I status, STAAR data, Board-approved school year calendar

Partner Vetting
Process for vetting approved providers and curriculum vendors, EPP Verification Form

Letters of Support or MOU

Letters of Support from IHEs or MOUs from industry/business partners

Narratives

Data influencing decisions
Rationale on motivations, challenges, and opportunities explored with stakeholders

Key Strategies and Activities
Outline strategies for recruitment, enrollment, and academic support for students

Partnerships
Must align with MOUs and address topics like costs, professional development, and data sharing

Interviews

In Attendance
Superintendent, Project manager, CFO, Senior district leadership

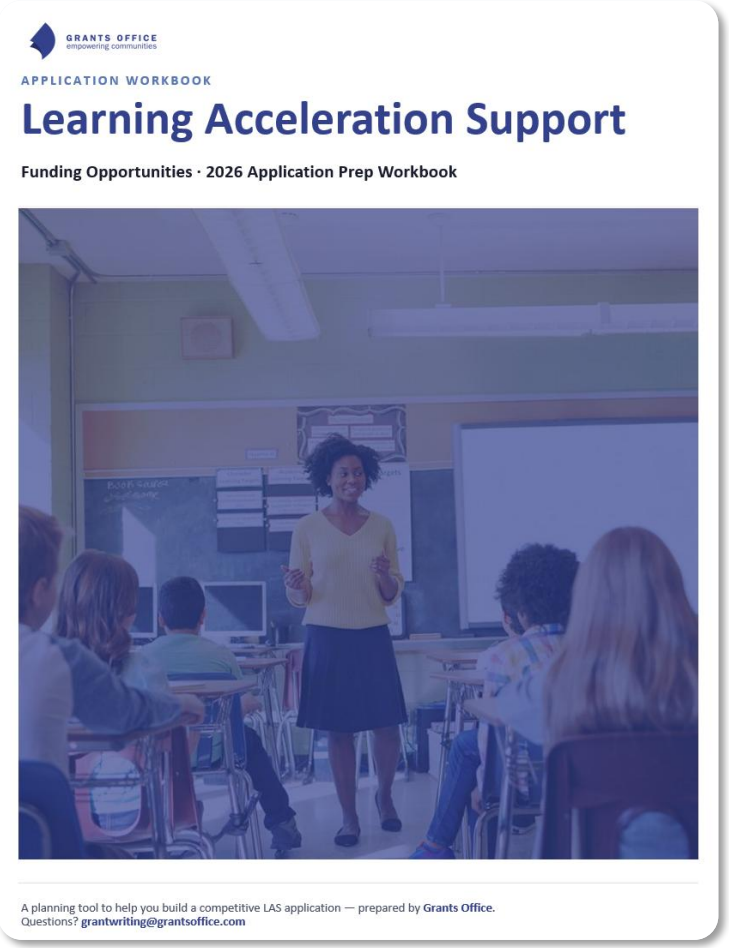
Existing Practices
Existing policies to support planning, mitigation strategies

Readiness
Awareness of operational shift, plans for engaging technical assistance organizations, and sustainability

FREE RESOURCES

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LASO Application Workbook



- Collect important account details for submission
- Fast readiness checklists — confirm eligibility, gather documentation, get organized
- Interview prompts and narrative drafting space for required essays and interviews, with word-count tracking
- Outline key project personnel & duties

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04

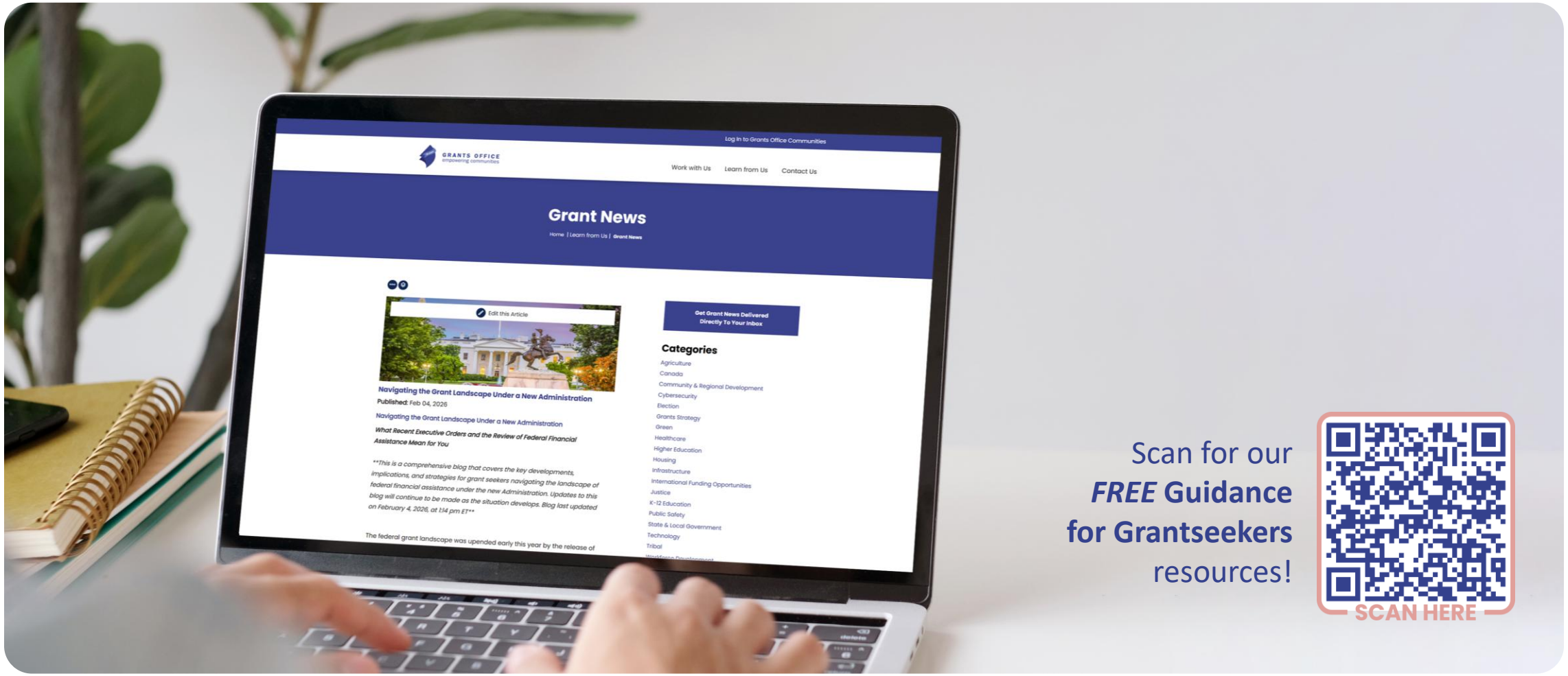
SECTION FOUR

Engaging with Grants Office Services

FREE RESOURCES

Visit our Guidance for Grantseekers Online Library

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Scan for our
***FREE* Guidance**
for Grantseekers
resources!

SCAN HERE

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Grants Office is here to help

Example Service Costs

Pricing valid through December 2026

Example service costs
Pricing valid through December 2025

Tier	Cost for Proposal Development
1	$3900
2	$4900
3	$5900
4	$6900
5	$7900
6+	$8900+

Proposal Development & Writing

Grants are assigned a cost tier based on the complexity of the application's requirements and the time until the grant's deadline.

For example, the Learning Acceleration Support Grant Programs tend to fall in Tier 3.

Writing the proposal yourself?

Grants Office provides review services at 25% of the grant tier cost.

ENGAGE WITH GRANTS OFFICE

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Find it. Build it. Write to win.

Find

We surface the grants that fit your mission, timeline, and match capacity, scanning federal, state, and foundation sources so you pursue only the opportunities you can realistically win.

Build

We help architect a competitive project, bringing the right partners, a realistic budget, and a narrative that ties your activities directly to the outcomes funders want to support.

Write

We write or review the full proposal so it is ready to win, sharpening the case, tightening the budget justification, and meeting every reviewer requirement before you submit.

ENGAGE WITH GRANTS OFFICE

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Grant Writing Timeline

Step 1

Contact Us

Email your completed LASO Application Workbook to Christina, our LASO expert.

Step 2

Initial Meeting

Christina will set up a time to discuss your project goals and development needs.

Step 3

Grant Writing

Your Grants Office Grant Writer will utilize the materials you provide to write or review your LASO Proposal.

Step 4

Review

Meet with Christina to finalize your proposal and ensure all requirements have been met.

Step 5

Submit

Once completed, you will submit your grant application and let us know when you win!

Get started today: grantwriting@grantsoffice.com

ENGAGE WITH GRANTS OFFICE

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Other Available Services

Research & Consultation

Grants Office will identify what grants best fit your upcoming projects and develop next steps.

Project Building

Grants Office will advise on project development and material gathering with a particular grant in mind.

Grant Writing Proposal

Grants Office will write a competitive and engaging proposal.

Grant Proposal Review

Grants Office will provide feedback on application materials, ensuring compliance with submission requirements.

Grants Office Communities

Find and share funding opportunities, manage proposals, collaborate, and access Grants Office Support.

Your first **two weeks** are **free**!

SCAN HERE

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Q&A

Questions?

Drop them in the chat – we'll answer as many as we can live, and follow up on the rest by email.