

Frequently Asked Questions for Strong Foundations Planning (SFP)

This document will provide frequently asked questions, to guide our partners in their decision-making process to determine which grants are the best fit, aligned to district goals and needs.

General Questions and Resources

Question: Where can we get a pdf of the grant so that we can work on it prior to actually submitting?

Answer: A 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.

Question: How do we register for the November 8th office hours session?

Answer: The registration links are currently added to the LASO 3 webpage.

Question: Will the recording link and slide deck be posted on the website? Where can we find it?

Answer: The recordings and slide decks are now posted on the LASO 3 webpage.

Section A: Eligibility

Question: Is it required that you first apply for the SFP grant before applying for SFI? I know you can apply for both, but are LEAs able to just apply for a SFI grant even if they have not previously participated in the SFP grant?

Answer: It is highly recommended to complete the Strong Foundations Planning Grant before the Strong Foundations Implementation Grant, but it is not required.

Question: What is the difference between the Strong Foundations Planning and Implementation? Is the planning required first?

Answer: Strong Foundations Planning supports districts in building an instructional framework in math or literacy based in research. Then in how to use that instructional framework to make key decisions to support student learning. Strong Foundations Implementation supports district in the implementation of instructional materials. You do not have to do the Strong Foundations Planning Grant first, but it is recommended.

Question: What is the requirement to be considered in “good standing” from previous SFP? We withdrew from SFP in Cycle 1 but we would like to apply for Cycle 3. We qualify for one of the priority tiers.

Answer: In order to be considered for LASO cycle 3, at the time of the application, good standing would be completion of cycle 1 LASO SFP + Strong Foundations Instructional Framework Development Grant 22-23. The Strong Foundations team would be best equipped to address your LEA's specific circumstances. Please reach out to strongfoundations@tea.texas.gov for follow-up.

Section B: Application-Related Questions

Question: If we apply for both planning and implementation, does this put us at risk of not receiving implementation grant?

Answer: No, each application is awarded based on the prioritization criteria for each grant. Being awarded one does not impact being awarded another. For more information on the grant's prioritization, please reference the Program Guidelines.

Section C: Program-Related Questions

Question: Do other expenditures in the 30% bucket, can these funds be used for salaries/stipends?

Answer: The district is able to use both the 30% and 20% buckets to support salaries and stipends for individuals in the district who are directly supporting the work of the grant.