GRANTS OFFICE
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APPLICATION WORKBOOK

Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities

Funding Opportunities · 2026 Application Prep Workbook



A planning tool to help you build a competitive LAS application — prepared by **Grants Office.**
Questions? **grantwriting@grantsoffice.com**

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INTRODUCTION

Understanding this Document

This application workbook is designed to help you organize your thoughts and ideas in one place as you prepare your grant application. The questions are structured to build on one another—starting broadly with an overview of your organization and project goals and then moving into more specific details that will ultimately support the development of a strong proposal.

This workbook is built around the 10 LASO grant programs. Grants Office consultants reviewed each program's Guidelines to identify the eligibility rules, scoring criteria, required attachments, and priority factors you'll be evaluated on. This way, you know the questions you're working on throughout this document are the same ones reviewers will be looking for in your application. TEA has not yet published Cycle 5 Program Guidelines as of this workbook's preparation. Every requirement and dollar figure in this workbook is drawn from Cycle 4 documentation, clearly labeled as such. Treat Cycle 4 patterns as a strong guide to likely Cycle 5 requirements — not a guarantee. Confirm every detail against TEA's Cycle 5 guidelines once released.

Keep in mind that this workbook is meant to serve as a starting point, not a final draft. It is a planning tool and should not be submitted as your application. You can add as much or as little information as makes sense for you right now. The more detail you provide early on, the stronger foundation you'll have for drafting narrative sections, engaging potential collaborators, and guiding discussions with your grant writer. Don't have a grant writer? We can help. Complete this workbook and email it to us: **grantwriting@grantsoffice.com**.

Think of this as a flexible tool: a place to capture your ideas, shape your project framework, and set yourself up for success in the grant writing process!

> **A PLANNING TOOL, NOT AN APPLICATION**
>
> These pages are provided by Grants Office, LLC and are not an official program document. They should not be uploaded as part of your final application.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Learning Acceleration Support Grant Basics

PURPOSE

The Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities Program is a consolidated application that batches grant, allotments, and in-kind support funding opportunities that support planning, instruction, talent, and innovation.

AWARDS

$400M in competitive grants, allotments and in-kind supports for Cycle 5. Individual award amounts vary by program.

ELIGIBILITY

Texas public school systems — independent school districts and open-enrollment charter schools. Eligibility criteria vary by individual program (see program profiles).

DEADLINE

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

CYCLE 5 OFFERS 21 DIFFERENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

GRANTS — COVERED HERE	ALLOTMENTS — NOT COVERED	IN-KIND SUPPORTS — NOT COVERED
Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT)	PREP Alternative	Early Literacy Intervention Tool (ELIT)
LIFT: School Improvement Accelerator (LIFTSI)	PREP Traditional Pre-service	Math Supplemental Curriculum (MSC) for School Improvement (SI)
School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG)	PREP Residency Preservice	Strategic Compensation Cohort for Enhanced TIA (SCC for ETIA)
Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (APCSP)	PREP Grow Your Own (GYO)	Virtual and Hybrid Program Accelerator (VHPA)
Texas Strategic Staffing (TSS) for Residencies Grant	PREP Mentorship	Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP)
Blended Learning Grant (BLG)		Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports (NEXT)
Additional Days School Year Planning and Execution Program (ADSY PEP)		
School Action Fund (SAF)		
Early College High School (ECHS)		
Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH)		

GUIDELINES PENDING

Superintendents will receive a unique application link via email to apply on Qualtrics. If you did not receive a unique link you will need to complete the application request form on the LASO program page.

START HERE

Which Program Fits You?

This page helps you triage before you dive into program profiles. Work through the prompts below — if none of them resonate, skip straight to the fallback note, since you likely belong in the "formula" group instead.

STEP 1 — WHAT KIND OF PROJECT ARE YOU PLANNING?

NARRATIVE INTERVIEW

We're planning a brand-new 9-12 Career and Technical Pathway program. → **ECHS or P-TECH**

INTERVIEW

We want to redesign staffing, scheduling, or a whole campus model — not just add a curriculum. → **BLG (Strategic Ops), SAF, or ADSY PEP**

INTERVIEW

We qualify for multiple turnaround/redesign grants and aren't sure which one fits our campus best. → **SAF (the required interview is specifically designed to sort this out)**

NONE OF THESE SOUND LIKE YOU?

You likely align with LIFT, SI CISG, LIFTSI, TSS, or APCSP — these are decided by eligibility data and formulas (STAAR rank, calendar days, hire counts, accountability ID), not by writing or an interview. Skip ahead: fill in the Shared Eligibility & Priority Factors worksheet (pages 6-7) first, then go straight to those programs' profiles — you can safely skip the narrative and interview prep sections in this workbook.

STEP 2 — WHERE DOES EACH PROGRAM'S WORKLOAD LIVE?

PROGRAM	DOCUMENTS	NARRATIVE	INTERVIEW
LIFT	X	—	—
LIFTSI	X	—	—
SI CISG	X	—	—
APCSP	X	—	—
TSS	X	—	—
BLG	X	—	X
ADSY PEP	X	—	X
SAF	X	—	X
ECHS	X	X	X
P-TECH	X	X	X

Conditional interviews (ECHS, P-TECH) only happen if funding demand exceeds supply, or your district is Board-of-Managers classified.

Shared Eligibility & Priority Factors

Fill in your basic organization information once below. Then, for each program specific factor, check whether any of the listed programs are ones you're applying to — if not, skip it. You don't need to answer every question, only the ones tied to programs on your list.

BASIC ORGANIZATION INFO

School District name

ESC Region

Current instructional calendar days (2026-27 school year)

% Economically disadvantaged (district-wide)

Applicant Primary Contact – Name, Title, Email

Superintendent – Name and Email

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC FACTORS — ANSWER ONLY IF APPLYING TO A LISTED PROGRAM

Programs LIFT, LIFT SI PLC, SI CISG, BLG, TSS, ADSY PEP, SAF: prioritize school systems implementing 165+ instructional days. If you are planning to provide 165 or more instructional days in 2027–28, state your additional planned calendar days here:

Programs LIFT, BLG, TSS, ADSY PEP, SAF, ECHS, P-TECH: give priority to school systems with a Commissioner-appointed Board of Managers, monitor, or conservator (or 5+ years of unacceptable accountability ratings). If this applies to your school system, describe here:

Programs LIFT, LIFT SI PLC, SI CISG, BLG, ADSY PEP, SAF: consider your current use of Bluebonnet Learning or another OER product. If your school system implements Bluebonnet or another OER product, list the product(s), subject(s), and grade band(s) here:

Programs LIFT, LIFT SI PLC, SI CISG, SAF: rank applicants by STAAR score (3rd grade RLA for K-5 RLA content, 3rd grade Math for K-5 Math content, or Algebra I for 6-8 Math content). If applying to any of these, list your relevant STAAR score(s) here:

Shared Eligibility & Priority Factors, continued

Continued from page 6 — same instructions: only answer a question below if you're applying to one of the programs it names.

Programs LIFT, LIFT SI PLC, SI CISG, SAF: give priority to school systems/campuses with a D or F accountability rating (2026-27) or a federal CSI/ATS/TSI identification. If this applies, list the qualifying campus(es) and rating/ID here:

Programs LIFT, BLG, APCSP, TSS, ADSY PEP: consider prior participation and fidelity of use in TEA initiatives (e.g., Strong Foundations, Texas Instructional Leadership, Texas Lesson Study, Blended Learning Grants). If your school system has participated in any of these, list which initiative(s), cycle(s), and fidelity/usage data here:

Programs BLG, APCSP, SAF, ECHS, P-TECH: use your economically disadvantaged student percentage in scoring, including upper-quartile thresholds for priority points. If applying to any of these, confirm your % (from page 6) or provide a campus-level breakdown here:

Programs LIFT, APCSP, ECHS, P-TECH: give priority to school systems classified by TEA as rural. If your school system is TEA-classified as rural, note it here (or indicate you still need to verify):

Programs ADSY PEP, SAF: award priority points to school systems with a TEA-approved and implemented Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) or Enhanced TIA (E-TIA) system. If your school system has an approved TIA/E-TIA system, note it here:

Programs ADSY PEP, SAF: consider Educator Preparation Program (EPP) partnerships. If your school system has an EPP partner (e.g., for teacher residencies), list the partner(s) here:

WHY THIS PAGE EXISTS

Most of these facts are reused across several program applications. Answering them once here — only for the factors tied to programs you're actually applying to — saves you from digging up the same data multiple times as you move through pages 8-26.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT)

AWARD DESCRIPTION

15-63 awards will be made. Awards will range between $365,000–$1,500,000.

DURATION

3 years

COST MATCH

None

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

TEA's flagship curriculum and leadership initiative, supports districts committing to a high-quality instructional material adoption or Bluebonnet Learning implementation. The program is structured to support school systems at various stages of implementation, providing capacitybuilding support and technical assistance to strengthen instructional practices in math or literacy.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- [ ] School systems not engaged in LASO 4 LIFT nor 2026-2027 Immediate HQIM and Instructional Systems Grant (HQIM Grant)
- [ ] Have Title I campuses with a 2026 federal accountability identification, including CSI, ATS, or TSI; Comprehensive Re-identified or Comprehensive Progress campuses are also eligible

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- Tier 1: School system not engaging in LASO 4 with UA2+ campus not currently participating in LIFT or the HQIM grant
- Tier 2: School System has an F-rated campus (2025-26) or a federally-identified CSI/ATS/TSI campus
- Tier 3: School system not engaging in LASO 4 or HQIM that have a federally identified campus for school improvement (CSI, ATS, or TSI)
- The lowest applicable district STAAR score will be used
- School systems wiht a full feeder pattern will be prioritized.

PREP TIP

This is the anchor investment for most district LASO strategies — identify your tier honestly using the worksheet on page 6 before drafting anything else.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION · LIFT ADD-ON

LIFT: School Improvement Accelerator (LIFT SI A)

AWARD AMOUNT
200-350 awards will be made. Award will range between $60,000 - $90,000.

DURATION
1 year

COST MATCH
None

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

Adds PLC facilitation, coaching, and observation/feedback cycles for Title I campuses identified for school improvement, layered on top of core LIFT supports for districts that hold both grants.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- [ ] Campus is Title I served with a 2026 federal ID: CSI, TSI, or ATS (Comprehensive 2nd-year re-ID or Progress also counts)
- [ ] Campus remains in operation and Title I-served for 2027-28 school year
- [ ] May apply alongside LIFT, but if both are awarded, the same Approved Provider must serve both grants

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- Tier 1: 2026 Comprehensive / Reidentified / Progress campuses
- Tier 2: 2026 ATS campuses ·
- Tier 3: 2026 TSI campuses

Within tiers: ranked lowest → highest product-aligned STAAR score

PREP TIP

Shares nearly identical eligibility with SI CISG — if a campus qualifies for one, check whether it also qualifies for the other.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

School Improvement Curriculum & Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG)

AWARD DESCRIPTION

30-45 awards will be made. The average award size will be $200,000 per award

DURATION

1 year

COST MATCH

None

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

Supports Title I campuses in School Improvement that are strengthening curriculum and instruction by implementing non-Bluebonnet, SBOE-approved high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) in math or RLA — or improving curriculum in grade levels/subjects where no SBOE-approved list exists.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- [ ] Campus is Title I served with a 2025 federal ID: CSI, ATS, or TSI (Comprehensive 2nd-year re-ID or Progress also counts)
- [ ] Campus will remain in operation and Title I-served through 2026-27
- [ ] Implementing an SBOE-approved HQIM (math/RLA) that is NOT part of the Bluebonnet suite, OR improving C&I in a grade/subject with no SBOE-approved list (6-12 ELAR; 9-12 Math excl. Algebra I/II & Geometry; K-12 Science/Social Studies)
- [ ] Not required to be a LIFT grantee
- [ ] Districts implementing Bluebonnet for that subject/grade band are excluded from applying for it here

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- Tier 1: 2026 Comprehensive / Reidentified / Progress campuses
- Tier 2: 2026 ATS campuses
- Tier 3: TSI campuses
- Within each tier: ranked lowest → highest campus STAAR score
- Systems with >165 days, or moving to >165 days, will be prioritized.

PREP TIP

Since there's no essay to write, spend your prep time confirming your accountability ID, STAAR scores, and calendar/feeder-pattern status — that data determines your placement, not your narrative.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

AP Computer Science Principles (APCSP)

AWARD AMOUNT
40- 50 awards will be made. Awards will range between $10,000 to $50,000

DURATION
1 year

COST MATCH
None

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

Funds course materials, teacher training, and AP exam costs for districts building or expanding an AP Computer Science Principles course.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- [ ] Open to all Texas schools that serve students in grades 9-12.

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- Tiered New to AP, then New to AP CSP, then everyone else. Within tiers, priority points are rural (10), teacher training (8), AP CSP sections (7) and program expansion (7), for 32 total

PREP TIP

Put your prep time into documenting your course-expansion plan and teacher-training need clearly.

STRATEGIC TALENT SYSTEMS

Texas Strategic Staffing (TSS) for Residencies Grant

AWARD AMOUNT
40-50 awards will be made. The average award size will be $58,400 per award.

DURATION
2 years

COST MATCH
None

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

Supports districts improving teacher pipelines through paid residency partnerships with Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs), redesigning master schedules to maximize instruction.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- [ ] Signed EPP Verification form from each EPP partner with an SBEC-approved Teacher Residency Preparation Route
- [ ] Must be a LASO 4 PREP Residency Pre-service awardee or apply for LASO 5 PREP Residency Pre-service .
- [ ] Recipients of P2L (any year), the LASO 4 2026-28 TSS grant and the 2025-27 TSS grant are excluded.

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- Tier 1 (up to 30 awards): highest (more than 40) new-hire counts, with no prior teaching experience
- Tier 2 (up to 20 awards): Systems classified rural in any of 2022-23 through 2024-25.
- Tier 3: all remaining, ranked by new-hire count

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- [ ] EPP Verification Form (required)

PREP TIP

Pull your documented new-teacher-hire count first — it drives almost the entire selection process here, and estimates won't hold up under review.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Blended Learning Grant (BLG) 1 of 3

INTERVIEW

AWARD AMOUNT	DURATION	COST MATCH
20 awards will be made. Awards will range between $76,000 to $198,000	3 years	None

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

Two distinct cohorts — chosen at application time and not changeable afterward: a Coherent cohort implementing technology for targeted math/RLA instruction and digital supplemental products, and a Strategic Operations cohort redesigning staffing models or scheduling approaches.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- [ ] **Coherent Systems:** Prior LASO 4 LIFT, LASO 3SFI, or LASO 2 SFI Grant experience.
- [ ] **Strategic Operations Cohort:** prior TEA Blended Learning grantee (Math Innovation Zones, BLG, or SAF Redesign-Blended Learning) AND high usage of an approved K-8 supplemental product as of spring 2026

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- Coherent System Cohort: ranked by TEA HQIM initiative participation (LASO2 SFI > LASO3 SFI > LASO1 SFI), then Board of Managers status, 165+ day calendar, and econ.-disadvantaged %
- Strategic Ops Cohort: minimum 30 priority points just to be ranked, then a scored virtual oral interview (strategy alignment, understanding of the shift, existing practices, leadership/board support, awareness of challenges)
- Strategic Ops priority points: , % of K-8 students in supplemental product (up to 15 pts), fidelity of usage (up to 30 pts)

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- [ ] **Strategic Cohort:** Software Usage Scoring Attachment for Spring 2026
- [ ] Both cohorts must designate a school-system-level project manager (≥50% time) and a campus-level lead; Strategic Ops also requires a cross-departmental steering committee including Finance

GOOD TO KNOW

The application locks you into one cohort per submission — confirm eligibility for the correct one before starting.

Blended Learning Grant (BLG) 2 of 3

PARTICIPATION AND ENROLLMENT DATA

Number of K-5 campuses applying in district

Number of students participating in blended learning program

Number of 6-8 campuses applying in district

Tier 1 curriculum product name(s)

Are you interested in implementing Math or Reading Language Arts?

Supplemental product name(s)

Total K-8 student enrollment in the district

PREP TIP

Both cohorts must choose a specific blended model, integrating a tier one curriculum with a digital supplemental product. See interview prep on the next page if pursuing Strategic Operations.

Blended Learning Grant (BLG) 3 of 3 — Interview Prep

Applies to the Strategic Operations Cohort ONLY (the Academic cohort has no interview). Finalists complete a virtual oral interview with TEA; a minimum of 20 possible points is required to be ranked and awarded. The interview assesses your readiness for a large-scale operational shift — need, leadership buy-in, and understanding of what the shift requires.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Superintendent or Superintendent delegate
- Proposed grant Project Manager
- Senior district leader directly responsible for overseeing curriculum & instruction for the selected campus(es)
- Campus-level leader(s) directly responsible for overseeing implementation of the blended model for the selected campus(es)

INTERVIEW PROMPTS — DRAFT YOUR ANSWERS BELOW

Explain how Strategic Operations-BLG aligns with your district's overall strategy for school improvement, and describe your existing practices and policies that support project implementation.

Explain your understanding of the operational shift this grant requires, your planning activities to date, and the challenges you anticipate implementing it (with mitigation strategies).

Describe the support you have secured from district leadership and the school board for this shift.

Describe your plan for engaging technical assistance organizations to support implementation.

MORE TIME

Additional Days School Year PEP (ADSY PEP) 1 of 3

INTERVIEW

AWARD AMOUNT	DURATION	COST MATCH
Summer: $100K/$66K/$33K (Yr 1-3) · Full Year: $250K/$200K/$150K (Yr 1-3) · 6-8 Expansion: flat $125K or $250K (2 yrs)	2-3 years	None

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

Provides planning and technical assistance to districts qualifying for the Additional Days School Year incentive under TEC §48.0051, supporting either the ADSY Full Year or ADSY Summer model.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- [ ] Application requires choosing ONE pathway (New PK-5 vs. 6-8 Expansion) and ONE cohort (Summer vs. Full Year) up front — confirm your status before starting
- [ ] **If New PK-5:** campus not previously drawing ADSY funds, 175-day calendar (75,600 minutes) or board-approved plan to reach it by 2026-27, IMRA-approved Tier 1 product
- [ ] **If 6-8 Expansion:** prior ADSY PEP participant, same calendar and IMRA product requirements
- [ ] Must add at least 25 Additional Days beyond the 175-day base calendar, maintained for the full grant duration
- [ ] No published eligibility list — self-certify against the criteria

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- 3 calendar-day tiers (175+ / 170-174 / 167-169), ranked within tier
- Minimum 60 priority points required just to be ranked
- Points: Instructional Foundation (Bluebonnet 15 / other IMRA 10 / prior SFI 30), Calendar (up to 30), Other Agency Overlap — Resource Campus, BOM, EPP, TIA (up to 20), plus an interview-scored Strategic Priority component (up to 30)
- 5 categories compete for fixed slot shares: Summer PK-5 (~57%), Summer 6-8 (~14%), Full Year PK-5 (~9%), Full Year 6-8 (~9%), dual-model (~11%)

Additional Days School Year PEP (ADSY PEP) 2 of 3

APPLICATION DETAILS

ADSY pathway: New PK-5 or 6-8 Expansion?

ADSY cohort: Summer or Full Year?

Campus(es) applying (up to 3)

Current instructional calendar days (2025-26)

Math Tier 1 instructional material name

RLA Tier 1 instructional material name

EPP partnership in place? (Y/N — partner name)

On TEA's Resource Campus Eligibility List? (Y/N)

ATTACH

Board-Approved 2025-2026 School Year Calendar (must show 175+ days / 75,600 minutes for the campuses applying).

PREP TIP

Note that the Year 1 award is the figure to budget against — Years 2-3 continuation funding is smaller and contingent on satisfactory performance in the prior year. See interview prep on the next page.

Additional Days School Year PEP (ADSY PEP) 3 of 3 — Interview Prep

The top 45 highest-scoring applicants (across ADSY PEP models and grade-level groups) are invited to a ~25 minute virtual interview, Dec 2025-Jan 2026. Max 30 pts; minimum 20 pts required to be considered.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Superintendent (or delegate)
- Grant Project Manager
- Chief Financial Officer
- Senior district leadership overseeing the selected campus(es)

INTERVIEW PROMPTS — DRAFT YOUR ANSWERS BELOW

Describe your school board and stakeholders' commitment to maintaining the ADSY-eligible calendar.

Describe your understanding of the ADSY PEP grant requirements and how participation aligns with your school system's strategic priorities.

Describe your academic strategy (including your IMRA-approved Tier 1 HQIM plan for Math/RLA and instructional leadership), your organizational capacity (Project Manager, training plans), and your sustainability strategy beyond the grant period.

INNOVATIVE SCHOOL MODELS

School Action Fund (SAF) 1 of 2

INTERVIEW

AWARD AMOUNT	DURATION	COST MATCH
$150,000–$350,000 typical award (varies by action: Create, Reassign, or Restart)	2-3 years	None

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

Funds whole-school strategies — restarting an existing campus, creating a new school model, or reassigning students — to increase access to high-quality schools for students in chronically underperforming campuses.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- ☐ Title I-serving schoolwide by 9/15/25, CSI/TSI/ATS-identified per 2024-25 ratings (or new schools with clear Title I intent for 2027-28)
- ☐ **Create New / Restart:** campus has NOT received any SAF grant (incl. TCLAS Decision 10) since 2019-20
- ☐ **Reassign:** prior SAF/TCLAS grantees ARE eligible to reapply

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Superintendent (or designee)
- Chief Financial Officer
- SAF grant Project Manager
- Senior district leader responsible for overseeing the selected campus(es)
- Campus-level leader (if identified)

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- Priority points: low academic achievement (5), Board of Managers (5), econ.-disadvantaged >80% (10), TIA/E-TIA system (5), prior SFI + Bluebonnet math & reading, ADSY calendar adoption (5), Office of Innovation/Transformation (5), 165+ day calendar (5)
- Top-scoring campuses by priority points advance to a required virtual interview, which determines final awards

INTERVIEW WEIGHTING

All finalists (top 50 campuses by priority points) attend a required virtual interview — 100 of the 150 total review points come from it. If your campus also qualifies for other C&I grants, this interview also decides the best-fit grant.

School Action Fund (SAF) 2 of 2 — Interview Prep

INTERVIEW PROMPTS — DRAFT YOUR ANSWERS BELOW (100 PTS)

Describe the process and criteria your district used to select this school action and the campus leader.

Explain how this school action aligns with your district's overall school improvement strategy. Describe your existing practices and policies (HR/Talent, Finance/Budget, Curriculum & Instruction) that support this action's planning and implementation.

Describe the support you've secured from your Board of Trustees and district leadership (HR/Talent, Finance/Budget, Curriculum & Instruction) for this action.

What implementation challenges do you anticipate, how will you mitigate them, and what is your plan for engaging technical assistance organizations?

INNOVATIVE SCHOOL MODELS

Early College High School (ECHS) 1 of 3

NARRATIVE INTERVIEW

AWARD AMOUNT	DURATION	COST MATCH
Up to $100,000	2 years	20% cost share/match required

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

Open-enrollment program that blends college and high school coursework, enabling students to earn up to two years (60 hours) of tuition-free college credit through a required IHE partnership.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- [ ] NEW applicants serving grades 9-12, or beginning with grade 9 (or 9-10) in 2027-28 and scaling one grade level per year
- [ ] Must secure and maintain an IHE partnership (dual credit) and a business/industry partner (work-based learning)

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- Scored entirely on narrative responses (no published point breakdown)
- Priority points: Rural (1), upper-quartile at-risk (1), upper-quartile econ.-disadvantaged (1), BOM (1), enrollment <10,000 (2), 25%+ grads meeting CCMR dual-credit criteria (2)
- BOM districts may be invited to a readiness interview

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS & NARRATIVE PREP

- [ ] IHE Partner Letter of Support
- [ ] Course of study / crosswalk. Refer to the ECHS Blueprint

PREP TIP

Start the IHE letter of support and industry MOU conversations now — those external dependencies are usually the real bottleneck, not your own writing speed.

NARRATIVE RESPONSES — DRAFT YOUR ANSWERS BELOW

List one motivation, one challenge, and one opportunity the project will provide for the community (300 words max).

Outline three key strategies for the future recruitment and enrollment process that meet the ECHS open enrollment requirements (300 words max).

Early College High School (ECHS) 2 of 3

NARRATIVE RESPONSES, CONTINUED

How will students earning a postsecondary credential help meet the local economic needs in the ECHS academic plan (300 words max).

Describe three academic-support activities that will be offered to future student populations that will be participating in this program.

Describe how the district will work with an IHE as it relates to funding, instructional materials, transportation costs, joint professional development, and data sharing, and access to student data (300 words max).

Describe the sustainability measures implemented at your campus beforehand to address and mitigate the challenges of leadership changes, staff turnover, and potential future funding fluctuations (300 words).

Early College High School (ECHS) 3 of 3 — Interview Prep

NOT guaranteed — only happens if funding requests exceed available funds (70%+ scorers), or if your district is TEA-classified as a Board of Managers (BOM) district. No fixed TEA attendee list is published.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Superintendent (or delegate)
- Project Manager
- IHE partnership liaison
- Campus principal (if identified)

IF INVITED, EXPECT TO DISCUSS — DRAFT YOUR ANSWERS BELOW

Elaborate on your planned partnership with your IHE partner (scope, dual-credit hours, course sequence), and summarize your plan for supporting all enrolled students, including recruitment and academic support.

What evidence demonstrates your district's readiness to launch a new ECHS program, and what questions do you anticipate from TEA about that readiness?

Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) 1 of 3

NARRATIVE INTERVIEW

AWARD AMOUNT	DURATION	COST MATCH
Up to $100,000	2 years	20% cost share/match required

WHAT THIS GRANT FUNDS

Open-enrollment program that blends college and high school coursework, enabling students to earn up to two years (60 hours) of tuition-free college credit through a required IHE partnership.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- [ ] NEW applicants serving grades 9-12, or beginning with grade 9 (or 9-10) in 2027-28, scaling one grade level per year
- [ ] Current P-TECH planning, provisional, or designated campuses are NOT eligible
- [ ] Recipients of any previous P-TECH or LASO P-TECH grant are NOT eligible
- [ ] Campuses with CCRSM Needs Improvement status are NOT eligible
- [ ] Must secure an IHE dual-credit partner and a formal MOU with a regional business/industry partner

PRIORITY / SCORING FACTORS

- 50 pts across 4 scored narrative categories (stakeholder decision-making/sustainability 15; partnership agreements 5; CTE program/crosswalk 10; postsecondary credential fit 10; recruitment/support 10)
- Must reach 70% of points before priority points count
- Priority points: not in CCRSM Network (1), rural (1), at-risk upper quartile (1), econ.-disadv. upper quartile (1), BOM (1), enrollment <10,000 (2), 25%+ grads with an IBC (2)
- If demand exceeds funding, applicants at 70%+ combined score are invited to a virtual oral interview

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS & NARRATIVE PREP

- [ ] IHE Partner Letter of Support
- [ ] MOU with Regional Industry Partner
- [ ] Course of study / crosswalk. Refer to the P-TECH Blueprint

PREP TIP

Start the IHE letter of support and industry MOU conversations now — those external dependencies are usually the real bottleneck, not your own writing speed.

Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) 2 of 3

NARRATIVE RESPONSES — DRAFT YOUR ANSWERS BELOW

List one motivation, one challenge, and one opportunity the project will provide for the community (300 words max).

Outline three key strategies for the future recruitment and enrollment process that meet the P-TECH open enrollment requirements (300 words max).

How will students earning a postsecondary credential help meet the local economic needs in the P-TECH academic plan (300 words max).

Describe three academic-support activities that will be offered to future student populations that will be participating in this program.

Describe how the district will work with an IHE as it relates to funding, instructional materials, transportation costs, joint professional development, and data sharing, and access to student data (300 words max).

Describe the sustainability measures implemented at your campus beforehand to address and mitigate the challenges of leadership changes, staff turnover, and potential future funding fluctuations (300 words).

Describe how the partnership with the regional industry partner will meet the needs of the program. Refer to the P-TECH Blueprint

Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) 3 of 3 — Interview Prep

NOT guaranteed — only happens if funding requests exceed available funds (70%+ scorers), or if your district is TEA-classified as a Board of Managers (BOM) district. No fixed TEA attendee list is published.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Superintendent (or delegate)
- Project Manager / CTE director
- IHE liaison
- Industry partner liaison

IF INVITED, EXPECT TO DISCUSS — DRAFT YOUR ANSWERS BELOW

Elaborate on your planned partnership with your IHE partner (scope, courses, credit pathway), and summarize your industry/business partnership, including how it supports your CTE pathway and postsecondary credential goals.

What evidence demonstrates your district's readiness to launch a new P-TECH program, and what questions do you anticipate from TEA about that readiness?

BEFORE YOU SUBMIT

Standing TEA Requirements Across LASO Programs

These requirements recurred across the Cycle 4 program guidelines we reviewed, independent of which of the 10 programs you're applying to. They are not exhaustive of every requirement — always check each program's current Program Guidelines — but they're worth confirming before you submit anything.

STANDARD ASSURANCES

- Funds supplement, not supplant, state/local funding
- No FERPA-protected information in the application
- Compliance with ESSA Provisions and Assurances
- Electronic Information Resources meet WCAG 2.0 AA / TAC 206 / TAC 213 / Section 508
- Fingerprinting required for any person offered employment by a grantee/subgrantee (TEC §22.0834)
- Current contact information maintained in AskTED
- Regular (monthly preferred, quarterly minimum) expenditure reporting
- Equal Treatment / Biological Sex clauses under current TEA program guidelines (verify current wording each cycle)

APPLICATION MECHANICS

- Applications submitted via Qualtrics using a unique link emailed to the superintendent
- One application per school system — if more than one is submitted, only the most recently timestamped version is accepted
- 60-day completion window each cycle (Cycle 5: opens September 23 and closes December 1, 2026, 5:00 PM CT)
- Superintendent's signature required to accept the application
- Application links, ESC region, and school system/campus selections generally cannot be changed after submission starts — a retake link is required to revise
- Programs with multiple tracks/cohorts (e.g., BLG, ADSY PEP) require selecting one at the start — confirm the right one before you begin
- Attachments: 10MB max, Google Chrome only, no spaces/special characters in file names, valid extensions only
- Declines and change requests are considered case-by-case and can affect a district's federal risk rating

CYCLE TIMELINE

General webinars in mid-September → application opens September 23 → program-specific webinars October and November → FAQ published early November → application deadline December 1 → review/interviews December-January → award announcement early February → eGrants setup February-April → grant period begins March 2.

ABOUT US

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Identify best-fit grants for upcoming projects and provide next steps.

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Advise on project development and material gathering with a particular grant in mind.

Grant Proposal Writing & Review
Write a competitive and engaging proposal or provide feedback on application materials, ensuring compliance with submission requirements.

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