

2024-2025 Stronger Connections Grant

Competitive Grant Application: Due 11:59 p.m. CT, July 18, 2023

NOGA ID			Appl	cation stamp	in date and time
TEA will only accept grant application docum grant applications and amendments. Submit follows:	nents by grant a	email, including compet pplications and amendme	itive		
Competitive grant applications and amendment competitive grants@tea.texas.gov.	ents to				
The application MUST bear the signature of applicant to a contractual agreement	a perso	n authorized to bind the			
Authorizing legislation: PL 117-159 Bipartis	an Safer	Communities Act Title II Sc	had Improvement	Drograma	BCCA
Grant period: From 11/15/2023 to 09/30/20	25	Pre-award costs:			
Required attachments: N/A		1 10-dward costs.	ARE NOT perm	illed for ti	nis grant
Amendment Number				-	
Amendment number (For amendments only;	enter N	/A when completing this	form to apply for	grant fun	de):
1. Applicant Information		and the second s	orm to apply for	grant run	us). []
Name of organization Sabinal Independent	School	District			
Campus name	7 7	232902 Vendor ID 7460	020229 ESC 2	0 UEI	SMNTQW8NC
Address P.O. Box 338		City Sabinal	ZIP 78881		30-988-2472
Primary Contact Richard Grill	Email	rgrill@sabinalisd.net			30-988-2472
Secondary Contact Pat Gonzales	ĺ	pgonzales@sabinalisd.n	et		30-988-2472
2. Certification and Incorporation				L	
I understand that this application constitutes a binding agreement. I hereby certify that the correct and that the organization named above a legally binding contractual agreement. I certaccordance and compliance with all applicable I further certify my acceptance of the requirer applicable, and that these documents are incomplicable, and the incomplicable are incomplicable, and the incomplicable are incomplicable.	tions rances	ation contained in this appointment in this appointment in the as its representation and ensuing program and regrouped in the following represents in the following regrees.	plication is, to the sentative to oblique activity will be culations. Portions of the grant application Cefication	best of name of the parter this conducted ant application and artification es require	ny knowledge, organization in d in ation, as Notice of
Phone 830-988-2472 Signature	11	2/ Hill		Date	712-23
Grant Writer Name Alma Gutierrez S	ignature	Alma Hat	To ill	Date	7-12-23
Grant writer is an employee of the applicant or					t organization
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RFA/SAS # 701-23-120/634-24		2024-2025 Stronger Conr		omail of	Page 1 of 11

3. Shared Services Arrangements

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) are not permitted for this grant.

4. Identify/Address Needs

List up to three quantifiable needs, as identified in your needs assessment, that these program funds will address. Describe your plan for addressing each need.

Quantifiable Need	Plan for Addressing Need
Reduce the number of student referrals and or bullying, social pressure or peer conflicts by 50% at each campus to support diverse student needs and prevent suicide or hate crimes.	Implement a student support program/team structure with a Mutli-tier System of supports that will identify and address mental health concerns early on, providing the necessary support and resources to students, teachers, and parents for Positive Behavior Interventions and Support. The program will also be tailored to address specific needs and ensure inclusivity and equity among students.
To increase student support team referrals for non- academic needs and mental health services by 25% with a targeted focus on Robb Elementary students transferred to Sabinal ISD.	Funds will be utilized to hire the necessary personnel, early identification universal screening material, primary prevention (Tier 1) classroom curricula, tracking data base system technologies, and the necessary materials for Tier II and Tier III interventions and/or referrals to outside resources for mental health services.
Train 100% of faculty and staff in mental health and equip teachers with the necessary resources to implement a Multi-Tiered System of Supports for Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health.	Funds will secure the development of teacher, staff, and stakeholder training calendar throughout the 2023-2025 school years. This will also facilitate communication and collaboration between schools, parents, and the community which is essential for creating a holistic support system across various settings.

5. SMART Goal

Describe the summative SMART goal you have identified for this program (a goal that is Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely), either related to student outcome or consistent with the purpose of the grant.

By May 2025, Sabinal ISD will have implemented a comprehensive Student Support Program that aligns to the Texas Center for Student Supports, supported by parents and the community and that includes: student, parent, teacher and staff training, prevention and intervention measures through a Multi-Tiered System of Supports for positive behavioral interventions and supports, mental health, resources for students, teachers, parents, and the community. Sabinal ISD will have reduced behavioral incidents by 50% and increase non-academic mental health referrals by 25%; thus promoting the overall well-being of students by creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment and addressing mental health issues in a proactive and comprehensive manner.

6. Measurable Progress

Identify the benchmarks that you will use at the end of the first three grant quarters to measure progress toward meeting the process and implementation goals defined for the grant.

First-Quarter Benchmark

November 2023 through May 2024 - Planning Activities

- *Hiring of program director and specialists, purchasing of prevention and intervention program materials and supply
- *Sign in sheets and minutes of the Sabinal ISD Student Support Program Advisory Committee Meetings
- *Proof of Leadership attendance to the Texas Center for Student Supports trainings and teacher/staff trainings
- *Agenda, minutes, and sign in sheets for parent and community meetings
- *Establishment of Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Operation;Student, Parent,Teacher School Climate Surveys *Establishment of the Student Support Program with a Case Management, Data Collection and Reporting System

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CDN 232902	Vendor ID	7460020229	Amendment #

6. Measurable Progress (Cont.)

Second-Quarter Benchmark

June 2024 through December 2024

*Professional Development Calendar for continued Student Support Program trainings

*Results from Student Universal Screenings

*Data from the Student Support Program Tracking System

*Number of students in each Tier I, Tier II, Tier III with appropriate progress monitoring data from support services

*Number of referrals to specialized mental health services

*Number of behavior incidents - reduction

*Increased academic, behavioral, and social performance

*Mid year feedback from students, parents, & teachers through assessments, surveys, and committee mtg. minutes

Third-Quarter Benchmark

January 2025 through September 2025

*Continued Student Support Program Advisory Meetings - minutes

*Academic Report Cards, STAAR Results, number of behavioral incidents, number of referrals for mental health services

*Data from the Student Support Program Tracking System with percent of students accessing mental health services such as counseling, support groups, etc. and those moving amongst the Tiered support system

*Middle and End of Year Mental Health Progress Monitoring Data

*Continued Mental Health professional development

*Plan for sustainability of the Student Support Program

7. Project Evaluation and Modification

Describe how you will use project evaluation data to determine when and how to modify your program. If your benchmarks or summative SMART goals do not show progress, describe how you will use evaluation data to modify your program for sustainability.

The Student Support Center Team will examine the data collected throughout the implementation of the program and look for patterns, trends, and key findings related to the program's impact, outcomes, strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement. Sabinal ISD will identify successes and challenges of the Mental Health Student Support Program using the data collected through the Student Support Program Tracking System and climate surveys. This analysis will help understand what elements are working well and what needs to be addressed. Consultation with key stakeholders involved in the program, such as students, staff, teachers, parents, and mental health professionals is also key. Their feedback on the program's strengths, weaknesses, and suggestions for improvement will provide diverse perspectives and ensure that modifications are aligned with the needs and expectations of the students and community. If we are not showing significant progress toward our summative SMART goal, clear objectives will be established for modifying the program. The objectives will include improving accessibility for mental health support by reviewing Tiered student data every 3 weeks instead of every 6 weeks, increasing the range of support services, walk throughs for fidelity monitoring of mental health curriculum implementation, and more frequent Tier II and Tier III student support team meetings. The modifications will be targeted components as they can be easily measured in a short amount of time. If necessary, adjustments in areas such as mental health service delivery and access methods, allocation of resources, partnerships, out reach, and awareness will be made. Sabinal ISD will implement the modifications and more closely monitor their impact. Data and feedback will be collected to assess the effectiveness of the changes and their alignment with desired outcome. This ongoing monitoring will allow us to make further adjustments if needed. Sabinal ISD will continuously revisit and evaluate the Student Support Program by conducting periodic evaluations, engage stakeholders in feedback sessions, and stay updated with best practices in the field of mental health and with the guidance of the Texas Center for Student Supports. This will help us improve and adapt our program to the evolving needs of our students.

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CDN 232902 Vendor ID 7460020229 Amendment #
8. Statutory/Program Assurances
The following assurances apply to this grant program. In order to meet the requirements of the grant, the grantee must comply with these assurances.
Check each of the following boxes to indicate your compliance.
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 grant 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.
 The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all Statutory Requirements, TEA Program Requirements, and Performance Measures, as noted in the 2024–2025 Stronger Connections Grant Program Guidelines, and shall provide the Texas Education Agency, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the grant program.
4. The applicant will formally establish a Student Support Program at three district campuses (one elementary, one intermediate/middle school, one high school) to address school climate and establish a student support team structure aligned to the training and support provided by the Texas Center for Student Supports and the regional ESC. If the applicant has few than three campuses or does not have three of the listed types of campuses, the applicant will establish the Student Support Program and the student support team structure at all campuses, up to three, served in the district.
5. The applicant will allocate 6% of awarded funds for contracted services for technical assistance provided by the regional ESC. Complete the transaction with the regional ESC in a timely manner. Time is of the essence in completing the transaction to ensure that the program is implemented efficiently and effectively to successfully achieve the goals of the program.
6. The applicant will allocate 10% of awarded funds for professional and contracted services with a partner approved by the Texas Center for Student Support and TEA. Complete the transaction with the regional ESC in a timely manner. Time is of the essence in completing the transaction to ensure that the program is implemented efficiently and effectively to successfully achieve the goals of the program.
 7. The applicant will use the family engagement playbook developed by the Texas Center for Student Supports to partner and build support with parents and families prior to a student support team assessment, and during the student support implementation process to facilitate a student support partnership with families. 8. The applicant will establish a parent, student, and staff advisory committee to provide input on the establishment of the Student Support Program.
9.The applicant will engage in Student Support Program planning activities from the beginning of the grant program through implementation at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year.
10. The applicant will establish and implement at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, the Student Support Program aligned to the content and training provided by the Texas Center for Student Supports.
11. The applicant will incorporate a case management system into the student support team structure aligned to the training and support provided by the Texas Center for Student Supports.
12. The applicant will align the student support team structure with behavioral threat assessment team operation and outcomes to ensure that students are well supported and that the effectiveness of interventions are monitored.
13. The applicant will implement the data collection and reporting system developed by the Texas Center for Student Supports to gather and analyze data to monitor efficacy of the implementation of the Student Support Program, including student support team structure, quality of support leading to positive outcomes, and data related to increases in desired outcomes (e.g. increase in student support team referrals for nonacademic needs, increase in effective supports received by students, reduction in disciplinary incidents, reduction in bullying and harassment, increase in referrals for mental health services, reduction in removals from class, etc.).
14. The applicant will provide timely response to requests from TEA for information and data regarding program development, implementation, and performance and evaluation measures.
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CDN 232902 Vendor ID 7460020229	Amendment #
9. Statutory/ TEA Program Requirements	
 Describe how the LEA will identify the campuses that will participate in the esta Program described in the program description? Include the criteria or consideration by the LEA. 	blishment of the Student Support ons that will influence the determination
Sabinal ISD will implement the Student Support Program in their only two campus Campuses. Sabinal does not have a third campus.	ses - Elementary and Secondary
2.Describe how the LEA will ensure that campus leaders and staff are commit	thad to the suggest of the Charles
Support Program. Sabinal ISD will foster a culture of commitment and engagement among campactive participation and support for the success of the Student Support Program articulating the purpose, goals, and intended outcomes of the Student Support of mental health support for students and how the program aligns with the overall SD. The training sessions and professional development opportunities for care their understanding of mental health issues, student support strategies, and the leaders will be engaged in the planning and decision-making processes of the seek their input and insights to ensure that the program is aligned with the Textand Sabinal ISD initiatives. They will be kept informed about the progress, ach student Support Program as they are provided regular updates, reports, and continuously and areas for improvement. They will be involved in discussions absolution, innovative ideas, and positive impact on student well-being will be and staff are committed to the success of the Student Support Program as the mact a hate crime can have on a school district, families, and an entire commistudents of families that were involved in the Robb Elementary Massacre. The ong-term outcomes such as improved resilience, increased help-seeking behaverices and access, and a community that is safe and mentally healthy.	ous leaders and staff to ensure their am. Strategies utilized will be clearly the Program, emphasize the importance erall mission and values of Sabinal ampus leaders and staff will enhance heir roles within the program. Campus a Student Support Program. We will was Center for Student Supports, TEA, hievements, and challenges of the data on the program's impact, yout program modifications, aligning and evaluation methods. Their acknowledged. Sabinal ISD leaders bey have first hand knowledge of the munity. Sabinal ISD has enrolled
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Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.) 3. Describe how the LEA will engage parents and families to solicit support for the program. Sabinal ISD will be engaging parents and families in securing support for the Student Support Program among the community. The following are strategies Sabinal ISD will implement: "Provide information about the program"s goals, benefits, and available support services. Use various communication channels such as newsletters, emails, school websites, social media, and parent-teacher meetings to reach a wide range of families. Material will be translated to Spanish to ensure inclusivity and understanding. "Actively involve parents and families in the planning and implementation of the program. Parents will alway an opportunity to fill out surveys, attend parent trainings, and serve on the Advisory Committee. "Host one event such as a mental health fair or parent-child wellness workshop. By fostering a sense of community and shared responsibility, we will strengthen support for the program and build relationships with parents and families. "Offer individualized communication and feedback channels, such as one-on-one meetings or phone calls where parents and families can seek personalized support, ask questions, or share concerns. "Reach out to community organizations where parents are already involved and share information there. "Target parents and families from diverse backgrounds and include them in implementation planning. "Highlight to parents the positive impact the Student Support Program has had on their children's well-being and academic and social/emotional performance, and overall school climate and we will ensure there is adequate staff to support the program. Sabinal has already assessed the staffing needs of the Student Support Program and itentified the specific roles and responsibilities required to effectively implement the program. Slab lim like a Program Director and two campus program specialist/counselors and will contract with a Licensed Specialist in ident		
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9. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)	Amendment #
 Describe how each of the campuses will be supported by the grant program, if awarded, behavioral threat assessments and how the campus will incorporate current systems into the structure. 	currently conduct ne student support team
With a student support team on each school campus, the diverse needs of students will be comprehensive support system that promotes academic success, social-emotional well-bei growth. Our student support team plays a crucial role in providing support to students facing social, or emotional challenges. Team members will include administration, counselors, Spreachool Psychologist, classroom teachers, ESL specialist, school nurse, and parents and the program direct. Professional collaboration meetings will be held regularly to review and discongress, needs and make recommendations for actions or interventions. Sabinal ISD will identification and intervention systems into the student support team structure. The advisor compare intervention programs, behavioral threat assessments, and other materials availated ensure the students and district are utilizing the most current research based practices a	ing, and overall student g academic, behavioral, ecial Education educato e student support cuss student cases, data incorporate current ry committee will
 Describe how the LEA currently identifies student support needs and how it identifies and partnerships with external mental health and behavioral health providers to meet student ne 	l establishes eds.
Sabinal ISD teachers receive mandatory training to be aware of signs a student might show a mental health intervention. Teachers and staff are required to serve as adult mentors to hisk. Students identified with social-emotional needs are supported through direct conversal staff including the district counselor. After the Robb Elementary incident, Sabinal ISD receiver on Uvalde County and the Texas Workforce Commission. Parents of students that present eleft harm behaviors are made aware of their obligations to seek out direct guidance by their providers. Sabinal ISD has also partnered with agencies such as Bluebonnet Children's Cestervice for Mental Health) and Family Service Association of Uvalde to deliver services and needs.	telp identify students at tions with administrative yed additional support at a specific outcry for private heath care
Sabinal ISD also houses Cluster V, which serves as a hub for seven area districts and provi- ervices. Students identified for needing student support services go through a referral processistrict seeks external mental and behavioral health providers to serve the students in need.	ess and the school
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CDN 232902 Vendor ID 7460020229	Amendment #
9. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)	
7. Describe how the LEA currently partners with the regional ESC to behavioral and emotional health, physical health and wellbeing, and	support improvement in student mental health, improving academic outcomes for students.
Sabinal ISD has established a great rapport with ESC 20. Our scho under the Mental Health Umbrella that was offered through ESC 20. has students and families from Uvalde, ESC 20 partnered to offer th very supportive and offered the same services to Sabinal ISD as the been very active in Uvalde County following the event that took place been available to offer counseling to students as needed.	Since Sabinal ISD is in Uvalde, County and eir mental health services. They have been y did Uvalde CISD. The service center has
Prior to the incident, Sabinal ISD has utilized the different services of department along with the many other services that target physical has been department along with the many other services.	ffered by ESC 20 in the mental health ealth and well being and improving academics.
8. Describe how the LEA will use this grant program to supplement of the mental health, behavioral and emotional health, and physical	urrent work to improve services and supports health and wellness of students.
Sabinal ISD will supplement their current work with grant funding to in health, behavioral and emotional health, and physical health and well More collaboration with local organizations, mental health agencies, organizations to enhance the availability of services and supports. In students have access to adequate support for their mental and emotional wellness programs that address the physical, mental, and emotional wellness equipment, buddy benches, and emotional well-being curric fostering positive relationships among students and staff, and providi support programs. Invest in training and professional development or	mprove services and supports for the mental lness of students. Supplements will include: healthcare providers, and non-profit creasing mental health staff to ensure our onal well-being. Implement a comprehensive health of students by implementing fitness and culum. Implementing anti-bullying policies, ng resources for conflict resolution and peer poortunities through ESC 20 for teachers and
staff to increase their understanding of mental health issues and equivalents. Implement early intervention and prevention strategies by instudents who may be at risk for mental health or behavioral issues. Supports for social and emotional learning and mental health. More purpose manner in which we utilize grant funds to supplement our current work entire planning process and throughout the implementation of the Stucenter for Student Supports. Offer resources for mental health educated students and parents to access information and support is another we evaluating our program more frequently to make informed decisions to	mplementing a screening program to identify dabinal ISD will utilize a Multi-tiered system of arental and family involvement will also be a rek. Parents and families will be involved in the ident Support Program meeting the Texas ation and implementing digital platforms for any to supplement our practices. Finally
9. Enter the LEA Total Enrollment: 393	
10. Enter the Regional Educational Service Center that serves the LEA: For TEA Use Only:	20
Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with by	of TEA by phone / fax / email on

of TEA by phone / fax / email on

CDN 23290	2 Vendor ID 7460	020229	A	Amendment #
10. Equita	ble Access and Pa	articipation		
Check the a	ppropriate box below	to indicate whet	ther any barriers exist to equitable access and part	ticipation for any
groups mai	receive services fund	ied by this grant.	to equitable access and participation for any grou	
servic	es funded by this gra	int.		
Carant	rs exist to equitable a as described below.	access and partic	cipation for the following groups receiving services	funded by this
Group				
		Barri	er	
Grou		Barri	er	
Group		Barri	er	
Group		Barri	er	
11. PNP E	quitable Services			
Are any priv	ate nonprofit schools	located within th	ne applicant's boundaries?	
	es © No			
If you answe	ered "No" to the prece	eding question, s	top here. You have completed the section. Procee	ed to the next
page.	ate nonprofit schools			
	s CNo	participating in t	ne grant?	
If you answe page.	red "No" to the prece	eding question, s	top here. You have completed the section. Procee	ed to the next
Assurance	S			
The L	EA assures that it dis	cussed all consu	ultation requirements as listed in Section 1117(b)(1	l) and/or
Section	n 8501(c)(1), as app	licable, with all e	ligible private nonprofit schools located within the	LEA's boundaries
the m	⊏A assures the appro anner and time reque	opriate Affirmatio	ons of Consultation will be provided to TEA's PNP	Ombudsman in
	Services Calculation			
	dent enrollment			393
2. Enrollmer	t of all participating p	rivate schools		0
3. Total enro	ollment of LEA and al	I participating PN	NPs (line 1 plus line 2)	393
	ent-year grant allocat		,	862,706
			not to exceed the grant's defined limit	
				14,200
			equitable services (line 4 minus line 5)	848,506
r. Per-pupii			NP equitable services (line 6 divided by line 3)	2,159
	LEA's total requ	ired ESSA PNP	equitable services reservation (line 7 times lin	ne 2) 2,159
For TEA Use		387 W 1992		
	this page have been co	onfirmed with	by of TEA by phone / fax / ema	ail on
RFA/SAS#	701-23-120/634-24		2024-2025 Stronger Connections Grant	Page 9 of 11

CDN 232902 Vendor ID 7460020229		Amendment #
12. Request for Grant Funds		
budgeted for each activity. Group similar activitie	which you are requesting grant funds. Include the sand costs together under the appropriate headin lanned expenditures on a separate attachment pro-	a Durina
Project Director- Reporting Focus		\$75,000
2. Instructor - Music/Art Therapy		\$45,000
3. Counselor/Program Specialist Secondary - D	ata Analysis Focus	\$50,000
4. Counselor/Program Specialist Elementary - F	Parent Liaison	\$50,000
5. Employee Benefits		\$10,000
Professional and Contracted Services		
S. Required 6% of funds for technical assistance		\$42,600
7. Required 10% of funds to the Texas Center for	Student Supports	\$71,000
3. Guest Speakers, Translator and Baby Sitting	for Parent Meetings	\$55,000
D. Licensed/Training - MTSS Program; Licensed	d Specialist in School Pyschology	\$75,000
0. PBIS Software License and Training, Data Pl	ans for Ipads	\$25,000
supplies and Materials		
1. Mental Health and Wellness Poster/Books; P.	arent Mtg. Supplies - make and take, snacks	\$20,000
2. Supplies for Sensory Space in Classrooms; S	Supplies for Music/Art Therapy; PBIS Supplies	\$30,000
3. Technology - ipads		\$85,000
ther Operating Costs		
5. Buddy Benches, Social Emotional Learning C	Curriculum	\$30,000
6. Puberty Curriculum, Multi-Tiered System of S	upports Training	\$30,000
7. Travel and Training for Student Support Prog	ram Implementation	\$25,000
ebt Services		
8.		
9.		
apital Outlay		
0. Fitness/Wellness Equipment, Seraphic space	for staff, Music/Art Therapy space	\$105,000
	Direct administrative costs:	\$14,200
	Indirect administrative costs:	\$24,906
	TOTAL GRANT AWARD REQUESTED:	\$862,706
or TEA Use Only: djustments on this page have been confirmed with		
RFA/SAS # 701-23-120/634-24	by of TEA by phone / fax / em 2024-2025 Stronger Connections Grant	Page 10 of

CDN 232902 Vendor ID 7460020229	Amendment #
Appendix I: Negotiation and Amendme	ents
Leave this section blank when completing the initial application for funding.	
An amendment must be submitted when the "When to Amend the Application" document be mailed OR faxed (not both). To fax: one attachments), along with a completed and scopies of all sections pertinent to the amendpage 1, to the address on page 1. More determined to the amendments. For amendments, choose the section you wright, describe the changes you are making	t posted on the Administering a Grant page of the TEA website and may copy of all sections pertinent to the amendment (including budget signed page 1, to either (512) 463-9811 or (512) 463-9564. To mail: three dment (including budget attachments), along with a completed and signed railed amendment instructions can be found on the last page of the budget You may duplicate this page. Wish to amend from the drop down menu on the left. In the text box on the land the reason for them.
Always work with the most recent negotiated or amended application. If you are requesting a revised budget, please include the budget attachments with your amendment.	
Section Being Negotiated or Amended	Negotiated Change or Amendment
For TEA Use Only: Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with by of TEA by phone / fax / email on	
RFA/SAS # 701-23-120/634-24 2024-2025 Stronger Connections Grant Page 11 of 11	