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 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 05: Beaumont
School System:	HIGH ISLAND ISD-(084903)

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:	David R Walker
School System Employee Title:	Superintendent of Schools
School System Employee Email:	dwalker@highislandisd.com

Superintendent Contact Information

Enter the school system superintendent's contact information.

Superintendent Name:	David R Walker
Superintendent Email:	dwalker@highislandisd.com

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

- [x] 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)

Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT)

Initiative Description:

LIFT (Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas) is a three-year program designed to support Texas school systems in building the instructional and systems-level capacity needed to deliver high-quality learning experiences for all students. LIFT brings together the highest leverage components of Strong Foundations, Texas Instructional Leadership, and Texas Lesson Study, providing comprehensive support for school systems to adopt **high-quality instructional material (HQIM)** and implement **Bluebonnet Learning (BL)** over multiple years.

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:

- Commit to selecting and implementing a State Board of Education (SBOE)-approved high-quality instructional material (HQIM) in the 2027–28 school year.

OR

- Commit to implementing a Bluebonnet Learning (BL) product in the 2026–27 school year.

  Note: *Participation in other grant programs does not disqualify applicants but may be considered during prioritization.*

Initiative Assurances:

As the applicant, the school system hereby agrees to:

- Commit to (with Board approval) implementing a Bluebonnet Learning (BL) product in the 2026–27 school year (if applying to the "Implementation Phase") OR committing to selecting and implementing a State Board of Education (SBOE)-approved high-quality instructional material (HQIM) in the 2027–28 school year (if applying to the "Planning Phase").
- Contract with an Approved Provider from the LASO Cycle 4 State Approved Provider List for LIFT.
- Submit Approved Provider contracts and required funding summary reports to TEA.
- Secure approval from the Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer (or equivalent leader) to participate in the program.
- Appoint a designated LIFT lead as the primary point of contact and identify at least two additional contacts.

  Note: *The primary point of contact should be the equivalent of a senior academic team member or principal manager.*
- Participate in required TEA-led activities, including a grant kick-off and communities of practice.
- Engage relevant school system and campus leaders, including special programs leadership, as well as teachers, instructional coaches, and special population educators in upfront training, implementation support, and coaching.
- Participate in a needs assessment of current instructional practices and materials.
- Establish or refine systems for instructional leadership, schoolwide routines, and observation and feedback.
- Submit all required grant deliverables, including instructional framework artifacts, implementation plans, school system-level instructional materials transition plan, campus-level implementation action plans, classroom, campus, and school system-level observation data and student outcomes data and progress updates as requested by the Approved Provider or the TEA.
- Participate in TEA-administered surveys and/or focus groups, as requested.
- Use grant funds in alignment with the required allocation structure and ensuring all expenditures support the goals of the LIFT program.
- Permit Approved Providers access to campuses to provide in-person support.
- Ensure teachers have sufficient planning time and use the required protocols.
- Provide print materials for all participating teachers and students.
- Follow the year-long scope and sequence for the instructional materials.
- Meet the minimum number of instructional minutes for the instructional materials.
- Ensure that a number of instructional leaders, aligned with the school system size, will actively participate in monthly implementation support and coaching provided by the Approved Provider.
- Ensure that the school system cabinet regularly engages in data reflection/performance management routines.

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

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT) (cont.)

Initiative Specific Questions for the Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT) Grant

For each content area below, please indicate your district's current intention regarding the implementation of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM).

You may select different options for each content area.

K–5 English or Spanish Language Arts and Reading (ELAR/SLAR)

1. For which activity are you seeking LIFT technical assistance support in K-5 ELAR or SLAR?

- ◉ Implement **Bluebonnet Learning K–5 ELAR** in 2026–27and/or **Bluebonnet Learning K-5 SLAR** if approved by SBOE
- ○ Select an **SBOE-approved HQIM** during the planning year in 2026-27 and implement that HQIM in 2027-28
- ○ Neither of the above

K–5 Mathematics

2. For which activity are you seeking LIFT technical assistance support in K-5 Math?

- ◉ Implement **Bluebonnet Learning K–5 Math** in 2026–27 and/or **Bluebonnet Learning K-5 Math (Spanish)** if

SBOE approved

- ○ Select an **SBOE-approved HQIM** in 2026-27 during the planning year in 2026-27 and implement that HQIM in 2027-28
- ○ Neither of the above

Secondary Mathematics

3. For which activity are you seeking LIFT technical assistance support in 6-8 and/or Algebra I Mathematics, or Geometry or Algebra II if approved by SBOE?

- ◉ Implement **Bluebonnet Learning Secondary Math** in 2026–27
- ○ Select an **SBOE-approved HQIM** during the planning year in 2026-27 and implement that HQIM in 2027-28
- ○ Neither of the above

Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT) (cont.)

Initiative Specific Questions for the Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT) Grant

For each content area below, please indicate your school system's current intention regarding the implementation of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM).

The LIFT grant provides monthly implementation support and coaching from a State-Approved Provider. By applying for this grant, your organization is committing to active participation in this support, specifically for instructional leaders – both at the campus and school system levels. Each participating campus must have one leader receiving coaching. Each of the participating campus and school system leaders must be directly involved in supporting teachers with the implementation of selected instructional materials. Additionally, the school system leader must be directly involved in supporting the campus leaders.

4. How many campus principals will the school system commit to receiving monthly implementation support and coaching visits from the Approved Provider?

Total number of principals to be coached :	1

5. How many school system-based instructional leaders (e.g. principal managers, executive director of instruction, associate superintendent) will the school system commit to receiving monthly implementation support and coaching visits from the Approved Provider?

Total number of leaders to be coached:	1

6. Does the school system commit to having, or working towards having, 165+ instructional days in the 2026-2027 academic year?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

7. Has the school system implemented a CER OER product in previous academic years?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

8. Enter the contact information for the school system's primary point of contact for the LIFT grant.

Name:	David R Walker
Email:	dwalker@highislandisd.com
Phone:	(409) 338-0324

9. Enter the contact information for the school system's secondary points of contact for the LIFT grant.

Name:	Crystal Larson
Email:	clarson@highislandisd.com
Phone:	(409) 257-5277

Name:	Doyle Bell
Email:	rbell@highislandisd.com
Phone:	(409) 257-5276

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.

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 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 :	David R Walker
Superintendent Email:	dwalker@highislandisd.com

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:

- Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT)

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

Signed On: October 10, 2025 at 12:08 PM