

lexas Education Agency							
NOGA ID					Applio	ation stamp	-in date and time
TEA will only accept grant application docum- grant applications and amendments. Submit of follows:							
Competitive grant applications and amendme competitivegrants@tea.texas.gov.	ents to						
The application MUST bear the signature of a applicant to a contractual agreement	persor	n authorize	to bind the				
Authorizing legislation: PL 117-159 Bipartisa	n Safer	Communitie	s Act Title II S	chool Impro	vement	Programs	s, BSCA
Grant period: From 11/15/2023 to 09/30/202	25	Pre-	award costs	: ARE NO	T perm	itted for t	his grant
Required attachments: N/A							
Amendment Number							
Amendment number (For amendments only;	enter N	/A when co	mpleting this	form to ap	ply for	grant fun	ıds): NA
1. Applicant Information					1		
Name of organization Victoria ISD		-52 m 31	~ -		To divi		
Campus name Rowland, STEM MS, VSA	CDN	235902 V	endor ID 746	005243	ESC 3	UEI	CKBBB4GCX4
Address 102 Profit Drive		City Vict	oria	ZIP 779	01	Phone ((361)576-3131
Primary Contact Melissa Correll	Email	melissa.co	rrell@visd.ne	et		Phone ((361)788-2802
Secondary Contact Brandi Henke	Email	brandi.hen	ke@visd.net	234 218 X		Phone ((361)788-2891
2. Certification and Incorporation							
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 further certify my acceptance of the requirent applicable, and that these documents are incompliant Award (NOGA): Grant Award (NOGA): General Provisions and Assurances Application-Specific Provisions and Assurances	informa re has a tify that e federa nents co orporate tions	ation contain the state of the	ned in this ap ne as its repr g program and laws and rec the following	oplication is resentative and activity gulations. portions of the gran and Suspensification	s, to the to oblig will be of the grate tapplication Ce	best of r gate this conducte ant application and	my knowledge, organization in ed in cation, as I Notice of
Authorized Official Name Quintin Shepherd	Title	Superinten	dent Email	quintin.she	epherd@	visd.ne	t
Phone (361)788-9202 Signature 4.	She	pla	3			Date	7/18/2023
	ignatur		· .	ree			7/18/2023
Grant writer is an employee of the applicant orgonymetrics. For TEA Use Only:	yanızatio	on. OGr	ant writer is no	an emplo	yee of th	e applica	nt organization.
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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
the grant missed more than 10% of school 2022-2023 school year.	Noting the strong correlation between parent involvement and student attendance, we will develop a Parent Advisory Group and use the Family Engagement Playbook developed by Texas Center for School Supports to increase parent engagement.
Special Education referrals of 44.5%.	Building quality, holistic intervention programs that include academics, mental health, attendance, and behavioral and emotional supports will provide early intervention reducing new, initial placements in Special Education.
	The Student Support Program will provide well supported strategies and structures for all students. The case management system will increase the desired outcomes for students.

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.

Through the establishment of a Student Support Program, the targeted campuses will have an increase in students' perception of a positive school climate by 8% as measured by the student supports and environment survey by May of 2025.

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

Collect campus data and conduct a needs assessment reviewing attendance, discipline, counseling, behavior support numbers, school climate (staff and student) data to develop a baseline and identify the needs of the campus (include student support available and behavior threat team functioning processes and procedures). From the needs assessment, create an action plan of next steps. Create the Student Support Design Team and develop a meeting cadence between the Student Support Design Team and the technical assistance providers. Develop and convene an advisory committee comprised of school leader, school staff, parents, students and community members. Create a change management/transition plan. Create two-way communication plan.

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6. Measurable Progress (Cont.)

Second-Quarter Benchmark

Develop a data reporting system to gather and analyze data to monitor the efficacy of the implementation of the Student Support Program. Conduct of deep dive of the student support team framework developed by the Texas Center of Student Support and the Family Engagement Playbook--provide associated learning opportunities for the campus Student Support Design teams and other campus and district staff. Develop training for the Student Support Teams as well as campus and district staff. Identify criteria for student participatation Continue to meet with the advisory committee Implement the change and transition plan as well as the communication plan.

Third-Quarter Benchmark

Provide training for the student support teams as well as campus and district staff. Continue to implement the communication plan. Procure supplies, materials and equipment needed to implement grant related activiteis. Hire associated grant funded positions. Provide training for campus dtudent support teams and staff. Continue to meet with the advisory committee. Implement the change and transtion management plan.

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.

Victoria ISD, working with ESC 3, the Texas Center for Student Supports, and our assigned technical assistance provider will conduct weekly meetings throughout the planning process. The data collection and reporting system developed by the Texas Center for School Supports will be used as the progress monitoring tool throughout the development and planning process. District and campus leaders will use indicators of the data collection and reporting system to track the accomplishments that are clearly related to the intended results, including the number of students referred for and receiving support for non-academic needs disaggregated by source of referral, type of need, type of support, level of support, time of year, length of support provided as measured through the case management system. Other indicators for evaluation include student attendance, behavioral referrals, removals from class, and disciplinary outcomes for student referrals. Behavioral threat referrals and outcomes of threat assessments will also be tracked. VISD will use project evaluation data gathered to determine when and how to modify the planning process, as well as ensure clearly specified and measurable processes and procedures are in place. Progress monitoring of the benchmarks & summative SMART goals will be completed quarterly in coordination with VISD's well-established continuous improvement cycle using a progress monitoring protocol allows team members to discover and learn what happened and why, review both successes and challenges, and develop next steps for each goal. The evaluation will provide opportunities to examine the effectiveness of strategies currently implemented to modify our program and develop sustaining systems and structures. Planning and supporting the capacity development of staff is an essential outcome of this project. The investment of building capacity in our staff provided through local, state, and federal funds is a substantial resource aiding in sustaining strategies learned and implemented during the grant cycle. Sustainability will be supported by VISD's already established Coordination of Funding workgroups and Sustainability Task Force.

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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.

- 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 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.
- 3. 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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9. Statutory/ TEA Program Requirements

1. Describe how the LEA will identify the campuses that will participate in the establishment of the Student Support Program described in the program description? Include the criteria or considerations that will influence the determination by the LEA.

VISD will identify campuses for participation in the grant by reviewing numerous points of information including current campus leadership and the capacity for change, campus workload capacity for a new initiative, campus preparedness for a culture shift, and lastly the emotional, behavioral, safety and wellness needs of the students, families and staff.

When considering campuses for grant inclusion, points of consideration include campus leadership experience, background managing a grant, length of time on the campus, and preparedness to lead through change. The committee considered the ready leader criteria based upon the district's leadership definition. The committee will utilize the staff survey data completed through the Holdsworth Center in the fall of 2022. Campus discipline data including repeated disciplinary placements, ISS and OSS placements, action codes involving high risk and physical aggression will be given greater weight. The district comprehensive needs assessment data will be included in the committee's review process including student and staff attendance data. Additional data to be reviewed includes the campus Social, Emotional, Behavioral Specialist 2022 - 2023 support data including frequency of mental health, and physical safety supports being accessed. The Panorama student survey will be reviewed including the following specific questions and responses: "How positive or negative is the energy of the school?" and "At school how much does the behavior of other students hurt or help your learning?" Upon review of all data points, the committee will determine which campuses will be extended an invitation to participate in the grant. Campus leadership teams will then have the opportunity to choose to participate in the grant or not.

2.Describe how the LEA will ensure that campus leaders and staff are committed to the success of the Student Support Program.

We will ensure campus leaders and staff are committed to the success of the Student Support Program by creating structures allowing campus leaders and staff to build ownership of the Student Support Program. Using criteria to identify the best fit campuses for the grant, the district will ask the campus leader if he/she wants to participate in the grant. Thus, campus leaders will CHOOSE to participate in the grant providing a foundational level of ownership and dedication to the goals of the Student Support Program. VISD will develop a Student Support design team at each campus. The design team will be comprised of a district staff member, the school's principal, counselor, social emotional behavioral support specialist (SEBS), and Texas Center for Student Supports technical advisor assigned to each school. Other team members may also be included depending on the needs of the campus. This collaborative district and campus team will establish a regular cadence of meetings to develop strategies and activities to meet the goals of the grant. The team will use the Student Support Team Framework developed by the Texas Center for School Supports as a guide, including the protocols for team operation, recommendations for team staffing, and forms, resources, and tools to support their student support teams. The Student Support Design Team will use their own campus data and areas of identified need to develop their programs, creating areas of autonomy for each campus. Each campus will establish an advisory group comprised of a campus leader, teacher, parent/family, and students. This advisory group will provide feedback and input on needs for services and support as well as on products developed for the Student Support program and will work with the Student Support design team. Another way VISD will ensure commitment to the Student Support Program success to provide timely, relevant, and effective job-embedded professional learning and coaching to support campus staff members to give them the tools to do the work. Creating structures for campus level autonomy and ownership will ensure campus leaders and staff are committed to the success of the Student Support program.

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9. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

3. Describe how the LEA will engage parents and families to solicit support for the program.

Victoria ISD will utilize the Family Engagement Playbook developed by the Texas Center for Student Supports to create a parent advisory committee where parents, community members and school staff can provide, advise and assist district leaders on the ongoing support of building a safe, inclusive and supported school culture for all students. Victoria ISD believes in educating the whole child and seeing each student from the lens of a learner and as a person. Through the parent advisory committee, VISD can proactively develop a comprehensive two-way communication system between our community stakeholders and school staff. VISD will provide multiple opportunities for collaboration so that the committee may assist by providing input, offer advice on topics related to culture and climate, be a communication link between school and community, help identify concerns of students, parents, and community members, and assist in developing solutions to concerns. The Parent Advisory Committee will provide VISD with input on different resources and workshops geared towards helping parents build stronger connections with their children, such as how to build resilience and grit, how to engage in difficult conversations and youth mental health first aid. VISD will use the Family Engagement Playbook as well as parent surveys to quide, develop and implement student supports at each campus. The family engagement playbook will also serve as a guide in developing advisory committees for student, staff and parent voice. Each Student Support design team will work directly with the parent, students and staff advisory committees at each stage of the implementation process.

4. Describe how the LEA will ensure that there is adequate staff to support the establishment and implementation of the Student Support Program.

Victoria ISD has a district leadership team including a District Counseling Director, MTSS Coordinator, and Special Education Coordinator/LSSP that will provide district level support to each campus design team which will include but not limited to campus admin, SEBS, LSSP, Guidance Counselor and school nurse. This team is responsible for leading and supporting 21 support staff, 12 School Psychologists, 32 school counselors, 24 Social Emotional Behavioral Specialists and a BCBA. VISD has existing partnerships including MOUs with Midcoast Family Services and Gulf Bend Center, the local mental and behavioral health authority. In addition to our internal staff and outside partnerships, the district will establish a parent, student, and staff advisory committee to provide input on the establishment of the Student Support Program. District and campus behavioral threat assessment teams will align with the student support team to provide support for students and monitor outcomes. Grant funds will provide the means for the district to supplement professional development and resources within our current staff to ensure successful implementation of the Student Support Program as well as a path to sustainability.

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9. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

5. Describe how each of the campuses will be supported by the grant program, if awarded, currently conduct behavioral threat assessments and how the campus will incorporate current systems into the student support team structure.

Each of the 3 campuses currently utilizes the District Behavioral Threat Assessment protocol. Trained Behavioral Threat Assessment Teams (BTAT) are in place at all campuses, and a district BTAT ensures that campuses are utilizing the district protocol to determine levels of risk and plan interventions and appropriate levels of support. The district has in place a four-pronged assessment tool developed in conjunction with the Texas School Safety Center at Texas State University. The district and campus process includes a structured meeting agenda and investigation form that specifically reviews the incident in question, the type of threat and guides the team to plan the appropriate student supports. BTA Teams have received the required training, met certification requirements, and meet regularly to review threats and determine levels of risk. To align our BTAT with our student support program, the student support team will also be trained fully in the behavioral threat assessment protocols. Based on the outcome of the BTA team's assessment, the BTA Team puts a plan in place for the student or will refer them to the student support team for interventions and monitoring. The District Safety and Emergency Operations Coordinator will align with District and Campus Behavioral Threat Assessment Teams as well as the student support teams to ensure that appropriate levels of support are in place and that interventions are monitored for effectiveness.

6. Describe how the LEA currently identifies student support needs and how it identifies and establishes partnerships with external mental health and behavioral health providers to meet student needs.

Victoria ISD currently identifies student support needs through a CCNA process including district and community stakeholders that review multiple data points to identify student support needs. The district MTSS process includes routine reviews of student discipline, attendance and academic progress. Campus wide supports and needs are determined through a Campus Improvement Process (CIP) that directly relates back to the district strategic plan. When determining individual student supports, behavioral data including amount of time removed from instruction, 3 – 5 discipline referrals reflecting a pattern of behavior, strengths and difficulty questionnaire, and/or parent and family feedback is reviewed as part of the programming creation process. Victoria ISD has longstanding partnerships with our local mental health authority, and local non-profit social service agencies. One example of such partnerships is a school based mental health collaborative at an elementary campus. The goal of this program is to provide school based mental health services and support and to enhance the learning environment. Another example is a partnership with Midcoast Family Services that provides transitional support services to the students and families. VISD and our partners are working to create collaborative support structures between the school, family, and the student. Through a partnership with our local university, Victoria ISD is working to increase qualified mental health professionals within the school system. As a practicum site, VISD provides practicum students with the support and expertise of our current professionals in the related field, with the goal of best preparing school mental health practioners. Victoria ISD will maintain current partnerships as well as continue to grow additional partnerships.

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9. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

7. Describe how the LEA currently partners with the regional ESC to support improvement in student mental health, behavioral and emotional health, physical health and wellbeing, and improving academic outcomes for students.

Victoria ISD currently collaborates with our local region 3 ESC by subscribing to the Counselor Symposium, the Leadership Programming and Development, and a wide array of individual supports in the areas of curriculum and instruction. Region 3 partners with Victoria ISD as an active member of our local advisory committees. If awarded the grant, Victoria ISD will partner with Region 3 ESC to create, implement and refine the grant supported structures. Region 3 will provide guidance, professional development and ongoing implementation support through a structured meeting schedule, follow-up implementation checks and program revision support throughout the year. The goal of the Region 3 and Victoria ISD partnership is to ensure that the program follows the Texas School Mental Health Framework specifically incorporating the essential elements for a safe and supportive school. The 6 pillars of the Safe and Supportive Schools program would each be evaluated, and a responsive plan to ensure that all six pillars are included in the program would be the core work of the partnership. Pillars to be addressed through this partnership include promotes a positive school climate, builds multi-tiered system of supports for school mental health, conducts behavioral threat health assessments, promotes awareness, guidance, and training resources related to the SSSP purpose, collects data to continuously improve the program and supports the facility safety and security including a multi-hazard emergency operations plan. Region 3 will specifically assist the grant team in identifying low cost, long-term resources to support the change as well as ongoing technical assistance and professional development that aligns with the Texas School Mental Health Framework. Providing the above student support will increase student mental health, behavioral and emotional health, physical health and wellbeing and improving academic outcomes for students.

8. Describe how the LEA will use this grant program to supplement current work to improve services and supports for the mental health, behavioral and emotional health, and physical health and wellness of students.

Through the partnership with the Texas Center for Student Supports VISD can align current structures and refine and implement best practices to develop a case management system to serve students and align the behavioral threat assessment system. The data collection and data reporting required by the grant will assist in developing systemic structures to be utilized by campuses to identify proactive campus-based solutions. Additionally, the data will guide the professional development plan for the campus mental health and wellness support teams. The stronger connections grant can also provide VISD with the guidance to strengthen our current practicum partnerships. VISD is a practicum site for school counselors, License professional counselors, and school psychologists. These students can work alongside our staff and learn how to become well-rounded professionals in the areas of social, emotional, behavioral and mental health needs of our students. The grant will help us reimagine the roles of our school counselor and SEBS. These roles will work closely together to create student support plans designed with the student's abilities and needs in mind. The case management practices put in place through the grant program will allow for early intervention strategies to be a focus area in each student's wellbeing. Through grant, The VISD student support teams will be able to identify current areas of need such as physiological, emotional, behavioral, academic, and mental health needs. After identifying the needs our student support teams will create a well-rounded system of support plan that allows for teacher, student, parents/caregiver, community and staff to work towards helping the student find success in the classroom.

10. Enter the Regional Educational Service Center th	at serves the LEA	: 3	
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9. Enter the LEA Total Enrollment:

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10. Equitable	Access and Participation	on		
Check the approgroups that recessors applied services for Barriers expenses.	opriate box below to indicate vive services funded by this cant assures that no barriers unded by this grant.	e whethe grant. s exist to	er any barriers exist to equitable access and particition of equitable access and participation for any groups ation for the following groups receiving services fu	receiving
Group		Barrier		
Group		Barrier		
Group		Barrier		7
Group		Barrier		
11. PNP Equit	able Services			
page. Are any private i Yes	nonprofit schools participati	ng in the	p here. You have completed the section. Proceed grant? p here. You have completed the section. Proceed	
	assures that it discussed al	l consult:	ation requirements as listed in Section 1117(b)(1)	and/or
Section 8	501(c)(1), as applicable, wi	th all elig	gible private nonprofit schools located within the LEs of Consultation will be provided to TEA's PNP Or	A's boundaries.
Equitable Serv	vices Calculation			
1. LEA's studen	t enrollment			13,200
2. Enrollment of	all participating private sch	ools		484
3. Total enrollme	ent of LEA and all participat	ing PNP	s (line 1 plus line 2)	13684
4. Total current-	year grant allocation			1,500,000
5. LEA reservati	on for direct administrative	costs, no	ot to exceed the grant's defined limit	0
6. Total LEA am	ount for provision of ESSA	PNP equ	uitable services (line 4 minus line 5)	1,500,00
7. Per-pupil LEA	amount for provision of ES	SSA PNF	P equitable services (line 6 divided by line 3)	109.61
	LEA's total required ESS	A PNP e	equitable services reservation (line 7 times line	2) 219.22
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12. Request for Grant Funds

List all of the allowable grant-related activities for which you are requesting grant funds. Include the amounts budgeted for each activity. Group similar activities and costs together under the appropriate heading. During negotiation, you will be required to budget your planned expenditures on a separate attachment provided by TEA.

Pa	yroll Costs	
1.	Grant Support Professional	112,500
2.	District School Mental Health Case Manager	300,000
3.	Student Safety and Support Paraprofessionals	90,000
4.	Extra Duty for Building Staff Capacity and Handbook Development	100,000
5.	Substitutes for Design Team and Professional Learning	5,000
6. F	Required 10% of funds to the Texas Center for Student Supports	90,000
8.	Contracted Mental Health Supports and Services Professionals	100,000
9.	Tuition assistance to defray the cost of 6 master's courses toward Mental Health Profession	50,000
10	Additional Technical Assistance as Identfied by the Student Support Design teams	125,000
	pplies and Materials	
11	Supplies for Advisory Committee	1,000
12	Supplies and Materials for Professional Learning, Professional Staff and Grant Activities	224,876
13	Supplies and Materials for the cost of the Growing our Own Counselors	10,000
Otl	ner Operating Costs	
15	Travel for grant activities, grant aligned PD, and other districts to see quality programs	75,000
16		
17		
)e	bt Services	J [
18		
19	•	
Ca	pital Outlay	
20		
	Direct administrative cos	ts:
	Indirect administrative cos	ts: 66,62
	TOTAL GRANT AWARD REQUESTE	
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Appendix I: Negotiation and Amendments

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 of the TEA website and may be mailed OR faxed (not both). **To fax:** one copy of all sections pertinent to the amendment (including budget attachments), along with a completed and signed page 1, to either (512) 463-9811 or (512) 463-9564. **To mail:** three copies of all sections pertinent to the amendment (including budget attachments), along with a completed and signed page 1, to the address on page 1. More detailed amendment instructions can be found on the last page of the budget template.

You may duplicate this page.

For amendments, choose the section you wish to amend from the drop down menu on the left. In the text box on the right, describe the changes you are making and 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.

include the budget attachments with your an	
Section Being Negotiated or Amended	Negotiated Change or Amendment
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