LASO Cycle 3 (2024-2025)

Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities

FAQs for LASO 3 Guidance

ESC Toolkit

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TEA
Texas Education Agency®

Table of Contents

Objective

The purpose of this document is to provide answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) separated into categories.

LASO Eligibility Questions

This section contains questions regarding eligibility requirements for the LASO grant opportunity. The LASO grants are comprised of 11 independently managed grants consolidated into One Grant Application.

Question: If we received previous TCLAS or LASO awards, can we apply for LASO grants?

Answer	Receipt of TCLAS awards may or may not impact eligibility for individual LASO grants. Each grant has its own eligibility requirements. More information is available in the LASO Cycle 3 Grant One Pager documents on the LASO website. Full details about each grant will be available in the Program Guidelines, which will be published on October 14th, when the grant application opens.
Category	Eligibility

Question: Are private schools eligible to apply for LASO Cycle 3?

Answer	Details regarding each LASO program's eligibility can be found in LASO's program guidelines and on the LASO website: https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/laso-cycle-ii
Category	Eligibility

Question: Are there any stipulations in Cycle 3 for those awarded grants under LASO in Cycle 1 or in Cycle 2?

Answer	Each grant will have its own specific eligibility requirements. However, generally, LEAs receiving Cycle 1 awards are not prohibited from a LASO 3.0 application.
Category	Eligibility

Question: School Action Fund (SAF) has a posted list of eligible campuses. Does this list apply to all of LASO?

Answer	There are three grants in which an eligibility list may apply, for school improvement grants funded through Title 1. More information will be contained in the program guidelines for SAF, SFI SI PLC Supports Grant, and the IL Grant.
Category	Eligibility

LASO Application-Related Questions

This section contains questions regarding applying for the LASO grant opportunity. The LASO grants are comprised of 11 independently managed grants consolidated into One Grant Application.

Question: Can grant application documents be made available prior to the opening of the Application Window?

Answer	Initial information about LASO grant opportunities is being provided through the General Webinar (recording and slides will be posted on the LASO 3 website) and in the LASO Cycle 3 Grant One Pager documents on the LASO website. Detailed Program Guidelines will be posted when the application opens on October 14th.
Category	Application

Question: Are all the grants open with the one application, or do they each have their own application?

Answer	There is one application that covers all LASO grants.
Category	Application

Question: Can a district receive more than one grant opportunity under the LASO grant?

Answer	Yes, a district may apply for and receive multiple grants under the LASO grant.
Category	Application

Question: Will all superintendents receive a link to the LASO Cycle 3 grant? Can they share that link to the grant manager or others as needed? Lastly, does the Qualtrics application allow you to save and return to the document or does it need to be completed all at one time?

Answer	Each application link is unique to the Superintendent's email address and to the district. If the link is shared by the Superintendent within the district, many different staff may contribute to the application, but prior to

	submission, the Superintendent needs to review the application in its entirety, complete the Superintendent contact information on the last page, and submit by the end date of December 13th at 5:00 pm CST. If at any time the application times out or is submitted prior to completion, please request a new link from the link provided on the LASO Cycle 3 webpage. You will receive a new unique link that will open your unique application and allow you to revise, edit, and Superintendent will need to sign once again. A Superintendent signature will be required on the final page of submission, and a copy of the application will be available upon submission.
Category	Application

Question: We have a brand-new superintendent. How can I check to make sure you have the correct superintendent on file?

Answer	Please e-mail LASO@tea.texas.gov so that we can double check we have the correct information. Ensuring that all contact information is updated in AskTED is an important step to maintaining timely communication from the TEA.
Category	Application

Question: Will ESCs be able to monitor our LEAs' grant application process like we can for federal grants in TEAL eGrants?

Answer	This application does not run through eGrants, but LEAs and ESCs may work collaboratively to support LASO applications.
Category	Application

Question: When does an LEA need to have a firm commitment to using an approved product for 2025-26?

Answer	Once Notices of Grant Awards (NOGA) are sent out to districts, there will be information about when districts need to confirm their participation in the grant award.
Category	Application

Question: Do LEAs need to name specific vendors in their application?

Answer	This inclusion will vary by grant. For better reference, a copy of the application will be published on the LASO website on Monday, October 14th.
Category	Application

Question: Am I able to preview a version of the application? How can I access a copy?

Answer	Yes, a PDF copy will be available on the LASO 3 website on October 14th
Category	Application

Question: Will the TEA provide the list of potential providers (vendors), or is the choice of vendors open to the LEA choice?

Answer	The State Approved Provider List will be available on the SAPL website and on the LASO 3 website by Monday, October 14th.
Category	Application

LASO Funding Questions

This section contains questions regarding funding for the LASO grant opportunity. The LASO grants are comprised of 11 independently managed grants consolidated into One Grant Application.

Question: Can indirect costs be charged to the grants?

Answer	Each grant has different guidelines pertaining to indirect costs. This information will be available in the Program Guidelines in the Application Funding section under "Indirect Costs".
Category	Grants- funding

Question: Are there options for paying salaries for staff or extra duty pay from any of these grants?

Answer	Each grant has independent program guidelines. For more information regarding eligible use of funds, please review the Program Guidelines published on Monday, October 14th.
Category	Grants-funding

Question: What's the difference between direct grant and in kind?

Answer	Direct grants will provide direct funding for the LEAs to spend. In-kind grants will not provide direct funding to the LEA but will provide supports through other means.
Category	Grants-funding

LASO Competitive Review Questions

This section contains questions regarding scoring and the competitive review process for the LASO grant opportunity. The LASO grants are comprised of 11 independently managed grants consolidated into One Grant Application.

Question: Are you going to seek reviewers, or will TEA staff complete the application reviews?

Answer	TEA staff will be reviewing applications for eligibility requirements and scoring according to the criteria for each grant.
Category	Scoring

LASO Program-Specific Questions

This section contains questions related to specific grant programs offered and are organized by the Instructional Strategy grant offering in LASO 3.

Question: How can I determine any training, professional development, or compliance requirements associated with each grant?

Answer	The program guidelines will provide key details on grant requirements and assurances. Additionally, each program's application will require explicit agreement or meeting each program's requirements & assurances.
Category	General Program implementation

Curriculum & Instruction

Strong Foundations Planning (SFP) Program-Specific Questions

Question: Can a district apply for both Strong Foundations Planning and Implementation at the same time?

Answer	Yes, districts can apply for both Strong Foundations LASO Cycle 3 grants if they are pursuing those supports in different subject areas. For example, an LEA may have built a math framework in school year 2024-2025 and is interested in applying for implementation supports for our K-5 OER math product in school year 2025-2026 through Strong Foundations Implementation. That LEA may also want to start building their literacy framework through Strong Foundations Planning in LASO Cycle 3, school year 2025-2046. This is okay to do! LEAs will work with their approved provider to support them in strategically planning the best way to move through the grant deliverables process.
Category	SFP Eligibility

Question: Our LEA has already been awarded the Strong Foundations Grant for Literacy Framework. Can we apply for a Math Framework?

Answer	Yes, LEAs who have previously created a literacy framework through Strong Foundations Planning may apply for and are eligible to participate in the creation of a math framework through Strong Foundations Planning.
Category	SFP Eligibility

Question Can an LEA apply to both reading and math supports or only one? Is it best to apply for only one content area?

Answer	No, Strong Foundations Planning applicants can only apply for one content area, Math or Literacy will be the options on the LASO application.
Category	SFP Eligibility

Question: Can a district apply for the implementation grant first, or do they need to go through the planning grant first?

Answer	Yes, LEAs may apply to participate in Strong Foundations Implementation first or apply to both grant programs simultaneously. We recommend that districts engage in Strong Foundations Planning prior to Strong Foundations Implementation in the same content area.
Category	SFP Eligibility

Question: Do charter high schools qualify for Strong Foundations Planning? (Schools that do not have an elementary or middle school)

Answer	No, for Strong Foundations Planning, the grant applicant must serve K-5 students in Math or Literacy.
Category	SFP Eligibility

Question: Do charter drop out recovery charter schools qualify for planning and implementation grants?

Answer	Charter schools must be open-enrollment to apply.
Category	SFP Eligibility

Question: We are interested in learning more about the LASO grant for the Strong Foundations planning. One of our main questions, not being familiar with the framework, is the time requirements for meetings, training and professional development throughout the year. We would also like to preview any accountability and/or documentation requirements.

Answer	Participation in the Strong Foundations Planning grant starts with the selection of an approved provider from the state approved provider vendor list. With this approved provider you will outline and backwards plan all of the grant requirements together. Please see the program-specific assurances in the program guidelines for more details.
Category	SFP Eligibility

Question: Our superintendent wants to ensure that the grant supports the current instructional program and is not an overhaul. Will the development of the framework assist with this, and is the appropriate grant to pursue?

Answer	Strong Foundations Planning provides support through an approved provider and professional development to provide information and guidance on building an instructional framework based on a district's academic goals.
Category	SFP Eligibility

Question: Are teachers included in the Strong Foundations Planning process? Is there training that they receive?

Answer	Yes, in Strong Foundations Planning the LEA creates a Leadership Team and Committee who engage in the work of building and instructional framework. Depending on the LEA this can include Teachers, Instructional Coaches, and whoever else the LEA selects to participate. All participants will participate in a Collective Learning Series where they learn more about creating an Instructional Framework and Research-Based Instructional Strategies.
Category	SFP Eligibility

Question: Will all districts be interviewed?

Answer	Districts may be interviewed as part of the awarding process.
Category	SFP Competitive Review

Question: Can you clarify the definition of rural LEA as it pertains to "the median district enrollment for the state"

Answer	A rural district has either: (a) an enrollment of between 300 and the median district enrollment for the state and an enrollment growth rate over the past five years of less than 20 percent; or (b) an PAGE 12 OF 63 FAQS enrollment of less than 300 students. For an overview of these classifications, please visit the District Type, 2021-22 page on the TEA website.
Category	SFP Competitive Review

Strong Foundations Implementation (SFI) Program-Specific Questions

Question: Can a district apply for both Strong Foundations Planning and Implementation at the same time? Can a district apply for the implementation grant first, or do they need to go through the planning grant first?

Answer	Districts can apply for both Strong Foundations LASO Cycle 3 grants if they are pursuing those supports in different subject areas. We recommend that districts engage in Strong Foundations Planning prior to Strong Foundations Implementation in the same content area. For example, an LEA may have been focusing on building out a math framework in SY 24-25 and would be interested in applying for implementation supports for our Texas OER K-5 Math (Edition 1) in English.
Category	SFI Eligibility

Question: Are districts who participated in TCLAS Decision 2A HQIM Implementation (CRIMSI or SAVL) during 2022-23 and participated in Year 2 supports year 2023-24 eligible for Strong Foundations Implementation for LASO Cycle 2?

Answer	Yes, ~~LEAs may be eligible but only for new participants (teachers, coaches, and/or leaders).~~ Any LEA may apply to SFI in LASO Cycle 3 regardless of their participation in previous implementation grants. LEAs do not need to designate anything about prior participation in their application.
Category	SFI Eligibility

Question: Can an LEA apply to both reading and math supports?]

Answer	LEAs may apply for both math and RLA implementation supports.
Category	SFI Application

Question: Can an LEA apply for SF Implementation at some grade levels, but not all?

Answer	Yes. LEAs may apply for the grant for some campuses or grade levels. It is not required to be an LEA- wide implementation.
Category	SFI Application

Question: Can districts who have already been using OERs apply for Strong Foundations Implementation grant?

Answer	Yes, LEAs who have used TEA-available pilot products in K-5 RLA or K-5 Math, can be eligible for Strong Foundations Implementation grant.

Category	SFI Program

Question: What is the biggest difference between Strong Foundations Implementation and Strong Foundations Planning Supports as far as the intent?

Answer	Strong Foundations Implementation is supporting LEAs in implementing TEA-available pilot materials for K-5 RLA (previously known as Amplify Elementary Literacy Program), TEA-available pilot materials for K-5 Math (previously known as Eureka Math TEKS Edition), and/or TEA-available pilot materials for 6-12 Math (previously known as Carnegie Learning Texas Math Solution). Strong Foundations Planning is supporting LEAs in creating an instructional framework in math and/or literacy and will provide optional adoption supports if an LEA is looking to make a materials swap as a result of developing a new instructional framework (Strong Foundations Planning is the same as to the Strong Foundations Framework Development Grant currently running, but we are incorporating some continuous improvements into it that we've heard from the field). Strong Foundations Planning is not tied to any specific materials use, but the outcomes we want LEAs to work towards during Strong Foundations Planning is either selecting HQIM to use the following year (can be our TEA OER materials or other HQIM) or building stronger systems and structures to implement HQIM they may already have.
Category	SFI Program

Question: Can an LEA participate in Strong Foundations Implementation without previously participating in Strong Foundations Planning?

Answer	Participation in Strong Foundations Planning is highly recommended but not a requirement for this cycle.
Category	SFI Program

Question: If a district is using multiple approved products in Strong Foundations, can they receive support for more than one?

Answer	Yes, districts may apply for supports with TEA-available pilot materials for K-5 RLA (previously known as Amplify Elementary Literacy Program), TEA-available pilot materials for K-5 Math (previously known as Eureka Math TEKS Edition), and/or TEA-available pilot materials for 6-12 Math (previously known as Carnegie Learning Texas Math Solution).
Category	SFI Program

Question: Are Districts required to implement every piece of the Amplify literacy suite (Amplify CKLA, Boost Reading, mCLASS, mCLASS Intervention, Amplify Tutoring,

Amplify Caminos, Boost Lectura, and mCLASS Lectura) or are only certain pieces required?

Answer	No, LEAs are not required to implement every component of the Amplify literacy suite as part of Strong Foundations Implementation. LEAs will only be required to implement the TEA-available pilot materials for K-5 RLA (previously known as Amplify Elementary Literacy Program.
Category	SFI Program

Question: What is the format for Product Support Professional Development? Are they modules, live sessions, or both? What times of the day?

Answer	What is the format for Product Support Professional Development? Are they modules, live sessions, or both? What times of the day?
Category	SFI Program

Question: I see that scope and sequence for curriculum is 180 days. What if our school year is 175 days from start to finish with students with no times in for state testing? Would we still qualify, or do we have to adjust?

Answer	Each pilot material has guidance for adjusting the scope and sequence based on the number of instructional days in each school year. You can learn more about the materials themselves on the TEA Available Instructional Materials website.
Category	SFI Program

Question: Is training customized to the language needs of dual language program students? Spanish training vs. English training

Answer	Professional learning content is designed to support teachers and teachers who are implementing K-5 RLA product in English and Spanish within a dual language program.
Category	SFI Program

Question: If we apply for the implementation grant and are awarded, is there a penalty for decreasing the number of schools we want to implement within?

Answer	Following awards announcements, LEAs will have 30 days to complete their applications in eGrants. Please finalize your budget within that time. We are not accepting declines after the NOGA has been awarded.
Category	SFI funding

Question: Is it better to submit a strong foundations grant where your student scores are weakest or strongest?

Answer	The Strong Foundations Planning Grant's Program Guidelines section "Review and Funding Criteria" lists how eligible LEAs will be evaluated. The STAAR scores being used as one of the evaluation criteria are taken from the LEA as a whole, not individual campuses.
Category	SFI funding

Blended Learning Grant (BLG) Program-Specific Questions

Question: Does a district need to already be a part of pre-existing cohorts to apply or are districts applying to be a part of a new cohort?

Answer	There are eligibility differences between the Planning and Strategic Operations cohort. For the Planning Cohort, LEAs must have participated in or currently participating in- Strong Tier 1 math and/or reading curriculum planning TEA initiatives (I,e, LASO 2 Strong Foundations, LASO 1 Strong Foundations, TCLAS Strong Foundations, or CRIMSI. For the Planning Cohort, LEAs must have previously participated in- TEA Blended Learning Grants (I,e, Math Innovation Zones, Blended-Learning Grant Program, or School Action Fund Redesign-Blended Learning. Applicants must have shown high usage in approved supplemental products in math and/or reading language arts for grades K-8 in spring of 2024
Category	BLG Eligibility

Question: Can you qualify for the strategic operations cohort without any previous participation in relevant programs?

Answer	Eligible applicants must have participated in one of the Blended Learning Grant Program, Math Innovation Zones, or School Action Fund Blended Learning Redesign. The initiative participation outlined for each cohort is one of the eligibility requirements. The rationale is to ensure that there is a strong existing foundation of Tier 1 planning and implementation within a strong blended model prior to planning for robust operational changes to optimize campus staffing models for teachers.
Category	BLG Eligibility

Question: Where can we find which LEAs participated in the Blended Learning Grant Program, Math Innovation Zones, or School Action Fund Blended Learning Redesign?

Answer	If you are a prospective applicant and are unsure, you can reach out to blendedlearning@tea.texas.gov with your district or charter name.
Category	BLG Eligibility

Question: We currently have the Blended Learning from LASO Cycle 2 and wish to apply for the Strategic Operations cohort, but I notice that there must be evidence of (supplemental product) implementation during the spring of 2024, but this school year is our first year of implementation.

Answer	LEAs applying for Strategic Operations cohort need to supply evidence of high-quality supplemental product use. LEAs who started in LASO 2.0 are eligible for the Strategic Operations grant but will need to supply evidence of product use and will be assigned points based on that product use. If an LEA in that group does not have evidence of use, they would not be eligible. Note that evidence is not limited to current Blended Learning Grant eligible supplemental products.
Category	BLG Eligibility

Question: Are there specific supplemental products that you must show evidence of for the Strategic Operations Cohort?

Answer	No specific supplemental product is required for submission of the Supplemental Usage Scoring Attachment, but products listed will need evidence of research-based usage targets. The purpose is for LEAs to show evidence of high-fidelity research-based usage targets -- through the percentage of students meeting that high-fidelity usage of a supplemental product implemented during the Spring of 2024 -- in their proposed campus(es), grade-levels, and subject(s).
Category	BLG Eligibility

Question: Strategic Operations looks similar to the TEA Strategic Staffing model. Would this be a qualifier for Strategic Operations?

Answer	There is some overlap, but the Strategic Operations Cohort is predicated on having a strong blended learning program as its foundation. That being the case, eligible applicants for the Strategic Operations Cohort must have participated in one of the Blended Learning Grant Program, Math Innovation Zones, or School Action Fund Blended Learning Redesign.
Category	BLG Eligibility

Question: Can we apply for licenses for Zearn K-2 and iReady 3-8, even if we have begun implementation this year?

Answer	Both the planning cohort grant and the strategic operations cohort grant can use grant funding for licenses. Note that the supplement, not supplant provision does apply to this grant though, so any grant expenditures would need to be supplementing existing programming.
Category	BLG Eligibility

Question: Can an LEA apply for both Blended Learning pathways, or do they need to select a singular one?

Answer	LEAs may apply for either the Planning or Strategic Operations Grant since the eligibility requirements are different.
Category	BLG Application

Question: After we submit our LASO 3 application in Qualtrics, will TEA send us the Software Usage Scoring Attachment for more information?

Answer	All application questions, including the Software Usage Scoring Attachment (provided in the application and in the Program Guidelines) are to be submitted at the same time as an upload into the Qualtrics survey.
Category	BLG Application

Question: Are all products in English and Spanish for EBs and DLI classrooms?

Answer	Supplemental products are required to provide a full list of language supports for emergent bilingual students and multilingual learners included in the instructional materials and assessments, by grade level, such as translated, trans adapted, and/or authentic texts.
Category	BLG program

Question: Can we still use our current LMS (Learning Management System) to support Blended Learning?

Answer	The grant program is LMS-agnostic - the focus is more on the specific supplemental products being used.
Category	BLG Program

Question: Will there be support for creating the implementation plans?

Answer	There are supports through a community of practice with experts from Texas Tech, and optional vendors grantees can use grant funds to support the design and implementation process.
Category	BLG Program

Question: How many classes should be included in the (Strategic Operations) pilot? Does it have to be the whole district doing the model or can we select grades?

Answer	The pilot should include one full grade-level (math or reading) at the participating campus(es) in the 1st year of the grant and at least two full grade-levels in year 2 of the grant.
Category	BLG Program

Question: Are there currently schools successfully implementing this type of blended learning model?

Answer	There are school systems implementing elements of the Strategic Operations Cohort models. Examples of these similar operational shifts in staffing and/or scheduling can be found in the TEA Blended Learning Supports page. The grant is intended to be utilized to further these types of models specifically using blended learning as a foundation, so some elements may be more unique to awarded grantees.
Category	BLG Program

Question: How does the Raise Your Hand RBL Grant align to Blended Learning?

Answer	The RBL grant through Raise Your Hand Texas definition and implementation of blended learning are similar to the TEA Blended Learning Grant Program, however participation in the RBL grant has no effect on eligibility purposes for the LASO-BLG application.
Category	BLG Program

Question: What happens if we cannot locally fund the software in year 3?

Answer	The intent of the Blended Learning Grant is to design and implement a future self-sustaining blended learning model. Elements of the program will include sustainability planning to support future budgeting processes.
Category	BLG Program

Question: What would a day of Blending Learning Look like? We do CRIMSI.

Answer	There are several examples from a weekly BL schedule from Texas ISDs in the TEA Blended Learning Supports page.
Category	BLG Program

Question: Are Texas districts only allowed to work with vendors who are on the preferred provider list for the Blended Learning grant, or can they use providers not on the list?

Answer	Blended Learning Grant awardees can only use their direct grant funds with vendors on the SAPL list, which will be posted on our [LASO 3 webpage](#) in October.
Category	BLG Program

Technology Lending Grant (TLG) Program-Specific Questions

Question: We were awarded the TLG in a previous cycle. Are we eligible to apply and receive this grant this year?

Answer	Eligible applicants include school districts and open-enrollment charter schools. Prior participation in TLG is not a barrier to applying for this year's program.
Category	TLG Eligibility

Question: It says we are required to use an OER at least 51% of the time. What is considered an OER to qualify for this grant?

Answer	OER is considered to be any resource found on the TEA Available Instructional Materials webpage, or any resource that is deemed to be of high-quality instructional material that the LEA is currently using.
Category	TLG Eligibility

Question: If we do not plan to utilize the TEA Instructional Materials through other LASO grants, should we apply?

Answer	Eligible applicants include school districts and open-enrollment charter schools. Prior participation in TEA instructional Materials does not prohibit you from applying to TLG. However, program assurances require that the device will be used for instruction with TEA Available Instructional Materials (OER) for at least 51% or the majority of the time. The grant is not intended to fund district wide one-to-one programs. The general Instructional Materials and Technology Allotment (IMTA) may be used for that.
Category	TLG Eligibility

Question: If we received Tech Lending in Cycle 2, can we apply again for Cycle 3?

Answer	Cycle 2 Tech Lending recipients are not prohibited from applying, as long as they agree to meet all requirements and assurances in the application.
Category	TLG Eligibility

Question: Is it a requirement for students to take the devices home?

Answer	Students are not required to take the devices home.
Category	TLG Program

Question: We would appreciate your clarification regarding the necessity of providing at-home internet access as part of the grant's requirements. Is at-home internet access obligatory, or is it only mandated in instances where such access is deemed essential?

Answer	It is an assurance of the Technology Lending Grant that the LEA will provide access to lending technology and residential access to the internet for students, including economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities, who do not already have either the needed equipment or internet service for learning at home.
Category	TLG Program

Question: Concerning device training, are provisions made within the grant to cover the costs associated with training, or is it the responsibility of the LEA to allocate funds for this purpose?

Answer	The intent of the Technology Lending Grant is to provide students with the equipment or hardware necessary to access digital resources and does not cover the costs for any personnel or training costs. It is the responsibility of the LEA to provide training to students, teachers, or other educators on how to use and care for the device.
Category	TLG Program

Question: We seek clarification regarding the inclusion of charging stations/solutions for student devices and/or student device carts under the category of "other equipment necessary to access and use electronic instructional materials."

Answer	Under the General Allowable Activities and Use of Funds section of the Program Guidelines, the grant allows the purchase of technology devices that provide access to digital instructional materials for students. These devices include: • laptops, tablets, and other personal devices • operating system, productivity software o tech applications dedicated to word processing, presentation, spreadsheets o carrying or storage cases • Classroom-based hardware that provide better access to digital materials such as smart whiteboards or document cameras
Category	TLG Program

Question: We have PreK students. Do we need to make devices available to all students or can we be selective as to the students that need and will use the additional access to HQIM as intended by the grant?

Answer	The LEA should decide the number of devices according to students' needs of accessing digital resources, such as high-quality instructional materials. If student devices for PreK students are needed, please include this number when referencing the student count for elementary students.
Category	TLG Program

Question: Regarding the use of TEA Available Instructional Materials (OER), does our Local Education Agency (LEA) need to ensure that the devices are utilized with OER for a minimum of 51% of the instructional day, week, grading period, or the entire school year? Additionally, could you provide insights into the method by which the LEA is expected to monitor and track this 51% usage requirement?

Answer	The TLG gives awards to LEAs based on priority levels, including LEAs who choose to utilize high-quality instructional materials for the majority of the time during the school year. Please visit the TEA Available Instructional Materials page for a list of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) designed especially for Texas, including supplemental tutoring resources. it is up to the LEA to determine how to monitor/track the usage of high-quality instructional materials. TEA may, at any time, request this information.
Category	TLG Program

Question: Must students take a device home continuously or could the device be left at school?

Answer	LEAs may decide whether or not students can take home devices continuously. The intent of the Technology Lending Grant is to provide students with dedicated access to high-quality instructional materials at school and at home.
Category	TLG Program

Question: Must a school district provide internet connectivity at a student's residence as a requirement to apply for this grant, or is it just one of the items to which funds can be applied?

Answer	The Technology Lending Grant gives LEAs the opportunity to provide residential or area internet access where there is a student need for such devices.
Category	TLG Program

Question: Can SMART Board/TV devices be allowed as classroom display devices?

Answer	The grant does allow for devices that meet specifications of classroom display equipment. As an assurance, the LEA agrees to put the display equipment in classrooms where high-quality instructional materials are being used for most of the instructional time.
Category	TLG Program

Question: Would we be able to buy additional cases for our existing computers so we can provide protection for the devices since they will be traveling?

Answer	The intent of the program is to provide student devices, including storage cases to protect these aforementioned devices. However, additional storage cases for devices not purchased under the Technology Lending Grant are not allowed.
Category	TLG Program

Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Program (CSP) Program-Specific Questions

Question: If we are currently offering the course, can we still apply for the grant?

Answer	Yes, LEA is eligible to apply
Category	AP CSP Eligibility

Question: If a teacher is already teaching the course, do they still have to participate in the summer training?

Answer	Training is strongly recommended.
Category	AP CSP Eligibility

Question: The last Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Principles (CSP) Grant opened in May and was due in July. Will it now be open from October 23rd - December 7th?

Answer	The current cycle for AP Computer Science Principles grants is embedded in the LASO 3 grant cycle open from October 14th – December 13th .
Category	AP CSP Eligibility

Question: Are there any prerequisites for students before taking this course?

Answer	There are no specific prerequisites for this course (TAC §127.772). Students shall be awarded one credit for successful completion of this course. Recommended prerequisite: Algebra I.
Category	AP CSP Program

Question: What grade level(s) are recommended for AP Computer Science courses?

Answer	AP courses are designed for high school students; The AP Program recognizes the autonomy of secondary schools and districts in setting AP course participation policies that best meet their students' unique needs and learning goals, making this decision a local district decision. The AP designation may only be applied to courses offered at or above the ninth-grade level that have received authorization through the annual AP Course Audit process.
Category	AP CSP Program

Question: What are the requirements for a teacher to teach this course?

Answer	An assignment for Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles is allowed with one of the following certificates (TAC §231.587) (1) Computer Science: Grades 8-12. (2) Grades 6-12 or Grades 9-12--Computer Information Systems. (3) Junior High School (Grades 9-10 only) or High School--Computer Information Systems. (4) Secondary Computer Information Systems (Grades 6-12). (5) Technology Applications: Early Childhood-Grade 12. (6) Technology Applications: Grades 8-12. (7) Trade and Industrial Education: Grades 6-12. This assignment requires a bachelor's degree and appropriate work approval. (8) Trade and Industrial Education: Grades 8-12. This assignment requires a bachelor's degree and appropriate work approval. (9) Trade and Industrial Workforce Training: Grades 6-12. This assignment requires a bachelor's degree and appropriate work approval.
Category	AP CSP Program

More Time

Additional Days School Year (ADSY) Summer

Question: Our calendar for 24-25 does not have 180 days but we will have it on the calendar for 25-26 school year. Does a district qualify to apply for the grant?

Answer	Per the ADSY Summer Learning Accelerator grant assurances, ADSY eligibility requirements, such as a 180-day instructional calendar, must be met during the 2026-2027 school year
Category	ADSY Eligibility

Question: Is there any differentiation of eligibility between ADSY PEP Cycles 1-3 vs Cycle 4? Are any current ADSY programs eligible to apply?

Answer	Cycle 4 LEAs that meet ADSY calendar eligibility requirements are eligible to apply. Priority will be LEAs who have not participated in ADSY PEP Cycles 1-3. If funding allows, ADSY PEP Cycles 1-3 who meet eligibility requirements will be awarded based on the same priority and ranking listed under Grant Review and Funding Criteria in the Program Guidelines.
Category	ADSY Eligibility

Question: We are currently receiving ADSY funds and are scheduled to use them until the end of the summer of 2024. We would love to apply for LASO Cycle 3 ADSY Summer School funds. Would the overlap of grants during the summer of 25 make us ineligible for LASO Cycle 3 ADSY Summer?

Answer	Any LEA that has a board approved ADSY eligible calendar in the 2024-2025 school year for the campuses that serve students in grades PK- 5 are eligible to apply for the LASO Cycle 3 ADSY Summer Learning Accelerator grant.
Category	ADSY Eligibility

Question: Does the required 6 hours include breakfast and transportation home? Does this grant pay for transportation?

Answer	An ADSY Summer program day must consist of 3 hours of academic instruction + 2 hours of enrichment + 1 flex hour as part of the 6-hour requirement (the flex hour can include breakfast, lunch, transitions, assembly time). Travel/Transportation time is not included. Travel expenses for the summer program would be an eligible expense.
Category	ADSY Program-related Questions

Question: In the past, ADSY did not have a hard deadline or app. Has that changed?

Answer	This grant is meant to supplement and strengthen ADSY programming and is distinct from ADSY formula funding. Any LEA that meets ADSY eligibility requirements can access ADSY funding with or without this grant. Please reach out to adsy@tea.texas.gov for further guidance.

Category	ADSY Competitive Review

Innovative School Models

School Action Fund (SAF) Program-Specific Questions

Question: If we are Title I but not comprehensive school or a targeted school, are we eligible?

Answer	To be eligible, campuses must be both Title I-serving AND Comprehensive or Targeted.
Category	SAF Eligibility

Question: Does a district need to currently be in the SB1882 process to apply as a school of innovation?

Answer	No; a district does not need to currently be in the SB1882 process to apply for a School Action Fund grant to support a Texas Innovation Partnership school.
Category	SAF Eligibility

Question: Can the Office of Innovation have shared roles with other duties for rural or smaller districts?

Answer	Yes. That decision is up to the district, but TEA will look for evidence of support for new and innovative strategies beyond the normal scope of the role.
Category	SAF Eligibility

Question: Does TEA have a list of schools that have previously received SAF grants (starting from 2019)?

Answer	Yes. This list can be found here: Previous SAF Grantees on the LASO II webpage
Category	SAF Eligibility

Question: Do campuses/districts need to be a part of Great Schools to apply/receive a SAF grant?

Answer	No, applicants do not need to be part of the System of Great Schools or any other TEA program. Eligible applicants are LEAs that apply on behalf of Title I-

	serving Comprehensive-identified schools or Targeted-identified schools. For new schools, there must be clear Title I, Part A eligibility and intent to obtain Title I-serving status for the opening school year and the life of the grant.
Category	SAF Eligibility

Question: What does "restarting an existing school" mean? And are only campuses who received a Needs Improvement rating the last time we received a rating eligible? We are anticipating based on last year STAAR scores that we need to take some comprehensive actions but of course don't know our rating yet.

Answer	Restart actions are designed to transform a chronically under-performing campus into a high-performing learning environment. These actions involve replacing a leader with a principal with a track record of success, replacing all or most of the instructional staff, and implementing a new, evidence-based instructional model designed to accelerate instruction.
Category	SAF Eligibility

Question: Where can I find details for specific school models?

Answer	You can visit the Center for School Actions website: https://www.centerforschoolactions.org/resources where you will find Model Playbooks which provide in-depth information about each codified model.
Category	SAF Application

Question: How many campuses can one LEA apply for?

Answer	An LEA may apply for a maximum of six (6) eligible campuses across all actions and up to four schools for each action.
Category	SAF Application

Question: Is ADSY a required part of the School Action Fund?

Answer	ADSY Full-Year is one of the school model options available within the School Action Fund, not a requirement. Strategic Scheduling is a required element of all SAF actions and ADSY is a strategy, along with extended day/year and blended learning, which may be used to implement Strategic Scheduling.
Category	SAF Program

Question: Would the SAF grant be appropriate for a campus to expand a current P-TECH model?

Answer	SAF does not support districts in implementation of the P-TECH model. There is a separate P-TECH grant opportunity in LASO III. Please review the resources which are available on the LASO III website to help you and your team make determinations of which grants are appropriate and beneficial for your district.
Category	SAF Program

Question: If we received a 2022-23 SAF implementation grant for one campus, can we apply for the LASO: SAF for a different campus that qualifies?

Answer	Yes, an LEA may apply on behalf of another campus that meets the eligibility requirements.
Category	SAF Program

Question: Is the college and career prep model inclusive of P-TECH and ECHS? Could a campus be redesigned as a P-TECH and receive SAF grant in addition to P-TECH grant?

Answer	SAF does not support districts in implementation of the P-TECH model. There is a separate P-TECH grant opportunity in LASO III. The School Action Fund College and Career Prep Model focuses on Kindergarten through 8th grades and is designed to complement P-TECH/ECHS by preparing students to take full advantage of CCMR options in high school.
Category	SAF Program

Question: The SAF grant also is available for districts wishing to create new campuses, correct? Are there Title 1 related requirements for new campuses?

Answer	Yes; all SAF grants are Title I, Part A funded. Applicants selecting "Create a New School" must include the new campus in its Title I ESSA plan in time for the opening school year and ensure the campus is Title-I serving and throughout the grant period.
Category	SAF Program

Question: What is the difference between a planning grant and an implementation grant?

Answer	A Planning grant supports a grantee with deeply thinking about how to design and plan for the implementation of the selected action and model. Towards the end of the Planning grant, grantees apply for a Continuation to go ahead and implement the action and model. An Implementation grant does not include a planning period. It is intended to support a grantee with an immediate launch of the action and model.
Category	SAF Program

Question: We are applying for the LASO SAF grant and wanted to know if we can include technical assistance providers, we've been working with who are not listed on the state provider list?

Answer	The TEA will match grantees with Technical Assistance providers.
Category	SAF Program

Question: Are School Action Fund Grants for planning or implementation?

Answer	Applicants may apply for either Planning or Implementation grants. To apply for an Implementation grant, an applicant must have completed planning with a TEA-approved provider.
Category	SAF Program

Early College High School (ECHS) Program-Specific Questions

Question: What type of campuses are eligible to apply?

Answer	Eligible campuses include those that: Serve students in Grades 9–12; or will begin serving students in Grade 9 or students in Grades 9 and 10 in the first year of implementation (2026-2027) and will progressively scale up by adding at least one grade level per year after the first year of implementation. • Any 24-25 ECHS current planning, provisional or designated campus is not eligible to apply. • Any ECHS Planning and Implementation Grant recipient (2021-2023; 2022-2024) is not eligible to apply. • Any recipient of a previous LASO - ECHS Grant is not eligible to apply.
Category	ECHS Application

Question: Are the grant funds only available to new ECHS entering their planning year?

Answer	Yes, that's correct. These grants are intended to support new Early College High School programs. If you're opening a new ECHS campus that isn't currently affiliated with an existing ECHS, that campus is eligible to apply.
Category	ECHS Application

Question: We are partnering with an out-of-state University to work with our sophomores and juniors to complete teacher education program requirements. Is this type of program eligible for consideration under this grant?

Answer	This type of program would be eligible for consideration under the grant with the stipulation that the out-of-state University is accredited.

Category	ECHS Application

Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) in Early College High School Program-Specific Questions

Question: Our campus currently has a designated ECHS. If we apply for the P-TECH grant portion, would we have to phase out our existing ECHS for the P-TECH or could we have both designations on the same campus?

Answer	No, the campus would not have to phase out their ECHS. A campus (identified by a CDC) can maintain 2 CCRS Model designations simultaneously, one for ECHS and one for P-TECH. Students can only participate in one model, either ECHS or P-TECH.
Category	P-TECH Application

Question: If we received the P-TECH planning and implementation grant a few years ago, can we still receive funding through this grant if we are adding new pathways to our P-TECH? What about if we are in Year 2 of our P-TECH Implementation?

Answer	No, neither of the campuses in the scenarios above is eligible to apply for this grant.
Category	P-TECH Application

Question: What would be the first year of accountability for a P-TECH/ECHS under the CCRSM blueprint?

Answer	ECHS and P-TECH campuses are required to meet the CCRSM Outcomes-Based Measures (OBMs) after completing 5 years of implementation. ECHS and P-TECH campuses will begin implementing in SY 26-27 under LASO 3.0.
Category	P-TECH Program

Question: Do we need a business partner for each pathway or 1 business partner that may not align with all pathways?

Answer	Although it's possible to meet the requirement with a single business partner, this approach can be challenging due to the diverse pathways offered and the limited capacity of any one partner. A more viable and flexible solution is to involve multiple business partners for each pathway.
Category	P-TECH Program

Question: If we submit three different programs of study on the grant and we want to use those funds for other programs of study not noted on the grant, are we still able to do that?

Answer	Yes, it is feasible to use LASO 3 funds on other P-TECH programs of study that serve your P-TECH students if the district needs to make that adjustment (and those programs of study align to the P-TECH Blueprint standards). We understand that an LEA may make needed adjustments during the Planning year as they continue to develop partnerships with the IHE(s) and Business and Industry partner(s)
Category	P-TECH Program