



2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant
Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, January 29, 2024

NOGA ID

Authorizing legislation

General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, Article IX, Section 18.114(c)(v)

This LOI application must be submitted via email to loiapplications@tea.texas.gov.

The LOI application may be signed with a digital ID or it may be signed by hand. Both forms of signature are acceptable.

TEA must receive the application by **11:59 p.m. CT, January 29, 2024**.Grant period from **March 20, 2024-September 30, 2024**Pre-award costs permitted from **Not Permitted**

Application stamp-in date and time

Required Attachments

1. Excel workbook with the grant's budget schedules (linked along with this form on the TEA Grants Opportunities page)

See the Program Guidelines for for additional attachment information.

Select Focus Area (Applicants May Select One or Both Focus Areas)

 Focus Area 1: Career and Technical Education Course Focus Area 2: Work-Based Learning Experiences

Amendment Number

Amendment number (For amendments only; enter N/A when completing this form to apply for grant funds):

N/A

Applicant Information

Organization CDN ESC UEI Address City ZIP Vendor ID Primary Contact Email Phone Secondary Contact Email Phone

Certification and Incorporation

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by TEA or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance and compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

I further certify my acceptance of the requirements conveyed in the following portions of the LOI application, as applicable, and that these documents are incorporated by reference as part of the LOI application and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA):

 LOI application, guidelines, and instructions Debarment and Suspension Certification General and application-specific Provisions and Assurances Lobbying CertificationAuthorized Official Name Title Email Phone

Signature

DocuSigned by:
Dr. William Arevalo
 F27ADAC429144A0...

Date

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Shared Services Arrangements

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) are permitted for this grant. **Check the box below if applying as fiscal agent.**

The LEA or ESC submitting this application is the fiscal agent of a planned SSA. All participating agencies will enter into a written SSA agreement describing the fiscal agent and SSA member responsibilities. All participants understand that the "Shared Services Arrangement Attachment" must be completed and signed by all SSA members, and submitted to TEA before the NOGA is issued.

Statutory/Program Assurances

The following assurances apply to this program. In order to meet the requirements of the program, the applicant must comply with these assurances.

Check each of the following boxes to indicate your compliance.

- 1. The applicant provides assurance that program funds will supplement (increase the level of service), and not supplant (replace) state mandates, State Board of Education rules, and activities previously conducted with state or local funds. The applicant provides assurance that state or local funds may not be decreased or diverted for other purposes merely because of the availability of these funds. The applicant provides assurance that program services and activities to be funded from this LOI will be supplementary to existing services and activities and will not be used for any services or activities required by state law, State Board of Education rules, or local policy.
- 2. The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain any information that would be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general release to the public.
- 3. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Statutory and TEA Program requirements as noted in the 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant Program Guidelines.
- 4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2023-2024 Summer Career and Technical Education Grant Program Guidelines, and shall provide to TEA, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.
- 5. The applicant provides assurance that curriculum will be appropriately aligned to regional labor market supported CTE programs of study.
- 6. The applicant provides assurance to provide data to TEA on student completion of courses through a special collection process run by TEA.
- 7. The applicant assures that any Electronic Information Resources (EIR) produced as part of this agreement will comply with the State of Texas Accessibility requirements as specified in 1 TAC 206, 1 TAC Chapter 213, Federal Section 508 standards, and the WCAG 2.0 AA Accessibility Guidelines.

Summary of Program (Focus Area 1)

Provide an overview of the program to be implemented with grant funds. Include the overall mission and specific needs of the organization. Describe how the program will address the mission and needs.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM: La Pryor ISD will establish an impactful Summer CTE program for 15 students to gain the knowledge needed to chart a path toward high-paying, in-demand careers. In particular, the district has chosen to focus on careers in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources and Health Science (in-demand fields). The Summer Bridge program would be available Monday through Thursday, starting at 9 AM and concluding at 12 PM, spanning a duration of four weeks. La Pryor ISD’s Summer CTE program has the potential to be a valuable asset not only to our students but also to the Texas Workforce and the broader community, as these students can make a positive impact through their acquired skills and future employment.

MISSION: La Pryor ISD strives to be the educational leader in our community and surrounding areas by providing a safe environment where students thrive academically and socially. It is the mission of the District to provide ALL students with the opportunity to develop academically, vocationally, and socially by providing quality educational programs that allow our students to succeed.

SPECIFIC NEEDS: Our mission statement, dedicated to ensuring opportunities for ALL students, carries immense significance, especially in light of the numerous demographic challenges our district grapples with:

- A striking 91.4% of our student population falls within the Economically Disadvantaged (ED) category, a notable contrast to the state average of 62.1%.
- We have observed a substantial decline in college-ready students, plummeting from 48.7% (2020-2021) to a mere 26.7% (2021-2022) – please note that these figures are the most current available statistics.
- Approximately 94% of our student population comprises minority groups.
- The entire student body qualifies for Title 1 assistance (100%), in stark contrast to the state average of 64.6%.
- Chronic District Absenteeism is a concerning issue, standing at 31.5% compared to the state average of 25.7% (2022-2023 TAPR).

Lastly, our district's rural classification is the most significant challenge (5 priority points).

ADDRESSING MISSION/NEEDS: Considering these demographics, the district acknowledges that these programs can provide exceptional opportunities to support our students and facilitate their path towards state-identified high-skill, high-wage, in-demand occupations.

Summary of Program (Focus Area 2)

Provide an overview of the program to be implemented with grant funds. Include the overall mission and specific needs of the organization. Describe how the program will address the mission and needs.

N/A

Qualifications and Experience for Key Personnel (Focus Area 1)

Outline the required qualifications and experience for primary project personnel and any external consultants projected to be involved in the implementation and delivery of the program. Include whether the position is existing or proposed.

Title and Responsibilities of Position	Required Qualifications and Experience
CTE Teacher (s) - Oversee students on-site and assist with management and oversight of grant-related services. Existing Position(s)	Minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: 2 years of experience in providing CTE education.
Campus Counselor - Teach, support, and communicate the opportunities to participate in the bridge program. Existing Position	Minimum of a Master’s Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: Must have 2 years of experience in assisting students in selecting careers.
Superintendent – Responsible for supervising the grant program and ensuring all data is reported back to TEA as required. Existing Position	Minimum of a Master’s Degree in Education or a related field; and Superintendent Certification. Experience: At least 3 years of experience being a Superintendent.
Grant Manager - Oversee students on-site and assist with the management and oversight of grant-related services. Proposed Position	Minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree in Education or a related field. Experience: Has 1 year of experience with managing programs, grants, personnel, and budgets.
N/A	N/A

Qualifications and Experience for Key Personnel (Focus Area 2)

Outline the required qualifications and experience for primary project personnel and any external consultants projected to be involved in the implementation and delivery of the program. Include whether the position is existing or proposed.

Title and Responsibilities of Position	Required Qualifications and Experience
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A

Goals, Objectives, and Strategies (Focus Area 1)

Describe the major goals/objectives of the proposed program. What activities/strategies will be implemented to meet those goals/objectives?

FOCUS AREA 1: Major Goals/Objectives of The Proposed Program: La Pryor ISD's primary goal in Focus Area 1 is to offer a unique opportunity to at least 15 students, with a focus on introducing them to well-paying and in-demand careers in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources and Health Science.

STRATEGIES: To reach these goals, La Pryor ISD has developed the following effective activities and strategies:

- Select experienced and engaging partners to oversee the coursework.
- Provide transportation to and from the campus when needed.
- Inform parents about the program and its benefits to increase student participation.
- Dedicate time for students to consult with the school counselor to identify their preferred high-demand program of study.
- Introduce introductory CTE courses to the students.

In summary, La Pryor ISD is committed to providing a life-changing opportunity to incoming 8th or 9th grade students. To do so, the district has developed a comprehensive strategy, involving experienced instructors, transportation support, parental involvement, counseling for program selection, and introductory courses. Through active participation in this program, students will gain insights into high-demand CTE fields, unlock their potential, and pursue well-paying careers.

Goals, Objectives, and Strategies (Focus Area 2)

Describe the major goals/objectives of the proposed program. What activities/strategies will be implemented to meet those goals/objectives?

N/A

Performance and Evaluation Measures (Focus Area 1)

Describe the performance measures identified for this program which are related to student outcomes and are consistent with the purpose of the program. Include the tools used to measure performance, as well as the processes that will be used to ensure the effectiveness of project objectives and strategies.

FOCUS AREA 1 PERFORMANCE MEASURES: La Pryor ISD determined its performance and evaluation measures based on the guidelines to ensure the program performs well. Therefore, the following metrics will be measured:

1. Student Diversity: Student information to determine the demographics of the students served.
2. Number Served: Number of students enrolled in the summer program.
3. Program Completion: Number of students completing the summer program.
4. Course(s) Completed: Collection of data related to PEIMS.

TOOLS USED TO MEASURE PERFORMANCE AND TO ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS: La Pryor ISD will utilize the following means/ tools to measure performance and ensure the program's effectiveness:

- Student/Stakeholder Surveys;
- Texas Academic Performance Report Data;
- Attendance Records;
- Sign-in Sheets; and
- PEIMS data.

PROCESSES USED TO ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS OF GOALS/OBJECTIVES: La Pryor ISD will use the collected data to assess whether students in this program are achieving their goals and objectives, as well as to evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies implemented for student success. The data collection process involves several components, including analyzing grades on a weekly basis, daily review of attendance records, administering pre- and post-program completion surveys, and examining both PEIMS data and the TAPR report before and after program completion.

Performance and Evaluation Measures (Focus Area 2)

Describe the performance measures identified for this program which are related to student outcomes and are consistent with the purpose of the program. Include the tools used to measure performance, as well as the processes that will be used to ensure the effectiveness of project objectives and strategies.

N/A

Budget Narrative (Focus Area 1)

Describe how the proposed budget will meet the needs and goals of the program, including for staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, travel, etc. If applicable, include a high-level snapshot of funds currently allocated to similar programs. Include a short narrative describing how adjustments will be made in the future to meet needs.

La Pryor ISD drafted the following budget based on the needs and goals of the program, including STAFFING, SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS, CONTRACTS, and TRAVEL. La Pryor ISD’s proposed budget is as follows:

Payroll Costs:

- Grant Manager compensation (Focus Area 1 - \$2,500)
- Extra Duty Pay for Professional Staff (Focus Area 1 - \$7,000)
- Funds for employee benefits (Focus Area 1 - \$2,375)

Professional and Contracted:

- Funds for fees associated with data collection analyses for course completion (Focus Area 1 - \$3,979)

Supplies and Materials:

- Procurement of necessary supplies and materials for program delivery (Focus Area 1 - \$16,225)

Other Operating Costs:

- Funds have been allocated should travel be needed for the program. (Focus Area 1 - \$100)

Capital Outlay:

- Funds to purchase equipment needed to implement the program. (Focus Area 1 - \$15,800)

Indirect:

- Indirect costs to run the program (Focus Area 1 - \$2,021)

HIGH-LEVEL SNAPSHOT: La Pryor ISD funds are currently used to cover the cost of facilities, buses, cafeteria personnel, computers/software, and classrooms. These activities are being paid from local funds for facilities and maintenance, state transportation funds, and Texas Department of Agriculture allocations for summer food.

ADJUSTMENTS TO MEET FUTURE NEEDS: La Pryor ISD will seek additional grant funding, explore corporate contributions, garner ongoing support from the board for continued services, and align existing funding sources with our grant objectives.

Budget Narrative (Focus Area 2)

Describe how the proposed budget will meet the needs and goals of the program, including for staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, travel, etc. If applicable, include a high-level snapshot of funds currently allocated to similar programs. Include a short narrative describing how adjustments will be made in the future to meet needs.

N/A

Program Requirements

1a. Needs Assessment (Focus Area 1): Applicants must complete a Needs Assessment Summary indicating specific area of need the LEA has that hinders the completion of courses within programs of study. (For example: describing scheduling conflicts, specific program of study teacher availability, etc.)

SPECIFIC NEEDS THAT HINDER COURSE COMPLETION IN THE AREA OF STUDY:
 In La Pryor ISD, the compelling need for a program of this nature becomes apparent when examining the significant challenges posed by our student demographics. A notable 91.4% of our students fall within the Economically Disadvantaged (ED) category. Moreover, in Zavala County, where our district is situated, only 13.8% of residents hold a Bachelor's degree or higher, and 29.1% live in poverty, primarily within minority communities. This situation leads to a constrained tax base and limited opportunities for students in our households. (Source: U.S. Census Quick Facts). Furthermore, transportation to afterschool programs becomes a significant challenge for these students due to financial constraints and time limitations faced by many parents. This, in turn, hinders participation in afterschool activities, impacting the district's overall academic progress.

Additionally, our rural status, which awards us 5 priority points, often presents challenges in securing the necessary teachers and business partnerships required for implementing a program of this magnitude. However, the imperative need for this program cannot be overstated.

ADDRESSING NEEDS: Grant funds allocated will reduce the challenges the district faces in implementing this summer bridge program. In order to adequately address the previously mentioned needs, the district has meticulously crafted a comprehensive grant budget, carefully allocating essential funds for a program that encompasses staffing, transportation, supplies, and more. This program is designed to guide students towards post-secondary education and high-paying careers, offering a promising solution to the array of challenges currently faced by the district.

1b. Needs Assessment (Focus Area 2): Applicants must complete a Needs Assessment Summary indicating specific area of needs the LEA has to offer work-based learning opportunities. (For example: describing transportation limitations, describing scheduling conflicts, specific program of study teacher availability, etc.)

N/A

Program Requirements, cont'd.

2. **Focus Area 1:** Applicants must specify which program(s) of study and the CTE course(s) in the program(s) of study that will be offered (see <https://tea.texas.gov/academics/college-career-and-military-prep/career-and-technical-education/cte-programs-of-study> for a list of the approved statewide programs of study). Include the number of students who be engaged and supported in this focus area.

La Pryor ISD's Focus Area 1 program will provide a distinctive opportunity to incoming 8th and 9th grade students, concentrating on introducing them to well-paying and in-demand careers in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources and Health Science. These programs will be overseen by our current staff members, all of whom bring extensive experience in their respective departments. As part of these initiatives, students will receive introductions to a diverse range of courses, which may encompass, but are not limited to:

- Principles of Health Science (Healthcare Therapeutic Program of Study);
- Principles of Therapeutic Healthcare (Healthcare Therapeutic Program of Study);
- Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (Food Science and Technology Program of Study); and
- Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (Applied Agricultural Engineering Program of Study).

This program is of utmost importance as it serves as the primary avenue for these students to acquire the knowledge necessary to pursue high-paying, in-demand careers.

3. **Focus Area 2:** Applicants must specify business and industry partners who will be involved in the program. Additionally, specify the work-based learning model(s) which will be utilized and the number of students who will be engaged and supported.

N/A

Appendix I: Amendment Description and Purpose (leave this section blank when completing the initial application for funding)

An amendment must be submitted when the program plan or budget is altered for the reasons described in the "When to Amend the Application" document posted on the [Administering a Grant](#) page. The following are required to be submitted for an amendment: (1) Page 1 of the application with updated contact information and current authorized official's signature and date, (2) Appendix I with changes identified and described, (3) all updated sections of the application or budget affected by the changes identified below, and, if applicable, (4) Amended Budget Request. Amendment Instructions with more details can be found on the last tab of the budget template.

You may duplicate this page

Amended Section

Reason for Amendment