Texas Education Agency

STRONG FOUNDATIONS Implementation

Strong Foundations Implementation

Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) Cycle 3

October 2024

Note on Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- TEA's IT security team has asked us to not allow the use of Generative AI or "AI bots," on virtual calls and presentations.
- We request anyone using such software to disable it now.
- Our meeting host will also remove any AI attendees from the meeting.

Program introductions

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Agenda

- Overview of LASO Cycle 3 Application Process and Timeline
- Strong Foundations Implementation (SFI) Deep Dive
- SFI School Improvement PLC Supports (SFI SI PLC) Deep Dive
- Next Steps

FYIs

- Submit questions during the webinar using the Zoom Q&A
- Webinar slides and recordings will be posted on the LASO Cycle 3 website after all webinars have been completed
- Email LASO@tea.texas.gov with follow-up questions

Overview of LASO Cycle 3 Application Process and Timeline

Strong Foundations Implementation (SFI) is part of Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) Cycle 3

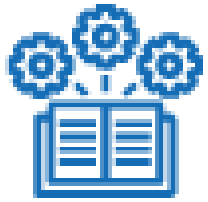
The Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) Cycle 3 is the next iteration of a consolidated grant application that strategically batches funding opportunities that support learning acceleration and innovation opportunities.

$160 Million
in services and supports

11
TEA initiatives to support learning acceleration and innovation

1
LEA program application to access funding

LASO is a consolidated grant application to support key learning acceleration strategies



Curriculum and instruction

Rigorous, high-quality instructional materials designed to make up ground and master grade level TEKS

More time

More time for the students in most need, including expanding instructional time in the summer and with targeted tutoring

Innovative school models

Innovative school models to incorporate all of the learning acceleration framework

LASO Cycle 3 will award $160M to LEAs

Includes 11 grants to support learning acceleration

Curriculum & Instruction

- Strong Foundations Planning
- Strong Foundations Implementation
- SFI School Improvement PLC Supports
- Instructional Leadership
- Technology Lending Grant
- Blended Learning Grant
- Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles

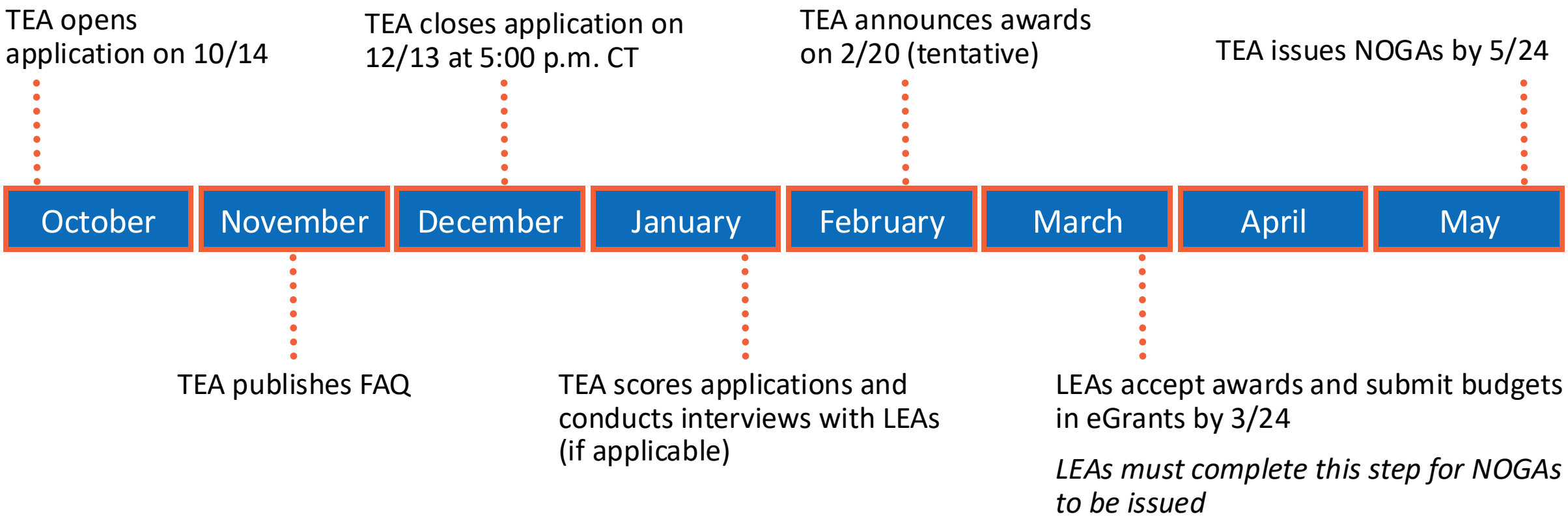
More Time

- ADSY Full Year
- ADSY Summer Planning and Execution Program

Innovative School Models

- School Action Fund
- Early College High School
- Pathways in Technology Early College High School

LASO Cycle 3 Timeline



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Strong Foundations Implementation Deep Dive

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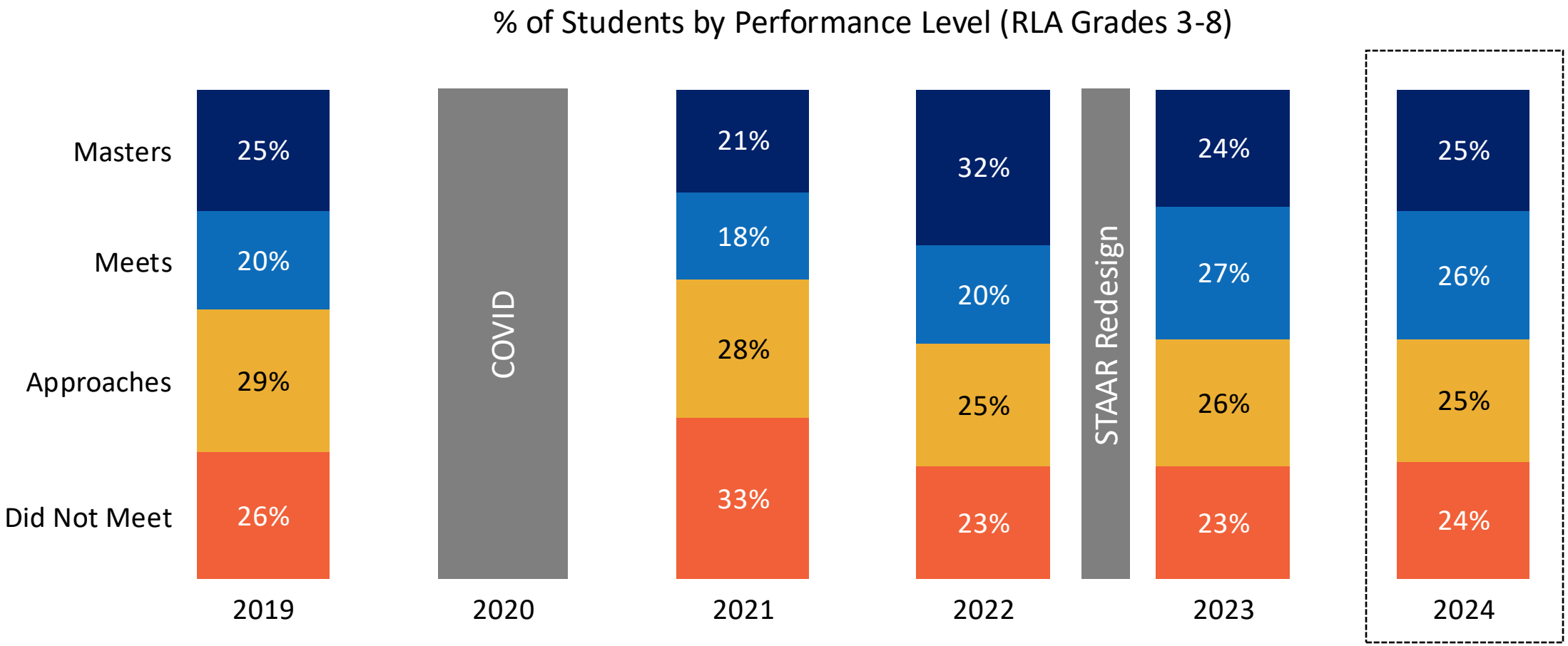
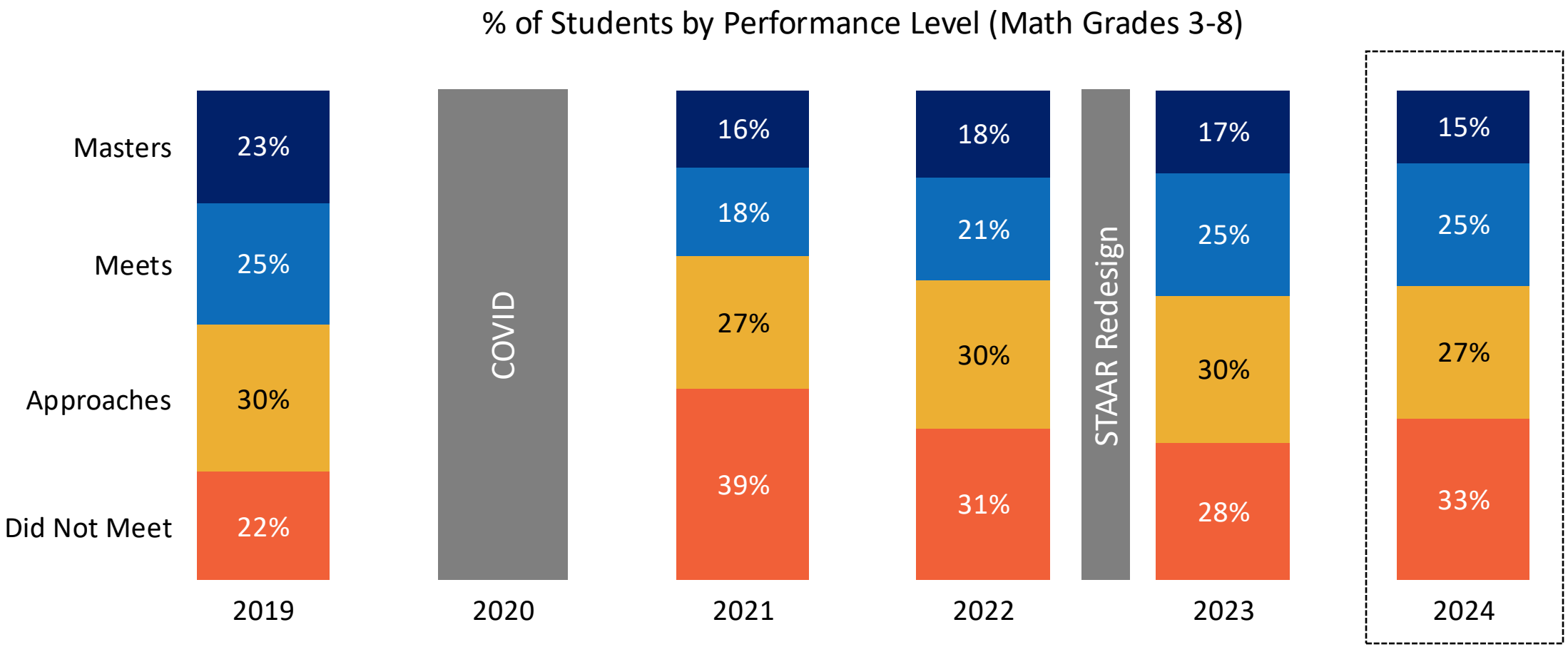
The “why” of HQIM implementation

Only ~50% of Grades 3-8 students in Texas are reading on grade level



Source: State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR)

Math performance in Texas has not recovered to pre-COVID levels



Source: State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR)

National study found that of the 180 classroom hours during the school year, students spent…

hours on assignments that were **not grade appropriate**

hours on assignments that were **grade appropriate**

Source: *The Opportunity Myth*, TNTP, 2018

4 out of 10 classrooms with mostly students of color never received a grade-level assignment

of classrooms had **no grade-level assignments** in classrooms with mostly **white students**

of classrooms had **no grade-level assignments** in classrooms with mostly **students of color**

Source: *The Opportunity Myth*, TNTP, 2018

Students made significant gains with access to better assignments

All students made

1.7

more months of academic progress when they had access to **better assignments**

Students who were **furthest behind** made

7.3

more months of academic progress when they had access to **better assignments**

Source: *The Opportunity Myth*, TNTP, 2018

HQIM benefits students…

…but also benefits teachers

Many teachers are spending hours developing curriculum

Teachers are spending **7-12 hours per week** curating or developing instructional materials…

…but only have **3.75 hours per week** for planning in their master schedule

Source: EdReports, 2022; NCTQ, 2016

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HQIM supports teachers by shifting from designing instructional materials…

Teachers use planning time to **source or create instructional materials** for lessons, such as finding texts, designing activities, writing discussion questions, developing problem sets, building assessments, creating homework assignments, preparing student worksheets, and more.

…to internalizing instructional materials

Teachers us planning time to **internalize high-quality instructional materials**, which already include all teacher and student materials. During internalization, teachers spend time deepening their understanding of lessons and deciding how best to teach the content. High-quality instructional materials provide the “what” while maintaining the instructional flexibility of teachers to address the “how”.

SFI Program Overview

Purpose

Provides direct grant funds to LEAs for technical assistance to support high-fidelity implementation of the Texas open education resource (OER) instructional materials

More information can be found in the Grant One Pager

Eligibility *

Eligible applicants are LEAs implementing approved core instructional materials in school year 2025-26.

More information can be found in the Eligibility and Prioritization Doc

Best Fit For

Best Fit for LEAs who are looking for:

a. Implementation supports for the Texas OER instructional materials
b. Technical assistance to develop a district-level instructional materials transition plan and campus-level implementation action plans

More information can be found in the Best Fit Guidance Doc

**not an exhaustive list of eligibility, program assurances or requirements.*

SFI Key Commitments

Commitments*

- **Approved Provider** | Contract with an Approved Provider for Strong Foundations Implementation.
- **Materials Access**| Provide print materials for all teachers and students and ensure digital access and rostering (if applicable). *Note: print materials are not included in the grant and LEAs must purchase all print materials required for implementation.*
- **Fidelity of Implementation** | Implement the instructional materials with fidelity, including following the year-long scope and sequence, meeting the minimum number of instructional minutes, and using the curriculum-embedded assessments.

More information can be found in the Grant One Pager

Role & Time Commitment

Role	Commitment
CAO 3 hours; monthly	Participation of at least 1 senior district leader (e.g., Superintendent, Chief Academic Officer) at monthly communities of practice.
Campus and District leaders from each campus 8 hours; one upon delivery	required professional learning and job-embedded supports.
AP- 1 hour; once, or refresher as needed	

More information can be found in the Program Guidelines

**not an exhaustive list of eligibility, program assurances or requirements.*

SFI Assurances*

1. The applicant acknowledges the LEA should draw down approximately 25% of the grant amount quarterly to remain on-track for grant expenditures.
2. The applicant assures the LEA will meet all program-specific assurances, including:
   a. Ensuring approval by the Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer (or equivalent leader) to participate in the program
   b. Ensuring approval of the board of the local governing agency/trustees of the district to use the instructional materials
   c. Ensuring evidence showing classroom teachers support the use of the instructional materials
   d. Contracting with an Approved Provider from the LASO Cycle 3 Approved Provider List for Strong Foundations Implementation
   e. Submitting Approved Provider contracts and required funding summary reports to TEA
   f. Appointing a LEA lead as the primary point of contact responsible for all grant-related activities and designating at least one additional point of contact
   g. Ensuring attendance and engagement by the LEA lead at periodic check-ins with the Approved Provider
   h. Ensuring participation of at least 1 school leader/campus administrator per participating campus

More information can be found in the Program Guidelines

**not an exhaustive list of eligibility, program assurances or requirements.*

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The “what” of HQIM implementation

HQIM in Texas

High-quality instructional materials will be defined through the State Board of Education (SBOE) new **Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA)** process under HB 1605

Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA) Criteria

Standards Alignment Percentage	Quality Review	Suitable and Appropriate	Factual Errors	Physical and Electronic Specifications	Parent Portal

In November 2024, the SBOE will vote to add materials to a list of approved high-quality instructional materials

IMRA Fact Sheet; IMRA Timeline

What are OER instructional materials?

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Instructional Materials = “textbooks +”

“teaching, learning, and research resources… including full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.”

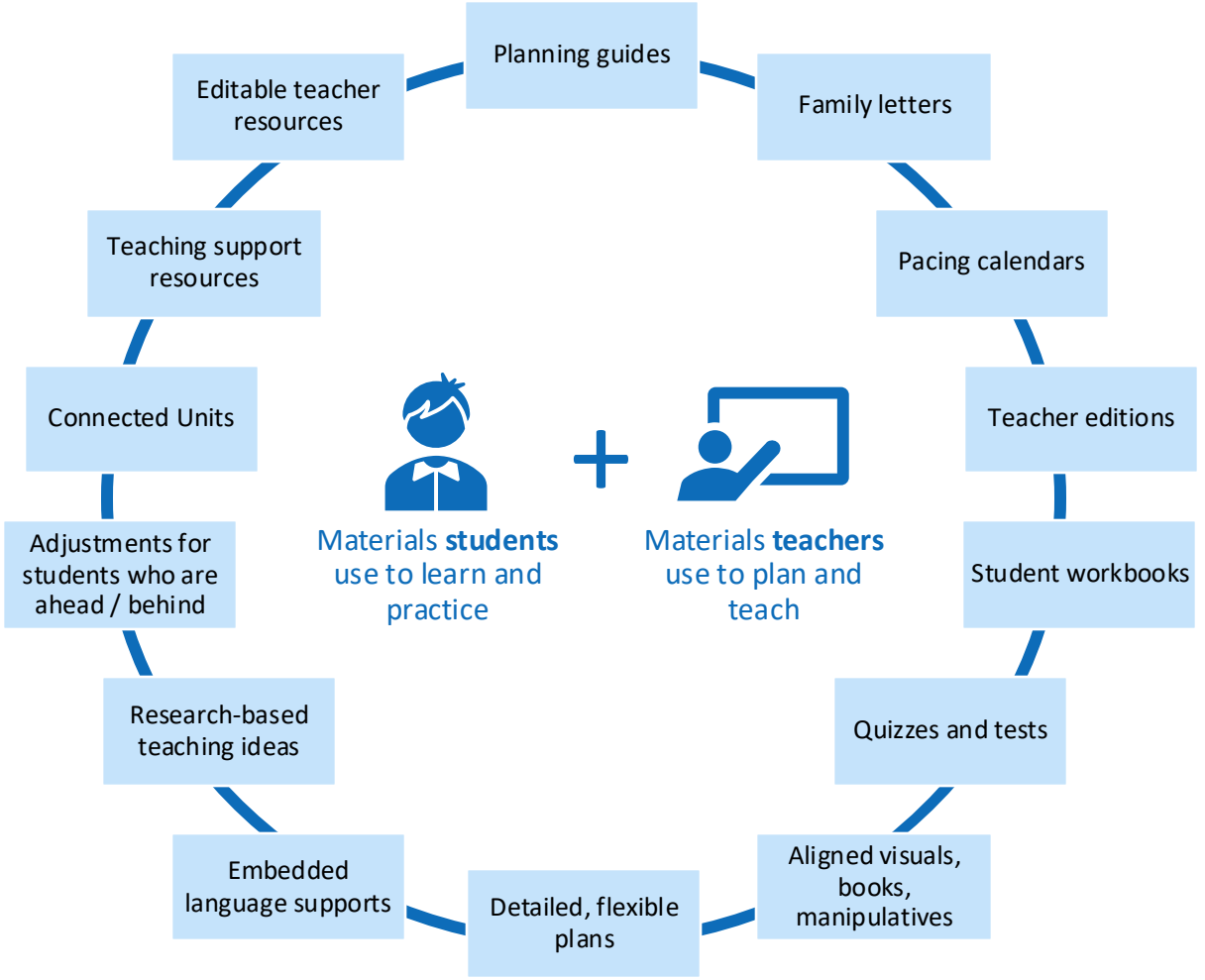
It includes material used by a teacher; material used by a principal; and material used by a student.

Open Education Resources

“reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that allows for free use, reuse, modification, and sharing with others”

Effectively, open education resources are…

State-owned “textbooks +” that can be modified over time



Texas OER is one option available to Texas schools; selection of instructional materials continues to be a **local decision**

The evolution of TEA's available instructional materials

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COVID Emergency Release Versions (CER)

K – 5 ELAR Knowledge
K – 5 SLAR Knowledge
K – 2 Skills English and Spanish

Amplify. TEXAS ELEMENTARY LITERACY PROGRAM

K – 5 Mathematics
K – 5 Matemáticas (Spanish)

EUREKA MATH

6 – 8 Mathematics
Algebra I

TEXAS MATH SOLUTION

HB 1605

SY 20-21 | **SY 21-22** | **SY 22-23** | **SY 23-24** | **SY 24-25** | **SY 25-26**

CER 1.0 Pilot

Released TEKS and English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) aligned product for COVID Emergency Release (CER) * Year 1 Pilot for K–5 RLA, K–5 Math and 6–12 Math

CER 2.0, 3.0, and 4.0 Pilots

Released additional enhancements and changes based on previous year's **stakeholder feedback** for K–5 RLA, K–5 Math and 6–12 Math

Bluebonnet Learning

Bluebonnet Learning

(Texas OER Edition 1)

**CER; originally published as part of Texas Home Learning (THL)*

Stakeholder reviews informed continuous improvement to get to a stronger Bluebonnet Learning

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Texas Educators

A small group of Texas educators and education service center (ESC) content specialists review materials and give input to inform the initial development and continuous improvement processes prior to materials being released.

Pilot Users

Once released, materials are piloted, and input is collected from pilot teachers, instructional coaches and campus and district leaders. Their input informs the continuums improvement process.

LEAs

The OER team conducts site visits at LEAs using the product and meets with interested LEAs to collected additional user input to inform continuous improvement.

During the development of Bluebonnet Learning, additional stakeholder reviews were conducted

Parents and Families

TEA conducted parent and caregiver focus groups, leveraging their feedback as part of the continuous improvement process.

Subject Matter Experts

TEA enlisted subject matter experts (SMEs) from across the state to review and provide feedback on the Edition 1 content.

Advisory Board

TEA enlisted additional Texas-based content experts to inform product revisions.

Bluebonnet Learning content areas, grade levels, and languages

Due for SY 25–26 Implementation

Pending SBOE approval

- K–3 Skills Edition 1 (English)
- K–5 RLA Edition 1 (English)
- K–5 Math Edition 1 (English)
- 6–8 Math and Alg I Edition 1

Due for SY 25–26 Pilot

Concurrent pilot with Edition 1 English products

(Spanish Edition 1 will be submitted to IMRA 2025 for SBOE approval)

- K–3 Skills Edition 1 (Spanish)
- K–5 RLA Edition 1 (Spanish)
- K–5 Math Edition 1 (Spanish)

November 2024 IMRA Approval

Implementation SY 2025–26

November 2025 IMRA Approval*

Pilot SY 2025–26

All timelines pending SBOE approval and are subject to change

Bluebonnet Learning products maintain the same instructional approach as their CER counterparts

- [x] Same instructional design
- [x] Same programmatic resources and components
- [x] Same unit- and lesson-level structures
- [x] Same rigor level
- [x] Same opportunities for students to practice

Side-by-Side: Grade 4 RLA Knowledge

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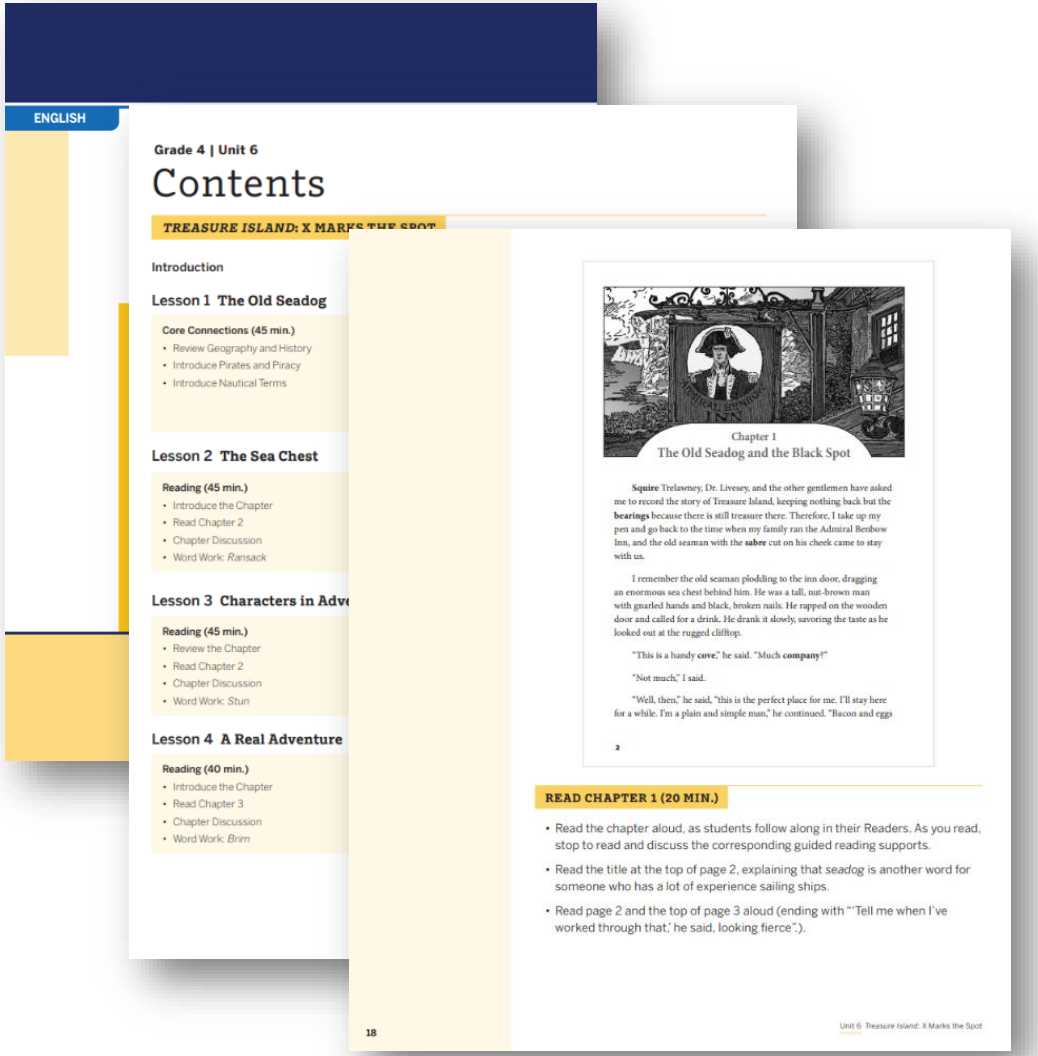
CER 4.0

Bluebonnet Learning



Side-by-Side: Grade 3 Math

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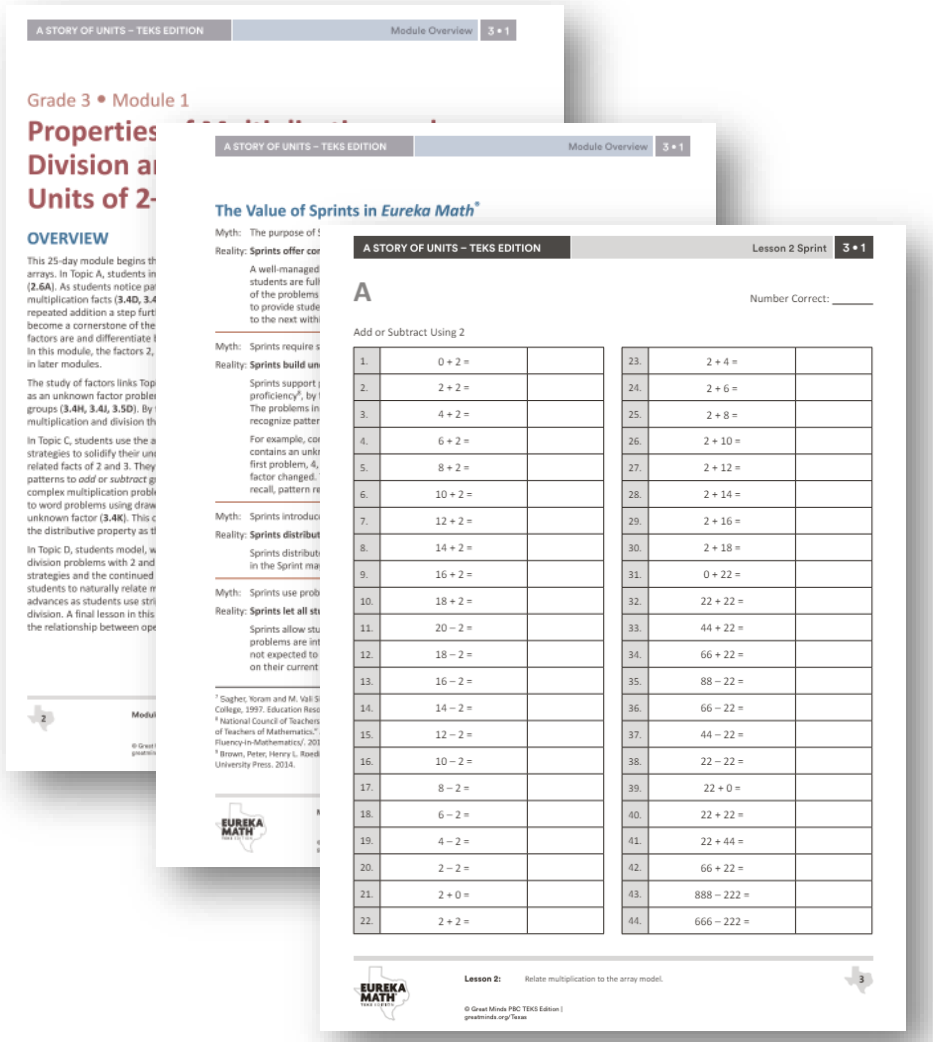
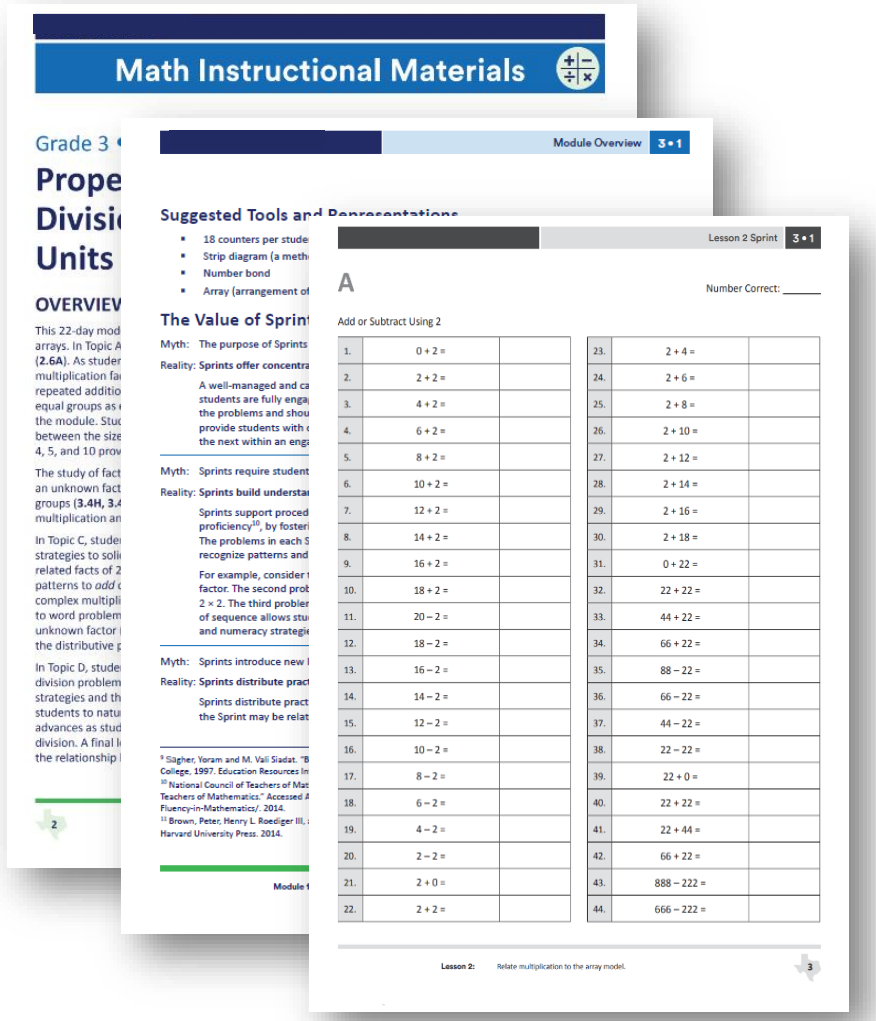
CER 2.1



Bluebonnet Learning



Bluebonnet Learning improvements for Math and RLA focus on…

- Greater **customization for Texas** users
- Enhanced teacher **implementation supports**
- Revisions based on **pilot user** and **stakeholder feedback**
- Revisions to align to new **IMRA rubrics**
- In **RLA**, new units and topics covering a wider **knowledge map**

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The “how” of HQIM implementation

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Our vision: All Texas students have access to rigorous, grade-level content and instruction every day

Strong Foundations supports LEAs across the stages of HQIM adoption and implementation

STRONG FOUNDATIONS Planning

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Pre-Adoption	Adoption	Pre-Launch	Initial Implementation	Deeper Implementation
What are our vision and goals for student learning?	Which instructional materials will best support our district to realize our vision and goals for student learning?	How do we create the conditions for successful implementation of the instructional materials and invest all stakeholders?	How do we support teachers in effectively implementing the instructional materials consistently?	How do we strengthen implementation of the instructional materials and empower teachers to use data to help all students access grade-level learning every day?

352 LEAs across Texas have participated in Strong Foundations

STRONG FOUNDATIONS
Planning

279
LEAs

STRONG FOUNDATIONS
Implementation

221
LEAs

Strong Foundations Implementation

Strong Foundations Implementation provides **direct grant funds** to LEAs for technical assistance to support **high-fidelity implementation of Texas open education resources (OER)**, as well as provide high-quality professional learning (HQPL) for **teachers, coaches, school leaders, and district leaders**.

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Implementation Supports + **Product Supports**

Strong Foundations Implementation will continue to include two types of LEA supports

Implementation Supports + **Product Supports**

provided to leaders by Implementation Advisors

provided to teachers and coaches by Product Advisors

Implementation Advisor

District and School Leaders

Product Advisor

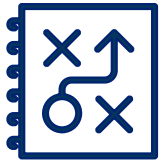
Teachers and Coaches

STRONG FOUNDATIONS
Implementation

Implementation Advisors provide support to district and school leaders

Implementation Supports + **Product Supports**

provided to leaders by Implementation Advisors



Action Plans: Implementation Advisors support LEAs in completing required deliverables, including action plans.

Monthly Supports: Implementation Advisors provide at least monthly supports to LEA leaders. Supports will differ based on LEA context – some months may be consultation and coaching meetings, others may be redelivery of turnkey trainings, and others may be a combination of both.

Learning Walks: Implementation Advisors join LEA leaders on learning walks to determine the degree of implementation fidelity. Advisors also support leaders in analyzing the findings from learning walks over the year.

Product Advisors provide support to teachers and coaches

Implementation Supports + **Product Supports**

provided to teachers and coaches by Product Advisors

Professional Learning: Product Advisors deliver turnkey professional learning for teachers and coaches focused on developing best practices for implementation and building understanding of key protocols.

Flexible Supports: Product Advisors provide flexible supports to build the capacity of teachers and coaches. Flexible supports may include additional professional learning sessions, observation and feedback, or internalizations and rehearsals during professional learning communities.

Observations: Product Advisors conduct product-specific observations.

SFI key commitments

Board Approval | Ensure approval by the board of trustees of the district to use the instructional materials and evidence showing classroom teachers support the use of the instructional materials.

Approved Provider | Contract with an Approved Provider for Strong Foundations Implementation.

Materials Access| Provide print materials for all teachers and students and ensure digital access and rostering (if applicable).

Fidelity of Implementation | Implement the instructional materials with fidelity, including following the year-long scope and sequence, meeting the minimum number of instructional minutes, and using the curriculum-embedded assessments.

Professional Learning | Ensure teachers, coaches, and school leaders/campus administrators attend all required professional learning and job-embedded supports.

Participation of Leaders and Coaches| Ensure participation of at least 1 school leader/campus administrator per participating campus and at least 1 coach per instructional materials.

Key changes for SFI in LASO Cycle 3

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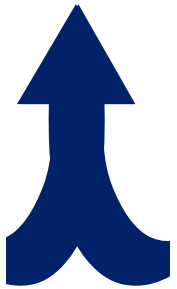
OER Edition 1

Approved Providers will support LEAs with the implementation of Texas OER Bluebonnet Learning Product

Bluebonnet Learning

Simplified Options

LEAs will not have different options based on years of implementation

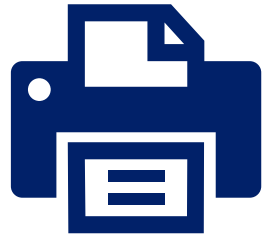


Streamlined Funding Model

LEAs will have same base award amounts

LEA Print Orders

LEAs will use direct grant funds to order print directly from approved print providers



SFI will support Bluebonnet Learning in SY25-26

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Bluebonnet Learning K–5 Reading Language Arts

Bluebonnet Learning K–5 Math

Bluebonnet Learning Secondary Mathematics

Instructional materials pending approval by the SBOE through the Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA) process include:

- Bluebonnet Learning K-5 RLA in English
- Bluebonnet Learning K-5 Math in English
- Bluebonnet Learning 6-8 Math
- Bluebonnet Learning Secondary Mathematics Algebra I

Additional pilot instructional materials include:

- Aprendizaje Bluebonnet Artes del lenguaje y lectura K-5, Edición 1
- Aprendizaje Bluebonnet Matemáticas K-5, Edición 1

K-5 OER RLA COVID Emergency Release v3 (also called Amplify Texas Elementary Literacy Program), K-5 OER Math COVID Emergency Release v2 (also called Eureka Math TEKS Edition), and 6-12 OER Math COVID Emergency Release v2 (also called Carnegie Learning 6-12 Texas Math Solution) are not eligible for SFI

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SFI will have simplified options in LASO Cycle 3

All LEAs are eligible to apply for LASO Cycle 3 Strong Foundations Implementation, regardless of their previous participation in implementation grants (TCLAS, CRIMSI, SFI, etc.)

LEAs will **not have to designate what year of implementation** support is needed in the application

LEAs will work with APs to identify which type of support is needed (e.g., initial implementation, deeper implementation), which may vary by campus.

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Implementation

SFI will have streamlined funding in LASO Cycle 3

$200,000
per LEA for up to 30 participants

+

$3,000
per additional participant for up to 470 additional participants

Increases award amounts for small LEAs by funding at a level to cover in-person supports

Caps award amounts for very large LEAs by setting maximum of 500 total participants

For example:

Grant for LEA with **20 participants**: $200,000

Grant for LEA with **100 participants**: $410,000
($200,000 + $3,000 x 70 additional participants)

Grant for LEA with **1,000 participants**: $1,610,000
($200,000 + $3,000 x 470 additional participants)

Instructional Materials Funding

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	Instructional Materials and Technology Allotment (IMTA)		SBOE-Approved Instructional Materials Entitlement (each school year)		State-Developed OER Instructional Materials Entitlement (each school year)	LASO Direct Grant Funds (available in eGrants, not EMAT)
2024 & 2025 Biennium	Current IMTA Balance ($ 171.82 per student + $ 15.58 per EB student School years 23–24 & 24-25)	+	SY 23-24 (September 1, 2023): $40 per student SY 24-25 (September 1, 2024): $40 per student	+	N/A $20 per student	30% of grant award
Allowable Use of Funds	Any instructional materials and technology needed to implement those instructional materials		Only SBOE-approved instructional materials from the new process established in HB 1605		Only costs associated with printing SBOE approved open education resource (i.e., state-developed) instructional materials	Cost of print materials (including manipulatives and trade books) for teachers and students

50% of SFI grant funds must be spent on core grant activities with an Approved Provider

50% of grant funds to contract with a single Approved Provider per instructional materials from the LASO Cycle 3 state approved provider list for SFI to support grant activities

20% of grant funds for additional support from the Approved Provider and/or salaries or partial salaries for instructional coaches or other positions directly supporting implementation of the instructional materials

30% of grant funds for other allowable expenses

Implementation Supports

provided to leaders by Implementation Advisors

Implementation Advisor

District and School Leaders

+

Product Supports

provided to teachers and coaches by Product Advisors

Product Advisor

Teachers and Coaches

LEAs partner with Strong Foundations Approved Providers (APs)

Strong Foundations Planning (SFP), Strong Foundations Implementation (SFI), and Strong Foundations Implementation School Improvement PLC Supports (SFI SI PLC)

ESC Partners

- Region 1 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 2 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 3 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 4 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 5 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 6 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 7 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 8 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 9 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 10 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 11 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 12 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 13 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 14 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 15 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 16 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 17 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 18 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 19 Education Service Center (ESC)
- Region 20 Education Service Center (ESC)

Other Approved Providers

- Bellwether Education Partners
- Big Thought
- Carnegie Learning, Inc.
- E3 Alliance
- Education Elements
- Engage! Learning, LLC (engage2learn)
- Great Minds
- Insight Education Group
- Instruction Partners
- MAYA Consulting, LLC
- MGT/Ed Direction
- MoakCasey
- National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET)
- Resources for Learning, LLC*
- SLHA Advisory Services
- SustainED Leaders
- Teaching Lab
- The Achievement Network (ANet)
- The Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk at UT Austin

*Approved for Strong Foundations Planning Only

For more information, check out the LASO Cycle 3 SAPL

20% of SFI grant funds must be spent on additional support for implementation

50% of grant funds to contract with a single Approved Provider per instructional materials from the LASO Cycle 3 state approved provider list for SFI to support grant activities

20% of grant funds for additional support from the Approved Provider and/or salaries or partial salaries for instructional coaches or other positions directly supporting implementation of the instructional materials

30% of grant funds for other allowable expenses

Additional support from the Approved Provider

- e.g., Approved Provider delivers **additional professional learning and/or flexible supports**
- e.g., Approved Provider conducts **additional learning walks and/or observations**

Salary or partial salary for instructional coaches or other positions directly supporting implementation

30% of SFI grant funds may be spent on other allowable expenses

50% of grant funds to contract with a single Approved Provider per instructional materials from the LASO Cycle 3 state approved provider list for SFI to support grant activities

20% of grant funds for additional support from the Approved Provider and/or salaries or partial salaries for instructional coaches or other positions directly supporting implementation of the instructional materials

30% of grant funds for other allowable expenses

Other Allowable Expenses

- Additional support from the Approved Provider
- Stipends for teachers implementing the instructional materials
- Stipends for instructional coaches supporting implementation of the instructional materials
- Salary or partial salary for instructional coaches or other positions directly supporting implementation of the instructional materials
- In-state travel to support grant activities (e.g., HQIM Learning Labs)
- Licenses for approved supplemental materials for K-5 RLA (mCLASS, Boost Reading), K-5 Math (Zearn Math), and/or 6-8 Math (MATHia)
- Licenses for assessment platforms supporting the approved core instructional materials
- Print materials (including manipulatives and trade books) for teachers and students

Unallowable Expenses

- Expenses that support the use of Tier 1 instructional materials other than the core approved instructional materials (including previously approved COVID Emergency Release versions)
- Contracts with a provider not included on the LASO Cycle 3 Approved Provider List for SFI
- Stipends or salaries for positions not directly supporting implementation of the core approved instructional materials
- Expenses for licenses for supplemental materials not listed on the approved supplemental materials list
- Expenses for materials and supplies not related to implementation of the core approved instructional materials
- Expenses for technology (e.g., computers)
- Expenses for in-state travel not directly related to grant activities

SFI prioritization and awarding

LEAs will be awarded in each instructional materials separately based on STAAR scores from lowest to highest within the following priority tiers:

Priority tier 1	LEAs with prior participation and good standing in Strong Foundations Planning in SY2022-23, SY2023-24, and/or SY2024-25 in the same content area
Priority tier 2	LEAs with a Commissioner-appointed board of managers, monitor, or conservator for academic performance
Priority tier 3	LEAs in the bottom quartile of STAAR scores in the state
Priority tier 4	LEAs classified as rural
Priority tier 5	LEAs in the top quartile of economically disadvantaged students in the state

TEA

STRONG FOUNDATIONS Implementation

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT Professional Learning Communities

Strong Foundations Implementation School Improvement PLC Supports Deep Dive

Program introductions

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Why use HQIM in school improvement campuses?

HQIM can support **students** – especially the **students who are furthest behind** – in making significant **academic progress**

HQIM can support **teachers** – especially **novice teachers** – in **spending less time on "what" to teach** and **more time on "how best" to teach**

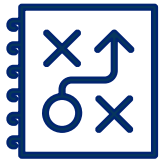
HQIM can support campuses with high **teacher turnover** and high **student mobility** by providing a **consistent and coherent curriculum** within and across grade levels

SFI School Improvement PLC Supports Overview

SFI School Improvement PLC Supports provides **direct grant funds** to LEAs for technical assistance for **Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)** to support **high-fidelity implementation of Texas OER** in Title I and Federally Identified campuses participating in Strong Foundations Implementation.

LEAs awarded SFI in LASO Cycle 3 will be eligible for the SFI SI PLC Support grant to provide **Title I funding** for more **intensive supports at SI campuses**

SFI SI PLC Supports provide more intensive supports to SI campuses



Action Plans: Implementation Advisors support campuses in completing required deliverables, including action plans.

PLC Facilitation: Product Advisors facilitate a minimum of 20 PLCs over the school year focused on internalization of the Texas OER instructional materials, as well as support a campus PLC facilitator through a gradual release of responsibility.

Learning Walks: Implementation Advisors join LEA leaders on learning walks to determine the degree of implementation fidelity. Advisors also support leaders in analyzing the findings from learning walks over the year.

SFI SI PLC key commitments

Approved Provider | Contract with an Approved Provider for Strong Foundations Implementation.

Participation of Campus Lead | Ensure participation of a campus lead for each participating campus.

Processional Learning Communities (PLCs) | Ensure teachers are able to attend ongoing PLCs during the school year focused on internalization of the Texas OER instructional materials

Participation of PLC Facilitator | Ensure participation of at least 1 PLC facilitator per campus who assumes responsibility for facilitating PLCs through a gradual release of responsibility model

Matrix of Required Commitments

Campus/LEA Staff	IL	SFI	SFI SI PLC	SAF	Total Time Commitment
Campus Teachers	Professional Learning sessions *variable time commitment*; weekly 1:1 coaching meetings & PLC planning and data analysis meetings – *variable time commitment pending case load*	Professional Learning Sessions and Flexible Supports 12-18 hours (year) Ongoing planning and preparation 4-8 hours (month)	Attend additional PLCs (weekly)	Variable: depending on action, model, need, and capacity 12-18 hours (year)	~30 hours weekly
Campus Principals/ Leadership		Flexible professional learning and planning support (8-32 hours, variable) Approved provider collaboration 1-2 times per month (3-4 hours) Deliverables planning and monitoring (8-12 hours per month)	Approved provider meetings 1-1.5 hours twice per month Learning Walks with Approved Provider	School Design Plan development and implementation Ongoing throughout the year, beginning in July of the Planning year 20 hrs/week	~23 hours weekly
Instructional Coaches		Professional Learning Sessions and Flexible Supports 12-18 hours (year) Ongoing planning and preparation 8-16 hours (week)	Attend additional PLCs (weekly)	Variable: depending on action, model, need, and capacity 12-18 hours (year)	~30 hours weekly
District Supervisors	Monthly coaching and implementation visits – *1 day/month*; supporting campus leadership with implementation and coaching – *variable time commitment weekly*	Flexible professional learning and planning support (8-32 hours, variable) Approved provider collaboration 1-2 times per month (3-4 hours) Deliverables planning and monitoring (variable)	DCSI meetings with Provider		
District Leaders			Approved provider meetings 1-1.5 hours twice per month Learning Walks with Approved Provider	Board of Trustees Governance Training: 16 – 48 hrs (year)	~3 hours bi-monthly ~48 hours annually

STRONG FOUNDATIONS
Implementation

SFI SI PLC Supports provides additional funding for SI campuses

$75,000
per subject area

Awarded to Federally Identified and Title-1 serving campuses to provide on-campus PLC support for 20 PLCs per year

For example:

- LEA "A" is awarded SFI and they have 2 Federally Identified and Title-1 Serving Campuses, **both engaging in OER K-5 Math**. That award would be for $150,000 (2 awards of $75,000).
- LEA "B" is awarded SFI and they have 2 Federally Identified and Title-1 Serving Campuses, both engaging in **OER K-5 Math and OER K-5 ELA**. That award would be for $300,000 (4 awards of $75,000).

50% of SFI SI PLC grant funds must be spent on core grant activities with an Approved Provider

50% of grant funds to contract with a single Approved Provider from the LASO Cycle 3 Approved Provider List for SFI to support core grant activities (LEAs must contract with the same provider for both SFI and SFI SI PLC Supports)

Support from the Approved Provider

- Campus-level implementation action plans
- Facilitation of minimum of 20 PLCs over the school year
- Additional learning walks

50% of grant funds for additional support from the Approved Provider and/or salaries, partial salaries, or stipends for instructional coaches or other positions directly supporting PLC facilitation and implementation of the instructional materials

50% of SFI SI PLC grant funds may be spent on other supports for PLCs

50% of grant funds to contract with a single Approved Provider from the LASO Cycle 3 Approved Provider List for SFI to support core grant activities (LEAs must contract with the same provider for both SFI and SFI SI PLC Supports)

50% of grant funds for additional support from the Approved Provider and/or salaries, partial salaries, or stipends for instructional coaches or other positions directly supporting PLC facilitation and implementation of the instructional materials

Additional support from the Approved Provider

- e.g., Approved Provider delivers **additional professional learning and/or flexible supports**
- e.g., Approved Provider conducts **additional learning walks and/or observations**

Salary or partial salary for instructional coaches or other positions directly supporting PLC facilitation and implementation

SFI SI PLC Supports prioritization and awarding

LEAs will be awarded in each instructional materials separately based on STAAR scores from lowest to highest within the following priority tiers:

Priority tier 1	Campuses with a 2024 federal accountability identification of Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), Comprehensive Reidentified, or Comprehensive Progress
Priority tier 2	Campuses with a 2024 federal accountability identification of Additional Targeted Support (ATS)
Priority tier 3	Campuses with a 2024 federal accountability identification of Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)

Eligible Applicants

The eligible applicants are:

- LEAs that have **Title I served campuses with 2024 federal identifications** (Comprehensive Identified, Comprehensive Re-Identified, Comprehensive Progress, Targeted Support, Additional Targeted Support).
- Campuses are **ineligible to apply if they received an ESF Focus Support Grant 24-26.**

Next steps

LEAs must submit LASO Cycle 3 applications by December 13 at 5:00pm CST

TEA emailed unique application links to LEA superintendents on October 14 (if needed, LEAs can complete a Request for Application Link Form to receive a new link)

PDF of the application is posted on the LASO Cycle 3 website; however, LEAs must submit the application through Qualtrics using the unique application link

Applications must be signed by the superintendent to be accepted

Change Requests and Declines

- LASO is anchored in the informal discretionary competitive grant process
  - Declines and change requests are not advisable in typical competitive processes
  - If declines are requested, they will be considered on a case-by-case basis for the LEAs and could raise the LEA's federal grant risk level in the coming year

Questions?

Office Hours

Attend office hours for technical assistance or discussion with program teams

- November 8, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Registration Link

FAQs

Review the general FAQ (updated FAQs will be posted by November 13)

Email

- For questions about the application process or technical assistance with the application, contact LASO@tea.texas.gov
- For questions about SFI or SFI SI PLC Supports grants, contact strongfoundations@tea.texas.gov
- For questions about School Improvement, contact SIDivision@tea.texas.gov

Please add questions to the Q&A

We will take 2 minutes to allow you to add questions to the Q&A.

As a reminder: we will be publishing an FAQ with all answers in November.