



TEA Superintendent Timely Updates Debrief

January 18, 2024

tea.texas.gov/superintendents

Superintendents,

Below is a quick debrief of the timely updates emailed to Superintendents this week:

Posted recently on tea.texas.gov & <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-educators/superintendents>

Timely updates:

- **SHARS Deadline January 16, 2024**
 - [TAA: School Health and Related Services \(SHARS\) Reimbursement](#)
 - The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) issued School Health and Related Services (SHARS) cost report settlement notices to local education agencies (LEAs) through the State of Texas Automated Information Reporting System (STAIRS) on December 15, 2023. LEAs have 30 days from the notification date to "Agree" or "Disagree" with their proposed settlement. If a response is not received, the proposal will become final.
 - LEAs can request an informal review by the HHSC in accordance with 25 Texas Administrative Code §355.8443. The HHSC's Provider Finance Department must receive a written request for an informal review by hand delivery, United States (U.S.) mail, or special mail delivery no later than January 16, 2024 (30 calendar days from the date on the written notification of the adjustments). **The LEA may receive an additional 15-day extension as long as the request is submitted for an informal review and documented as such in STAIRS by January 16, 2024.**
 - For questions, please call the SHARS helpline at (512) 730-7400 or send an email to providerfinanceshars@hhs.texas.gov.

- **School Safety Upcoming Deadlines**
 - Reminder: Cycle 2 Compliance Assessment is **due by January 31, 2024**.
 - [Safety and Facilities Enhancement \(SAFE\) Grant](#)
 - As part of the process to receive a SAFE Cycle 2 grant award, LEAs are required to complete a compliance assessment. The window to complete the compliance assessment opens tomorrow, December 14, 2023, through January 31, 2024.
 - A recorded webinar, slide deck, and the Compliance Assessment can be found on the IDA School Safety Dashboard.
 - Reminder: As required by TEC, §48.115, [FY23 School Safety Allotment Data Collection is due on February 12, 11:59 PM](#).
 - For questions, please email SafeSchools@tea.texas.gov.

- **LASO Update**
 - The [Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities \(LASO\)](#) consolidated grant application closed in December. A few highlights from this year's application:
 - Nearly **twice the number of LEA applications**, growing from 254 in 2022 to 484 in 2023
 - **Over twice as many individual grant program applications**, rising from 528 to 1,354

- Over **four times as many new applicants**, up from 47 to 196
 - Awards anticipated to be announced via email on **Thursday, February 8, 2024** and the eGrants submission window will open the following day.
 - For questions, please email LASO@tea.texas.gov
- **Next Call:**
 - Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 3:00 PM