

# Welcome

Welcome to the Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) 25-26 Cycle 4 application.

This consolidated application streamlines school system's access to grant funding, allotments, and in-kind supports and services across 15 opportunities.

## Introduction

This application includes 15 initiatives available for school systems to apply for in LASO Cycle 4.

To ensure an informed selection, please follow these steps:

- **Review Program Guidelines:** Examine the program guidelines and resources for each initiative to understand its purpose, eligibility requirements, and assurances.
- **Engage Internal Teams:** Consult with key stakeholders (e.g., board, superintendent, district leaders, campus leaders etc.) to determine which initiatives best align with your school system's needs and capacity.
- **Select Initiatives:** Identify the initiatives that best support your local priorities.
- **Complete the Application:** Submit responses only for the initiatives your school system chooses to apply for.

Review each initiative by clicking the links to its program guidelines below:

### Curriculum & Instruction Serving Grants

- [Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas \(LIFT\)](#)
  - *LIFT merges programs formerly known as Strong Foundations- SF, Texas Instructional Leadership- TIL, and Texas Lesson Study- TXLS*
- [LIFT Add-On: School Improvement PLC Support \(LIFT SI PLC\)](#)
  - *(available only for Title I Comprehensive, Targeted, and Addtl Targeted)*
- [School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant \(SI CISG\)](#)
  - *(available only for Title I Comprehensive, Targeted, and Addtl Targeted)*
- [Blended Learning Grant \(BLG\)](#)
  - *Two Cohorts: Academic – Math or RLA cohort and Strategic Operations Cohort*
- [AP Computer Science Principles \(APCSP\)](#)

### Education and Training

- [PREP Program Allotment](#)
  - [PREP Residency Preservice Program](#)
  - [PREP Grow Your Own \(GYO\) Program](#)
  - [PREP Mentorship Program](#)
- [Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies \(TSS\) Grant](#)

### More Time

- [Additional Days School Year Planning & Execution Program \(ADSY PEP\)](#)
  - *Two Cohorts: Full Year Redesign and Summer Learning*

### Innovative School Models - Launch Grants

- [School Action Fund \(SAF\)](#)
- [Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports \(NEXT\)](#)
- [Early College High School \(ECHS\)](#)
- [Pathways in Technology Early College High School \(P-TECH\)](#)
- [Virtual and Hybrid Program Accelerator \(VHPA\)](#)

## Additional Resources and Considerations

### Additional Resources

- [Initiative One-Pagers](#): Provides school systems with a concise summary of each initiative in LASO Cycle 4.
- [Eligibility & Prioritization Matrix](#): Provides eligibility and prioritization criteria that will enable a school system to predict the likelihood of receiving an award.
- [Initiative Selection Tool](#): Provides a Scenario map to guide selection of the right fitting initiative based on need.
- [Role and Responsibilities Insight Tool](#): Identifies the types of responsibilities for each role and show where roles overlap across initiatives.

### Key Considerations for Submission

- Each school system may submit only one application. If multiple applications are submitted, only the most recent submission (based on timestamp) will be accepted.
- The application must be signed by the superintendent to be considered formally submitted. Only signed applications will be scored and considered for award. If the superintendent is unavailable to sign by the deadline, email [LASO@texas.tea.gov](mailto:LASO@texas.tea.gov) for guidance.
- School systems have 60 days to complete the application. The application opens on October 3, 2025, and must be submitted by December 3, 2025, at 5:00 PM CT.

## Overview

### General School System Information

Select the ESC region that serves the school system.

ESC Region:	ESC 13: Austin
School System:	AUSTIN ISD-(227901)

### School System Contact Information

Enter the contact information for the employee who is completing this application.

*Note: There may be multiple roles at the school system completing different sections of this application - this entry is for the primary contact.*

School System Employee Name:	Laura Feldman
School System Employee Title:	Administrative Supervisor Resource Development
School System Employee Email:	<a href="mailto:laura.feldman@austinisd.org">laura.feldman@austinisd.org</a>

### Superintendent Contact Information

Enter the school system superintendent's contact information.

Superintendent Name:	Matias Segura
Superintendent Email:	<a href="mailto:superintendent@austinisd.org">superintendent@austinisd.org</a>

### School System Calendar

For the 2026–27 school year, select the option that best describes your school system’s instructional calendar:

- 165 or more instructional days
- Fewer than 165 instructional days
- Fewer than 165 instructional days in 2026–27, but planning to transition to 165 or more days in a future year

### LASO Cycle 4 Assurances

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Commit to all assurances associated with the initiatives they intend to apply for.  
*Failure to agree to these assurances may prevent the school system from completing the application or being considered for awards.*

- Ensure the superintendent approves participation in all selected initiatives.

*If assurances are not met or the school system disengages from the supports/initiatives provided, TEA may impose conditions on the award, including terminating participation or reducing awarded funds.*

- Meet the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#).

The school system certifies its commitment to all assurances listed above?

- Yes  
 No

## Initiative Selection

Below is the list of initiatives available in LASO Cycle 4. Review the [program guidelines](#) and [one-pagers](#) with key information for each initiative. Then select the set of initiatives that best meet your school system's local needs and priorities.

### Curriculum & Instruction Grants

- Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT)
- LIFT Add-On: School Improvement PLC Support (LIFT SI PLC)
- School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG)
- Blended Learning Grant (BLG)
- Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (APCSP)

### Education & Training Allotments and Grant

- PREP Residency Preservice Program
- PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program
- PREP Mentorship Program
- Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies (TSS) Grant

### More Time Grants

- Additional Days School Year Planning & Execution Program (ADSY PEP) Grant

### Innovative School Models - Launch Grants

- School Action Fund (SAF)
- Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports (NEXT)
- Early College High School (ECHS)
- Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH)
- Virtual and Hybrid Program Accelerator (VHPA)

## School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG)

### Initiative Description:

This grant provides direct funds to school systems to support the implementation of State Board of Education (SBOE)-approved high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) that are not part of the Bluebonnet Learning suite. The goal is to ensure that campuses in School Improvement have access to rigorous, TEKS-aligned instructional materials that support high-quality instruction.

Review the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed below and indicate the school system's acceptance.

### Eligibility Criteria:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Campuses the school system are submitting for consideration are federally identified and Title-I serving.
- Seeking support for implementing SBOE approved instructional materials that are not Bluebonnet Learning products.

### Initiative Assurances:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Secure approval from the Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer (or equivalent leader) to participate in the program.
- Implement a State Board of Education (SBOE)-approved high-quality instructional material (HQIM) that is not part of the Bluebonnet Learning suite, in alignment with TEA guidance and the goals of the grant program OR implement curriculum and instruction improvements in grades 6–12 English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR) and grades 9–12 Mathematics (excluding Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry).
- Contract with a single Approved Provider from the LASO Cycle 4 State Approved Provider list.
- Submit Approved Provider contracts and required funding summary reports to TEA.
- Appoint a designated lead as the primary point of contact and identify at least two additional contacts.
- Participate in required TEA-led activities, including a grant kick-off.

1. Does the school system agree to meet the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed above?

- Yes  
 No

## School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG) (cont.)

### Campus Selection for the School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support (SI CISG) Grant

Select the 2025 Federally Identified and Title-I serving campus(es) that will be implementing the School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG).

*Note: This list contains all campuses in your district (that may or may not be Federally Identified and Title-I serving).*

BURNET MIDDLE-(227901046)  
DOBIE MIDDLE-(227901055)  
GENERAL MARSHALL MIDDLE-(227901063)  
PAREDES MIDDLE-(227901061)  
SADLER MEANS YWLA-(227901065)  
WEBB MIDDLE-(227901053)

## School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG) (cont.)

### Initiative Specific Questions for the School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support (SI CISG) Grant

1. Does the school system acknowledge that this grant will support curriculum and instruction initiatives that do not involve the implementation of Bluebonnet Learning products?

- Yes  
 No

2. Enter contact information for your school system's primary point of contact for the SI CISG grant.

Name:

Email:

Phone:

3. Enter contact information for your school system's secondary points of contact for the SI CISG grant.

Name:	Angel Wilson
Email:	angel.wilson@austinisd.org
Phone:	512-414-1700

Name:	Dr LaTonia Amerson
Email:	latonia.amerson@austinisd.org
Phone:	512-414-1700

## Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (APCSP)

### Initiative Description:

The APCSP Grant program is designed to meet workforce demands and provide valuable student pathways to high-wage and in-demand careers. According to the College Board, students who took an APCSP course were twice as likely to continue along a computer science pathway. Students who took an APCSP course in high school were three times more likely to major in computer science in college, with this data being consistent across various demographics. With the LASO 4 APCSP Grant funds, Texas public schools can begin to build, expand, and sustain a computer science pathway.

Review the Eligibility Criteria, Initiative Assurances, and Initiative Requirements listed below and indicate the school system's acceptance.

### Eligibility Criteria:

- All Texas school systems are eligible.

### Initiative Assurances:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Contract with an Approved Provider from the LASO Cycle 4 Approved Provider List for curriculum and training.
- Adhere to all Statutory and TEA Program Requirements and Assurances as noted in the 2025-2026 APCSP Grant Program Guidelines.
- Adhere to all APCSP Grant performance measures as noted in the 2025-2026 APCSP Grant Program Guidelines.
- Use grant funds only for APCSP classroom supplies and technology, teacher training, and directly related expenses for implementing an APCSP course.
- Administer the APCSP exam to district-enrolled students participating in the APCSP course, at no cost to the student.

### Initiative Requirements:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Complete the necessary district process to obtain school board approval to include the APCSP course in the district's course catalog for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Provide the APCSP course exam to enrolled students free of charge.
- Provide the technology, equipment and any additional resources required for a successfully functioning APCSP course.
- Publicize the APCSP course offering to relevant stakeholders, high school students and their parents/guardians.
- Recruit, onboard, and arrange for professional development for certified teachers to teach the APCSP course.
- Provide a description of how the funds will be used, if awarded.
- Continue providing the current level or increase the number of APCSP course opportunities.
- Provide the number of district campuses that will offer the APCSP grant opportunity and the number of teachers to be trained.
- Provide the necessary student support structures to prepare enrolled students to score 3 or higher on the APCSP exam.

1. Does the school system agree to meet the Eligibility Criteria, Initiative Assurances, and Initiative Requirements listed above?

- Yes  
 No

## Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (APCSP) (cont.)

### Initiative Specific Questions for the Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (APCSP) Grant.

1. If this grant is awarded, briefly describe how the school system plans to use the funds provided with this grant.

Funds will be utilized to cover APCSP student's exam fees in addition to professional development and training for 6 teachers.

2. Does the school system currently offer College Board Advanced Placement courses for student enrollment?

- Yes
- No

3. Does the school system currently offer an APCSP course on one or more campuses?

- Yes
- No

4. Has the school system participated in any other APCSP grant opportunities?

- Yes
- No

5. If awarded, how many of the school system's campuses will offer the APCSP course? (Min: 1, Max: Not to exceed the number of available campuses)

6

6. If awarded, how many teachers will be trained during the summer of 2026 to teach one or more sections of the APCSP course in fall 2026?

6

7. Enter contact information for the school system's primary point of contact for the APCSP grant

Name:	Dr Elizabeth Severance
Title:	Director of Advanced Academics
Email:	elizabeth.severance@austinisd.org
Phone:	512-414-1700

## PREP Residency Preservice Program Allotment

### Allotment Opportunity:

The PREP Residency Preservice Program empowers school systems to play a central role in cultivating a pipeline of well-prepared, highly qualified teachers by embedding paid preservice teacher residency candidates directly into classrooms of highly qualified host teachers. Through close collaboration with educator preparation programs, participating school systems support teacher residents in earning an enhanced standard teaching certificate while gaining hands-on experience on campuses across the school system. By expanding the reach and effectiveness of residency models, the PREP Residency Preservice Program enhances instructional capacity and increases student access to skilled educators—ultimately advancing educational outcomes.

1. Does the school system wish to be considered for this Allotment Opportunity?

- Yes
- No

# PREP Residency Preservice Program Allotment

## Initiative Description:

The PREP Residency Preservice Program empowers school systems to play a central role in cultivating a pipeline of well-prepared, highly qualified teachers by embedding paid preservice teacher residency candidates directly into classrooms of highly qualified host teachers. Through close collaboration with educator preparation programs, participating school systems support teacher residents in earning an enhanced standard teaching certificate while gaining hands-on experience in school systems schools. By expanding the reach and effectiveness of residency models, the PREP Residency Preservice Program enhances instructional capacity and increases student access to skilled educators—ultimately advancing educational outcomes.

Review the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed below and indicate the school system's acceptance.

## Eligibility Criteria:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Any school system, which includes open-enrollment charter schools, and SB 1882 Operating Partners who read and agree to the requirements in relevant sections of the Texas Education and Texas Administrative codes cited in these guidelines is eligible for the PREP Allotment.
- School systems who are partnered with an Educator Preparation Program (EPP) approved by the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) to offer the teacher residency route must have formal written partnership agreement(s) with the EPP(s). School systems will have residents for SY 26-27.

## Initiative Assurances:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Read and abide by TEC §21.902 (PREP Preservice Program).
- Read and abide by TEC §21.904 (PREP Residency Preservice Program).
- Read and abide by TEC §48.157 (PREP Program Allotment).
- Read and abide by TAC related to the PREP Residency Preservice Program, which will be posted in the Texas Register for public comment during the 2025-26 school year and become effective prior to the start of the 2026-27 school year.

*Note: TEA anticipates sharing specific dates related to rulemaking in Fall 2025.*

For more details regarding Texas Education Code TEC §21.904 (PREP Residency Preservice Program) and TEC §§21.902, 48.157 see: [PREP RESIDENCY LASO 4 Pop Out Document](#).

- Appoint a representative to engage in all required PREP Allotment & PREP Residency Preservice Program communications.
- Have a written agreement with an educator preparation program for PREP Residency Preservice Program implementation by the 2026-2027 school year.

1. Does the school system agree to meet the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed above?

- Yes  
 No

# PREP Residency Preservice Program Allotment (cont.)

## Initiative Specific Questions for the PREP Residency Preservice Program Allotment

1. How many teacher residents does the school system anticipate participating during SY 2026-27?

*(Min: 1, Max: 40 as per TEC §48.157 PREP Program Allotment)*

20

2. Enter the contact information for the school systems representative appointed as the primary point of contact for all PREP Residency Preservice Program-related activities.

Name:	Dr Ericka Jones
Title:	Coordinator Recruitment and Employee Retention
Email:	ericka.jones@austinisd.org

Phone:

3. Enter the contact information for an additional point of contact for all PREP Residency Preservice Program-related activities.

Name:   
Title:   
Email:   
Phone:

4. Who are the school system's currently established EPP partner(s) with an SBEC-approved Texas Teacher Residency Preparation Route Educator Preparation Program (TTRPR)?

*Note: When Educator Preparation Programs are approved for the Texas Teacher Residency Preparation Program (TTRPR), they attest in their application and through the amendment process their school system partnerships.*

5. Select the SBEC approved residency program partnership which the school system is currently working to finalize.

*Note: The school system must submit a formal written partnership agreement in the spring as part of the process to verify acceptance of the award.*

6. Enter the contact information for the Educator Preparation Program point of contact for the PREP Residency Preservice program.

Name:   
Title:   
Email:   
Phone:

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The applicant must agree to train its resident cooperating teachers via the Texas Mentorship Training.

TEA anticipates proposing rule to further defining cooperating teachers for the purpose of PREP Residency Preservice Program by adopting the definition of host teacher currently in TAC §228.95.

### Roles

- **Resident Cooperating (Host) Teacher:** For the PREP Preservice Residency Program, statute defines a cooperating teacher as a classroom teacher who is a school system employee; has at least three full school years of teaching experience with a superior record of assisting students in achieving improvement in student performance; and is paired with one or more teacher candidates (new TEC §21.902).
- **PREP Mentorship Training Requirements:** Summer 2026, Fall 2026, Winter 2026-27 and Spring 2027 (24-30 total hours)

School systems must self-report the estimated number of resident cooperating teachers that would attend training for SY 2026-27.

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7. How many host teachers does the school system estimate will attend the training? (*Min: 1, Max: 40*).

*Note: This should correlate to the anticipated number of residents the school system will have in SY 2026-27.*

## PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program Allotment

### Allotment Opportunity:

Review the program descriptions for both PREP GYO and PREP Residency Preservice Program and choose your answer below:

*Note: Per TEC §21.906(c), school systems may participate in the PREP GYO Program only if they have been approved to participate in a partnership preservice program (PREP Residency Preservice Program). School systems must apply for the PREP Residency Preservice Program*

1. Does the school system wish to be considered for this Allotment Opportunity?

- Yes  
 No

## PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program Allotment

### Initiative Description:

The PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program enables school systems, through partnering with qualified institutions of higher education and educator preparation programs, to establish innovative staffing pipelines that prepare and retain educators and thereby, increase student access to high-quality classroom teachers. The PREP GYO program provides funding through which participating school systems support (A) school system employees who do not hold a teaching certificate in completing a bachelor's degree and enrolling in a preparation program to ultimately become a certified teacher while employed by the school system and (B) high school students in completing career and technical education courses that help prepare the students to become classroom teachers. Funding may be used to implement the PREP Grow Your Own Program and pay tuition and fees for participating students or employees.

Review the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed below and indicate the school system's acceptance.

### Eligibility Criteria:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Any school system, which includes open-enrollment charter schools, and SB 1882 Operating Partners who read and agree to the requirements in relevant sections of the Texas Education and Texas Administrative codes cited in these guidelines is eligible for the PREP Allotment.
- School systems may participate in the PREP GYO Program only if they have been approved to participate in a partnership preservice program. For the LASO 4 application cycle, school systems must apply for and also participate in the PREP Residency Preservice Program.

### Initiative Assurances:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Read and abide by TEC §21.906 (PREP Grow Your Own Program).
- Read and abide by TEC §48.157 (PREP Program Allotment).
- Read and abide by TAC sections related to the PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program, which will be posted to the Texas Register for public comment during the 2025-26 school year and become effective prior to the start of the 2026-27 school year.

**Note:** TEA anticipates sharing specific dates related to rulemaking in fall 2025.

For more details regarding Texas Education Code TEC §21.906 (PREP Grow Your Own Program) and TEC §48.157 (PREP Program Allotment) see: [PREP GYO LASO 4 Pop Out Document](#).

- Appoint a representative to engage in all required PREP Allotment & PREP Grow Your Own Program communications.
- Form a written agreement partnership with an institution of higher education and educator preparation program, as applicable, to support PREP GYO Program implementation. The partnership to adhere to program assurances and submit information to the agency upon request by August 2026:
  - School system employees who do not hold a teaching certificate in completing a bachelor's degree to enable the person to enroll in an educator preparation program and become a certified teacher while employed by the school system, and if applicable.
  - High-school students in completing career and technical education courses that help prepare the students to become classroom teachers.
- Form a written agreement partnership with an institution of higher education or educator preparation program by the SY 2026-27 that supports (A) school system employees who do not hold a teaching certificate in completing a bachelor's degree to enable the person to enroll in an educator preparation program and become a certified teacher while employed by the school system, and if applicable (B) high school students in completing career and technical education courses that help prepare the students to become classroom teachers.

1. Does the school system agree to meet the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed above?

- Yes
- No

## PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program Allotment (cont.)

### Initiative Specific Questions for the PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program.

1. Enter the contact information for the school system representative appointed as the primary point of contact for all PREP GYO Program-related activities.

Name:	Dr Ericka Jones
Title:	Coordinator Recruitment and Employee Retention
Email:	ericka.jones@austinisd.org
Phone:	512-414-1700

2. Enter the contact information for an additional point of contact for all PREP GYO Program-related activities.

Name:	Kristina Woody
Title:	Director of Leadership Development
Email:	kristina.woody@austinisd.org
Phone:	512-414-1700

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The PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program is designed to form partnerships that support the following:

- High school students in completing career and technical education courses that help prepare the students to become classroom teachers.
- School system employees who do not hold a teaching certificate in completing a bachelor's degree to enable the person to enroll in an educator preparation program and become a certified teacher while employed by the school system.

*Note: Funding will be determined by each participating employee (TEC §48.157(b)(4)) and can be used to pay tuition and fees for high school students and employees participating in the program.*

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3. Which programming is the school system aiming to support through the PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program?

- Supporting school system employees with completing their bachelor's degree and earning teacher certification
- Supporting employees and high school education & training

4. How many employees does the school system anticipate participating in the PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program?

*(Min: 1, Max: 40 as per TEC §48.157 PREP Program Allotment)*

40

5. The TEA may provide in-kind technical support for PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program planning and implementation. If these supports were made available, would the school system be interested in joining a webinar to learn more about them?

*Note: If selecting yes, the primary and additional points of contact will be contacted with more information.*

- Yes
- No

## PREP Mentorship Program Allotment

## Allotment Opportunity:

The Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership (PREP) Program Allotment aims to strengthen the quality of teacher recruitment, preparation, and mentorship, leading to increased educator effectiveness and retention. The PREP Program Allotment provides funding for various partnerships and school systems may apply for funding for the PREP Residency Preservice Program, Grow Your Own Program, and the Mentorship Program through this LASO IV Application. Through this allotment, school systems may also apply for Strategic Staffing funding to support the implementation and reach of the PREP Program Allotment. The 89th Texas Legislature established the PREP Program Allotment via House Bill 2, which was signed into law by Governor Abbott on June 20, 2025.

1. Does the school system wish to be considered for this Allotment Opportunity?

- Yes  
 No

## PREP Mentorship Program Allotment

### Initiative Description:

The Preparing and Retaining Educators Through Partnership (PREP) Mentorship Program provides school systems interested in implementing high-quality new teacher mentorship programs with funding to 1) provide, at minimum, a \$1,000 stipend to the mentor teacher (per beginning teacher), 2) train all required school system mentorship staff via the Texas Mentorship Training, and 3) provide release time for mentor teacher and beginning teacher mentoring activities. Any remaining funds may be used on strategic staffing training. The overarching purpose of this allotment is to increase the effectiveness and retention of beginning teachers across Texas.

Review the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed below and indicate the school system's acceptance.

### Eligibility Criteria:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Any school system, which includes open-enrollment charter schools, and SB 1882 Operating Partners who read and agree to the requirements in relevant sections of the Texas Education and Texas Administrative codes cited in these guidelines is eligible for the PREP Allotment.

### Initiative Assurances:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Read and abide by TEC §21.907 (PREP Mentorship Program).
- Read and abide by TEC §48.157 (PREP Program Allotment).
- Read and abide by TAC sections related to the PREP Mentorship Program, which will be posted to the Texas Register for public comment during the 2025-26 school year and become effective prior to the start of the 2026-27 school year.

*Note: The TEA anticipates sharing specific dates related to rulemaking in fall 2025.*

For more details regarding Texas Education Code TEC §21.907 (PREP Mentorship Program) and TEC §48.157 (PREP Program Allotment) see: [PREP MENTORSHIP LASO 4 Pop-Out Document](#).

- Appoint a representative to engage in all required PREP Allotment & PREP Mentorship Program communications.

1. Does the school system agree to meet the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed above?

- Yes  
 No

## PREP Mentorship Program Allotment (cont.)

### Initiative Specific Questions for the PREP Mentorship Program Allotment

1. Enter the contact information for the school system representative appointed as the primary point of contact for all PREP Mentorship Program-related activities:

Name:	Jessica Kamphaus
Title:	Talent Growth and Development Coordinator
Email:	jessica.kamphaus@austinisd.org

Phone:

2. Enter the contact information for the school system representative appointed as the secondary point of contact for all PREP Mentorship Program-related activities:

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone:

3. Prior to submitting this application, school systems must commit to communicating and partnering with an approved Texas Mentorship Training (TMT) Provider. The list of approved TMT Providers can be found in the PREP Mentorship Program Guidelines. Please indicate the approved TMT Provider the school system has communicated with regarding training partnership for PREP Mentorship Program in SY26-27.

4. Enter the school system's approved TMT Provider contact information:

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone:

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### Roles

- **Mentor Teacher:** A teacher who, to the extent practicable, teaches in the same school, subject, and/or grade level of the beginning teachers they mentor, completes a mentor teacher training program established by TEA, has at least three years of teaching experience, and demonstrates instructional and leadership skills under TEC §21.458 and §21.907.
- **School system and/or Campus Leader:** Any appropriate district and campus employees who work with the classroom teacher or supervise the classroom teacher under TEC, §21.458

### PREP Mentorship Training Requirements

- **Pathway 1 (Mentoring Educator) Training:**
  - This pathway is intended for mentoring educators, such as mentor teachers, who provide direct mentoring to beginning teachers.
  - Pathway 1 training will occur in Summer 2026, Fall 2026, Winter 2026-27, and Spring 2027 for a total of 24-30 hours.
- **Pathway 2 (School system & Campus Leader) Design Sessions:**
  - This pathway is intended for school system and campus leaders who will be planning & implementing mentorship programs (*e.g., program managers, district mentoring staff, campus principals, etc.*).
  - Pathway 2 design sessions will occur in Spring 2026, Summer 2026, Fall 2026, and Spring 2027 for a total of 15-16 hours.

\* **Note:** Per TEC §21.458, appropriate school system and campus employees who work with the beginning teachers or supervise beginning teachers are required to attend mentorship training. This requirement may be fulfilled by either Texas Mentorship Training Pathway 1 or Pathway 2; these individuals may attend both Pathways 1 and 2, if desired.

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5. School systems must self-report the estimated number of mentor teachers and school system & campus leaders that would attend Pathway 1 training for Year 1 implementation (SY 2026-27). See 'Roles' definition above.

Estimated number of mentor teachers:

Estimated number of school system & campus leaders for Pathway 1:

30

6. School systems must self-report the estimated number of school system & campus leaders that would attend Pathway 2 training for Year 1 implementation (SY 2026-27). See 'Roles' definition above.

Estimated number of school system & campus leaders for Pathway 2:

20

7. School systems must self-report the estimated number of beginning teachers for Year 1 implementation (SY26-27). Beginning teachers (BTs) are defined as classroom teachers who have less than two years of teaching experience under TEC, §21.907. School systems will enter the total estimated number of beginning teachers below; however, school systems will receive funding for up to 40 beginning teachers.

Estimated total number of beginning teachers for SY26-27:

40

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant

### Initiative Description:

School Actions are whole-school strategies districts use to increase access to high-quality schools, meet community needs, and address chronic underperformance. By providing technical assistance and grant funds to support school actions for individual campuses, TEA also supports school districts to take strategic actions that both improve schools and provide communities, parents, and families with the schools and programs they want, need, and deserve.

All School Action Fund (SAF) grantees must plan and implement an ESF-aligned, evidence-based model that includes development of a strategic schedule that maximizes instructional staff and time; assignment and empowerment of a campus leader with a track record of success to plan and implement the school action and model; and implementation of high quality instructional materials (HQIM, as defined later in these Program Guidelines) and research-based instructional strategies (RBIS).

Review the Eligibility Criteria, Initiative Assurances, and Initiative Requirements listed below and indicate the school system's acceptance.

### Eligibility Criteria:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Relevant campuses meet grant specific eligibility requirements of the 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Grant (SAF) to apply. See Eligibility List [here](#).

*Note: Eligible applicants are school systems that apply on behalf of campuses that are Title I-serving school-wide and Comprehensive Support-identified, Targeted Support-identified, or Additional Targeted Support-identified, based on SY 2024-25 ratings. For new schools, there must be clear Title I, Part A eligibility and intent to obtain Title I-serving status for SY 2027-28 and beyond.*

*To be eligible, a campus may not have received any School Action Fund (SAF) grants, including TCLAS Decision 10 and any LASO SAF grants, since 2019-2020 (Planning, Continuation, or Implementation).*

### Initiative Assurances:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

*Note: The Superintendent, Chief Academic Officer and/or Chief Innovation/Transformation Officer, School Action Fund Project Manager (who has Cabinet-level access and decision-making authority), Chief Financial Officer, and any Superintendent designee understand that the School System (Applicant) assure that they know the following commitments.*

- Aware that if awarded a Restart Action School System-Run ACE model Planning grant, and the campus is eligible for Resource campus designation, the grantee will be required to meet all Resource designation expectations by the end of the 2nd (second) year of implementation. More information about Resource Campus designation can be found [here](#).
- Regularly submit their expenditures (monthly preferred, quarterly at minimum) to remain on-track for grant expenditures.
- If a specific campus has not yet been identified, SAF grantee School Systems use a data-informed evaluation process and criteria (both quantitative and qualitative), and an appropriate timeline for identifying the campus(es) for school action(s), **by Gate 0 of the first year of the awarded grant.**
- Required to select a school system level (Central Office) staff member who is both qualified and experienced in project and program management to manage the planning and implementation of the grant.
- School Action Fund Project Manager must attend regular meetings, at least monthly, with the TEA SAF program staff.
- The school system level (central office) Business/Finance Office staff member responsible for overseeing SAF grant expenditures and drawdown processes must attend at least two meetings per semester with the school system's School Action Fund Project Manager and TEA SAF program staff.

- Fully implement high-quality instructional materials (HQIM, as described in the SY 2026-27 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation grant’s Program Guidelines) on the awarded campus(es) by **Year 1 (one)** of Continuation/Implementation, in both Mathematics and Reading Language Arts classes/courses.
- Implement strategic scheduling programs that require operational and staffing shifts to optimize time and accelerate instruction at the SAF campus(es) by Year 1 (one) of Continuation/Implementation as defined by the TEA, unless otherwise approved or stated by the TEA.

### Initiative Requirements:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- The SAF grantee must fully implement the selected school action and model, identifying flexible and autonomous practices, as well as campus-specific goals and metrics aligned with school system policies. These must be documented in a Performance Agreement (for school system-run actions) or a Partnership Performance Contract (for partner-managed actions), signed by the campus leader and the school system superintendent and/or Board of Trustees by **May 31, 2027**.
- The SAF grantee school system’s Board of Trustees must complete TEA-approved board training by Gate 3 of Year 1 of the awarded grant..
- Any campus that is closing, or potentially being repurposed, as part of a SY 2026-27 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation grant, **must** follow TAC rules regarding CDCN requirements (County District Campus Number), and Campus Repurposing and Closure, including TAC 97.1066. (More information can be found [here](#).)
- Guarantee that school leaders of awarded campuses have at least 20 hours of release time built into their weekly schedules to plan the school action(s) and model(s).
- Select a TEA-codified school model and assign and empower a campus leader who has a track record of success to lead the planning and implementation of the school action and model.

1. Does the school system agree to meet the Eligibility Criteria, Initiative Assurances, and Initiative Requirements listed above?

- Yes
- No

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Requirements for School Action Fund Applicants/Grantees of "Partner-Managed" Actions

1. Is the school system applying for any Partner-Managed Actions?

- Yes
- No

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Requirements for School Action Fund Applicants/Grantees of "Create New School" actions

1. Is the school system applying for any “Create New School!” actions?

- Yes
- No

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Grant Initiative-Specific Questions

- Only **one** Action, **one** Governance Structure, and **one** Model may be selected for each eligible campus.
- School systems are limited to a maximum of 6 (six) awards across all actions; and 4 (four) awards per action.
- For descriptions of each Action, click [here](#) for details.
- School system with a Board of Trustees-approved SY2026-27 Additional Days School Year (ADSY) Calendar with at least 200 days must attach:
  - Board of Trustees-approved SY2026-27 Additional Days School Year (ADSY) Calendar with at least 200 days
  - School system Board of Trustees Resolution approving the SY2026-27 ADSY Calendar

1. On behalf of how many campus(es) is the school system applying for:

**Restart Actions?** (0 to 4)

4

2. On behalf of how many campus(es) is the school system applying for:  
**Create New School Actions?** (0 to 4)

0

3. On behalf of how many campus(es) is the school system applying for:  
**Reassign Actions?** (0 to 4)

**Caution:** The selected campus cannot have received its fourth consecutive year of an unacceptable rating (F or equivalent).

1

4. Does the school system understand that Redesign Actions are no longer available through the School Action Fund?

**Note:** If a school system is interested in redesigning a campus, please consider the **Additional Days School Year Full Year Redesign Grant (ADSY FYR)** available in LASO 4.

- Yes
- No

5. Does the school system have a Board of Trustee approved ADSY calendar with a minimum of 175 days and at least 25 additional/separate instructional / enrichment days?

- Yes
- No

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Restart Actions

In **Restart Actions**, school systems receive new campus leaders, majority of new staff, and a new academic and educational model to turnaround a school. School systems (grantees) will implement all aspects of the school action and model in Year 1 (one) of **Implementation**.

**NOTE:** A, B, C, and D-rated campuses are not eligible for Turnaround Partner-Managed school actions.

Select First Campus

LINDER EL-(227901160)

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Restart Action for ADELTON EL-(011901113)

1. Will the selected campus be school system run or Partner-Managed?

- School System-Run
- Turnaround Partner-Managed (available only to "F"-rated campuses)

2. Is the school system applying for a Planning grant or Implementation grant for the selected campus?

- Planning
- Implementation

2a. Select the TEA-approved technical assistance provider that the school system has already planned the **Restart Action** with.

- Empower Schools
- Collegiate Edu-Nation (CEN)
- MAYA Consulting
- Steady State Impact Strategies
- Other

3. Which grade levels will be served on the campus during SY2026–27?

- Kindergarten
- 1st Grade
- 2nd Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Restart Actions

In **Restart Actions**, school systems receive new campus leaders, majority of new staff, and a new academic and educational model to turnaround a school. School systems (grantees) will implement all aspects of the school action and model in Year 1 (one) of **Implementation**.

**NOTE:** A, B, C, and D-rated campuses are not eligible for Turnaround Partner-Managed school actions.

Select Second Campus

PECAN SPRINGS EL-(227901129)

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Restart Action for BASTROP HS-(011901001)

1. Will the selected campus be school system run or Partner-Managed?

- School System-Run
- Turnaround Partner-Managed (available only to “F”-rated campuses)

2. Is the school system applying for a Planning grant or Implementation grant for the selected campus?

- Planning
- Implementation

2a. Select the TEA-approved technical assistance provider that the school system has already planned the **Restart Action** with.

- Empower Schools
- Collegiate Edu-Nation (CEN)
- MAYA Consulting
- Steady State Impact Strategies
- Other

3. Which grade levels will be served on the campus during SY2026–27?

- Kindergarten
- 1st Grade

- 2nd Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Restart Actions

In **Restart Actions**, school systems receive new campus leaders, majority of new staff, and a new academic and educational model to turnaround a school. School systems (grantees) will implement all aspects of the school action and model in Year 1 (one) of **Implementation**.

**NOTE:** A, B, C, and D-rated campuses are not eligible for Turnaround Partner-Managed school actions.

Select Third Campus

WOOLDRIDGE EL-(227901152)

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Restart Action for BASTROP MIDDLE-(011901041)

1. Will the selected campus be school system run or Partner-Managed?

- School System-Run
- Turnaround Partner-Managed (available only to “F”-rated campuses)

2. Is the school system applying for a Planning grant or Implementation grant for the selected campus?

- Planning
- Implementation

2a. Select the TEA-approved technical assistance provider that the school system has already planned the **Restart Action** with.

- Empower Schools
- Collegiate Edu-Nation (CEN)
- MAYA Consulting
- Steady State Impact Strategies
- Other

3. Which grade levels will be served on the campus during SY2026–27?

- Kindergarten
- 1st Grade
- 2nd Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

## Restart Actions

In **Restart Actions**, school systems receive new campus leaders, majority of new staff, and a new academic and educational model to turnaround a school. School systems (grantees) will implement all aspects of the school action and model in Year 1 (one) of **Implementation**.

**NOTE:** A, B, C, and D-rated campuses are not eligible for Turnaround Partner-Managed school actions.

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Select Fourth Campus

PAREDES MIDDLE-(227901061)

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Restart Action for BLUEBONNET EL-(011901109)

1. Will the selected campus be school system run or Partner-Managed?

- School System-Run
- Turnaround Partner-Managed (available only to “F”-rated campuses)

2. Is the school system applying for a Planning grant or Implementation grant for the selected campus?

- Planning
- Implementation

2a. Select the TEA-approved technical assistance provider that the school system has already planned the **Restart Action** with.

- Empower Schools
- Collegiate Edu-Nation (CEN)
- MAYA Consulting
- Steady State Impact Strategies
- Other

3. Which grade levels will be served on the campus during SY2026–27?

- Kindergarten
- 1st Grade
- 2nd Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

## School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

### Reassign Actions

In **Reassign Actions**, school systems work with their communities to thoughtfully close school(s) and reassign students to A/B-rated campuses.

**Caution:** The selected campus cannot have received its **fourth consecutive unacceptable** rating (F or equivalent).

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Select First Campus

BARRINGTON EL-(227901149)

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# School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation (SAF) Grant (cont.)

## Reassign Action for

1. Is/are the potential receiving school(s) Title I-serving school-wide & A/B-rated?

- Yes
- No

## Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports (NEXT)

### Initiative Description:

The Navigating Excellence Through Targeted Supports Initiative (“NEXT”) is designed to support low-performing **elementary school campuses** at school districts and open-enrollment charters to implement high-quality math and/or reading language arts curriculum and instruction, aligned targeted tutoring, and targeted community and parent engagement.

Grantees will receive intensive support to:

- Audit and diagnose root causes to low-performance.
- Ensure all educators have a deep understanding of high-quality instructional materials and research-based instructional strategies.
- Build and inspire a coalition of support for instructional and operational shifts.
- Implement rigorous tier 1 HQIM and evidence-based supplementary instruction.
- Make strategic changes to campus operations (including staffing patterns, compensation, and/or scheduling) in the form of funding and technical assistance.
- Closely monitor fidelity of implementation to drive continuous improvement efforts.

Grantees that complete all required planning year requirements may be eligible for 1-2 years of continuation funding to support implementation.

Review the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed below and indicate the school system’s acceptance.

### Eligibility Criteria:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Campuses the school system is applying for are rated D or F on the 2025 TEA Accountability.
- Campuses the school system is applying for **are not** federally designated as CSI, TSI, or ATS.
- Campuses the school system is applying for serve grades PK or Kindergarten through 5th grade.

### Initiative Assurances:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Designate and provide a district-level project manager who will dedicate approximately 50% of their time to NEXT planning and implementation requirements and who has the authority to make campus-level decisions.
- Designate and share with TEA and vendors a campus-level lead/sponsor for communication regarding logistics and usage monitoring.
- Submit fidelity of planning deliverables before the end of the planning year, including but not limited to:
  - Campus master schedule
  - Assessment calendar
  - Stakeholder engagement plan
  - Professional learning calendars
- Participate in required communities of practice and any additional grant program meetings.
- Work in good faith with the TEA-vetted and matched school action Technical Assistance provider and agency-provided technical assistance.
- Attend and participate in grant orientation meetings, technical assistance meetings, other periodic meetings of grantees, and share best practices through the TEA NEXT program office.
- Participate in Quarterly Parent Labs (at least four per year) for parents and caregivers to deepen their understanding of how to support their student(s) in reading, writing, and math.
- Provide dedicated time for teachers, instructional coaches, assistant principals, and principals to receive grant-related coaching and support.
- Adopt and fully implement IMRA-approved HQIM in reading and math.

1. Does the school system agree to meet the Eligibility Criteria and Initiative Assurances listed above?

- Yes
  - No
-

## Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports (NEXT) (cont.)

### Campus Selection for the Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports (NEXT) Grant

The NEXT grant is designed to rapidly improve the performance of low-performing elementary campuses. Each school system may apply to receive support at up to 3 [eligible elementary campuses](#).

*Note: The campuses listed below include all the campuses in your district and may or may not reflect eligible campuses for the NEXT grant.*

RODRIGUEZ EL-(227901174)

## Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports (NEXT) (cont.)

### Initiative Specific Questions for the Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports (NEXT) Grant

1. Does the school system commit to working in good-faith with a TEA-appointed technical assistance provider to complete the following activities?

- Audit and diagnose root causes to low-performance,
- Ensure all educators have a deep understanding of high-quality instructional materials and research-based instructional strategies
- Build and inspire a coalition of support for instructional and operational shifts
- Implement rigorous tier 1 HQIM and evidence-based supplementary instruction
- Make strategic changes to campus operations (including staffing patterns, compensation, and/or scheduling) in the form of funding and technical assistance
- Closely monitor fidelity of implementation to drive continuous improvement efforts

Yes

No

2. Has your school system participated in the Strong Foundations grant?

Yes

No

3. Does your school system have a fully approved Teacher Incentive Allotment system?

Yes

No

4. Does your school system have at least one campus with a Board of Trustees-approved ADSY calendar with at least 200 school days?

Yes

No

## Closing

### Signature

Official submission of this application requires the Superintendent's signature. The Application cannot be considered submitted without the formal signature from the Superintendent.

If the Superintendent is unable to sign because they are on leave or in role transition, please email at [LASO@tea.texas.gov](mailto:LASO@tea.texas.gov).

If you are the Superintendent, click **Yes** and proceed to submitting the application.

If you are not the Superintendent, pause on submitting this application and email [LASO@tea.texas.gov](mailto:LASO@tea.texas.gov) to identify the school system's grantee official who can submit the application in the Superintendent's absence. Once the name of the grantee official has been identified, return back to

this page, select **No**, then proceed to submitting the application.

Are you the Superintendent?

- Yes
- No

Please provide the following:

Superintendent Name :	<input type="text" value="Matias Segura"/>
Superintendent Email:	<input type="text" value="superintendent@austinisd.org"/>

## Review & Sign

**The LASO Cycle 4 Grant has closed.**

**The closing date was December 3, 2025 at 05:00 PM.**

**This application can no longer be submitted.**

**Please close your browser window.**

## Review & Sign

Before you sign and submit, click the **Review** button to review the completed application, revise as needed, and then sign to submit your final application.

You may only review one time. If you need to review the application again or make any additional revisions, please complete the Request for a Retake link- located on our LASO 4 webpage.

- Review
- Sign and Submit

## Signature

### Confirmation of Application

I have reviewed and acknowledge that the LASO 4 application I am submitting today is for the following Initiatives:

- School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG)
- AP Computer Science Principles (APCSP)
- PREP Residency Preservice Program
- PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program
- PREP Mentorship Program
- School Action Fund (SAF)
- Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports (NEXT)

*Note: Only last submitted application will be accepted as the Final LASO 4 application.*

Signed On: December 2, 2025 at 02:08 PM



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