

Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership (PREP)

PREP Program Allotment Overview



Introduction: PREP Program Allotment

Overview of the PREP Program Allotment

The Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership (PREP) Program Allotment aims to strengthen the quality of teacher recruitment, preparation, and mentorship leading to increased educator effectiveness and retention. The PREP Program Allotment provides funding for various partnerships, and school systems may apply for funding for the PREP Residency Program, Grow Your Own Program, and the Mentor Program through LASO Cycle 4. Additionally, through LASO Cycle 4, school systems may also apply for Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies Grant to support implementation and reach of the PREP Program Allotment.

Additional information for each of these partnership programs is available in the respective LASO Cycle 4 program guidelines.

The 89th Texas Legislature established the PREP Program Allotment via House Bill 2, which was signed into law by Governor Abbott on June 20, 2025.

The PREP Allotment is not a grant and applications to PREP Programs are addressed outside of the eGrants system. The LASO 4 process is being used to facilitate formula funding programmatic applications. School systems have the option to seek only the PREP Program Allotment funding via the LASO Cycle 4 process.

PREP Program Allotment Eligibility

Throughout the program guidelines for PREP Preservice Residency Program, PREP Grow Your Own Program, and PREP Mentorship Program, the term “school system” is used to describe eligible applicants.

School systems, which include districts and charter schools as defined below, are eligible to apply for the PREP Program Allotment. Each school system may submit one application, for a total of three applications, to each of the following PREP Programs: PREP Preservice Residency Program, PREP Grow Your Own Program, and PREP Mentorship Program.

For the purposes of these program guidelines, a charter school is defined as a Texas public school that meets one of the following criteria:

- is operated by a charter holder under an open-enrollment charter granted either by the State Board of Education or commissioner of education pursuant to Texas Education Code (TEC), §12.101, identified with its own county district number;
- has a charter granted under TEC, Chapter 12, Subchapter C*
- has a charter granted under TEC, §12.256, and Human Resources Code, §221.002**; or
- has a charter granted under TEC, §11.157(b).

Each eligible applicant is subject to PREP Program Allotment funding caps described in each of the program's guidelines.

*SB 1882 Operating Partners (OP) are eligible applicants and subject to the funding caps described in each of the PREP Program's guidelines in the following sections. However, PREP Allotment funding will flow to the partner districts in which the participating 1882 campuses are located. The SB 1882 OP must have a written agreement with the partner district to document how allotment funds generated through the partnership will be spent.

**Note: Given Texas Education Code, §21.901(a) requires partnerships to "provide preservice practice opportunities in a prekindergarten through grade 12 classroom for teacher candidates," charters with a charter granted under TEC, §12.256, and Human Resources Code, §221.002 are ineligible applicants for the PREP Preservice Residency Program and PREP Grow Your Own Program. However, we have included charters granted under those provisions in the definition given they qualify for the PREP Mentorship Program.

PREP Program Allotment Funding

PREP Program Allotment funding is provided via foundation school program formulas and is available for every school system in the state. Each PREP Program includes a specific funding formula structure in statute and provides funding for up to a specific number of supported teacher candidates or employees per year per school system. For PREP Preservice Programs, the exact funding a school system would receive for an individual depends on whether the school at which the teacher works is rural and the level of socio-economic need at the school where the individual is placed. There are certain statutory requirements related to allotment spending. The chart below provides a high-level summary, but complete details will be provided in LASO Cycle 4 informational webinars.

PREP Program	Yearly applications initially available	First year for which funding is available	Funding per qualifying individual	Cap of individuals
PREP Preservice Residency Program*	LASO Cycle 4 Oct 1 – Dec 1, 2025	2026-27	\$24,000-\$39,500*	40 **
PREP Grow Your Own Program	LASO Cycle 4 Oct 1 – Dec 1, 2025	2026-27	\$8,000-\$12,000	40
PREP Mentorship Program	LASO Cycle 4 Oct 1 – Dec 1, 2025	2026-27	\$3,000 per beginning teacher	40
PREP Preservice Traditional Program	LASO Cycle 5 Fall 2026	2027-28	\$10,000-\$21,500	80 total
PREP Preservice Alternative Program	LASO Cycle 5 Fall 2026	2027-28	\$10,000-\$21,500	

*Ranges from \$24,000-39,500 per resident with possible multipliers for high needs/rural at the rate of \$3,000 per resident and an additional \$2,000 per SPED/Bilingual certification.

*** If the total number of residents exceeds 40, partnerships are eligible for funding of up to 80 additional residents at the traditional program funding level (\$10,000-\$21,500).*

Policy References

- New Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.901 – Definitions
- New TEC, [§21.901](#) – PREP Definitions
- New TEC, [§21.902](#) – PREP Preservice Programs
- New TEC, [§21.904](#) – PREP Preservice Residency Program
- New TEC, [§21.906](#) – PREP Grow Your Own Program
- New TEC, [§21.907](#) – PREP Mentorship Program
- New TEC, [§48.157](#) – PREP Program Allotment
- The Texas Education Agency (TEA) anticipates posting rules for the PREP Program Allotment for public comment during the 2025-26 school year, which would become effective prior to the start of the 2026-27 school year. TEA anticipates sharing specific dates related to rulemaking in the coming months.