2020-2021 Technology Lending Grant
COMPETITIVE GRANT Application Due 5:00 p.m. CT, January 9, 2020

NOGA ID [blank]

Authorizing legislation | **General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 8, 86th Texas Legislature; TEC 32.301**

Applicants must submit one original copy of the application **and** two copies of the application (for a **total of three copies of the application**). All three copies of the application MUST bear the signature of a person authorized to bind the applicant to a contractual agreement. **Applications cannot be emailed.** Applications must be received no later than the above-listed application due date and time at:

Document Control Center, Grants Administration Division

Texas Education Agency

1701 N. Congress Avenue

Austin, TX 78701-1494

Application stamp-in date and time [illegible stamp]

Grant period from | **April 6, 2020 to August 31, 2021**

[X] Pre-award costs are not permitted.

Required Attachments

Applicants must submit a locally-approved technology plan that is valid for the 2020-2021 school year.

Amendment Number

Amendment number (For amendments only; enter N/A when completing this form to apply for grant funds): [blank]

Applicant Information

Organization	Latexo Independent School District	CDN 113905 Vendor ID 17560049011 ESC 6 DUNS 083583310

Address 298 FM 2663	City Latexo	ZIP 75849	Phone 936-544-5664

Primary Contact Lena Kelsey	Email lkelsey@latexoisd.net	Phone 936-222-5731
Secondary Contact Tracey Catoe	Email tcatoe@latexoisd.net	Phone 936-222-5573

Certification and Incorporation

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by TEA or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance and compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

I further certify my acceptance of the requirements conveyed in the following portions of the grant application, as applicable, and that these documents are incorporated by reference as part of the grant application and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA):

[X] Grant application, guidelines, and instructions
[X] General Provisions and Assurances
[X] Application-specific Provisions and Assurances

[X] Debarment and Suspension Certification
[X] Lobbying Certification
[X] ESSA Provisions and Assurances requirements

Authorized Official Name	Michael Woodard	Title	Superintendent
Email	mwoodard@latexoisd.net	Phone	936-544-5664
Signature	*Michael Woodard*	Date	12/17/19
Grant Writer Name	Sandy Simpson	Signature *Sandy Simpson*	Date 12/17/19

(•) Grant writer **is** an employee of the applicant organization.   ( ) Grant writer is **not** an employee of the applicant organization.

Shared Services Arrangements

☒ SSAs are **not permitted** for this grant.

Identify/Address Needs

List up to three quantifiable needs, as identified in your needs assessment, that these program funds will address. Describe your plan for addressing each need.

Quantifiable Need	Plan for Addressing Need
Students in grades 1-4 do not have access to a reliable technology device that can provide access to digital learning outside of school.	Purchase and issue a managed, content-filtered technology device for every student in grades 1-4 to use on and off campus.
The devices loaned to students need protection to ensure they remain fully functional as they provide access to digital instructional materials on and off campus.	Purchase and install a stay-on case and bag for every device issued to provide physical protection from accidental damage for the devices lent to the students.
Students need robust connectivity on regular bus routes that last more than one hour each way to provide equitable access to relevant technologies off campus.	Purchase and issue content filtered hotspots to remain on the school buses to provide access to students while traveling on bus routes lasting more than one hour.

SMART Goal

Describe the summative SMART goal you have identified for this program (a goal that is Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely), either related to student outcome or consistent with the purpose of the grant.

Based on needs assessments conducted and documented in the District's Technology Plan, by September 15, 2020 all students in grades 1-4 will be issued a dedicated Chromebook with insurance, a protective case and a carrying bag in order to access instructional materials at school and at home, and 100% of students who ride the school bus will have content-filtered internet access to digital instructional materials on the bus ride to and from school.

Measurable Progress

Identify the benchmarks that you will use at the end of the first three grant quarters to measure progress toward meeting the process and implementation goals defined for the grant.

First-Quarter Benchmark

By August 2020, we will have placed the order for all chromebooks, cases, bags, hotspots, and insurance. Student accounts for all instructional materials utilized by the chromebooks will be created. Teachers will receive professional development focused on implementing digital instructional materials to support flexible learning opportunities for students. Parents meetings will be conducted to provide information about access to digital learning materials, acceptable use, and responsibilities of carrying technology back and forth between school and home. Bus drivers will receive training on responsibilities of charging and making devices available to students on each route every day. Teachers will collect data on the number and percent of students who demonstrate proficiency in the Technology Applications Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for their grade level using local methods to measure proficiency. Data will be collected for each of the 9 Performance Measures as outlined in the Grant Program Guidelines.

Measurable Progress (Cont.)

Second-Quarter Benchmark

By December 2020, all devices purchased through the grant will be enrolled in the Google Suites for Education system and inventoried with our existing asset management system. Cases will be installed on all chromebooks. The chromebooks will be issued to all students in 1st-4th grade, ensuring that 100% of economically disadvantaged students in that grade level will have access to digital instructional materials at home. The hotspots will be installed on each school bus in a protective case to prevent theft and damage. Program usage and academic achievement will be evaluated to measure the impact of flexible instructional delivery systems and increased access to anytime, anywhere digital learning. Data will be collected for each of the 9 Performance Measures as outlined in the Grant Program Guidelines.

Third-Quarter Benchmark

By April 2021, program usage and academic achievement will be evaluated again to determine program success regarding the impact of flexible instructional delivery systems and increased access to anytime, anywhere digital learning. Faculty meetings will be conducted with teachers, technology staff, and transportation director to evaluate the technology lending program as a whole and the benefits to student learning. Teachers will again collect data on the number and percent of students who demonstrate proficiency in the Technology Applications Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for their grade level using local methods to measure proficiency. Data will be collected for each of the 9 Performance Measures as outlined in the Grant Program Guidelines.

Project Evaluation and Modification

Describe how you will use project evaluation data to determine when and how to modify your program. If your benchmarks or summative SMART goals do not show progress, describe how you will use evaluation data to modify your program for sustainability.

We will use the project evaluation data to determine how to modify the program. Performance measures and stakeholder feedback will be requested and reviewed quarterly. The project evaluation will include a variety of data sources. Inventory records and repair logs will be collected by the Technology Director. Teachers will submit weekly records of lesson plans to the campus principal to document technology usage for projects and homework assignments. Bus drivers will have checklists for their responsibilities with the hotspot management. Student progress will also be monitored with adopted digital curriculum and online intervention programs during RTI meetings. Stakeholder feedback will be collected through surveys using Google Forms and School Messenger.

The technology planning committee will meet to review the project evaluation and develop solutions for improving the implementation of the program. If the quarterly benchmarks do not show progress towards program success, additional training and professional development will be developed and provided according to areas of weakness. We will also use the data from the benchmarks and program usage to determine needs for additional communication and training opportunities for parents to be involved with supporting their digital learners at home.

Statutory/Program Assurances

The following assurances apply to this grant program. In order to meet the requirements of the grant, the grantee must comply with these assurances.

Check each of the following boxes to indicate your compliance.

☒ 1. The applicant provides assurance that program funds will supplement (increase the level of service), and not supplant (replace) state mandates, State Board of Education rules, and activities previously conducted with state or local funds. The applicant provides assurance that state or local funds may not be decreased or diverted for other purposes merely because of the availability of these funds. The applicant provides assurance that program services and activities to be funded from this grant will be supplementary to existing services and activities and will not be used for any services or activities required by state law, State Board of Education rules, or local policy.

☒ 2. The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain any information that would be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general release to the public.

☒ 3. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all Statutory Requirements and TEA Program Requirements as noted in the 2020-2021 Technology Lending Grant Program Guidelines.

☒ 4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all Performance Measures, as noted in the 2020-2021 Technology Lending Grant Program Guidelines, and shall provide the Texas Education Agency, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.

☒ 5. The applicant provides assurance that funds provided under the Instructional Materials Allotment (IMA) or other funding are insufficient to purchase enough lending technology for every student who needs dedicated access to a device.

☒ 6. The applicant provides assurance that it 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.

☒ 7. The applicant assures that infrastructure and technical support are adequate to support students' use of loaned equipment provided through the grant at its participating campus(es).

☒ 8. The applicant assures that it will provide adequate staff to administer the program and ensure successful implementation.

☒ 9. The applicant assures that it will account for the technology lending equipment in accordance with district policy for accounting for such equipment, including providing insurance when insurance is typically provided for such equipment. The applicant understands that the grant funds cannot be used to replace lost, stolen, or damaged equipment.

☒ 10. The applicant assures that it will obtain a Technology Lending Agreement signed by the parents/guardian of each participating student and by the student participating in the program, including an assurance of student's mastery of the grade-appropriate Digital Citizenship strand of the Technology Applications Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

☒ 11. The applicant assures that it will show evidence of a current local technology plan on participating campuses by submitting an attachment of the LEA's locally-approved technology plan.

☒ 12. The applicant assures that technology lending and use of electronic instructional materials are incorporated into the LEA's technology plan.

Statutory Requirements

1. Describe the availability of existing equipment to students in the LEA and other funding available for the purchase of student technology devices.

While Latexo Elementary is a 1:1 campus, many students are provided with older model devices that have the wear and tear of daily student use over the years. These devices are not adequately serving the needs of our students. The chromebooks are currently stored in charging carts in each classroom, and are not allowed to go home with the students due to their physical condition. The students in lower grade levels have never been served by a Technology Lending Grant. The existing chromebooks at the elementary are not durable enough to withstand the demands of traveling with students back and forth to their homes. This limits the students' access to digital instructional materials at their residence. Other funding that is available for the purchase of student technology devices come from the local district budget. For the 2019-2020 school year, the district budgeted $1,000 per grade level for student technology devices for Latexo Elementary. Instructional Materials Allotment funds have been fully utilized to purchase student devices and adopted curriculum in accordance with state proclamations. Instructional Materials Allotment funds are insufficient to meet the instructional and technology needs of our learners.

Latexo Elementary also partnered with T-Mobile to provide no-cost hotspots with unlimited data to the homes of students without existing residential internet access. All students at Latexo Elementary are currently eligible to apply for and receive a hotspot. Top priority is given to economically disadvantaged students. For this reason we are designating technology lending grant funds to provide the devices to connect to existing residential hotspots for students.

Program Requirements

1. Describe a plan for providing internet access to student residences, residential center, and/or on buses that transport students for whom a single ride lasts, on average, at least an hour for students with the highest need for off-campus internet access.

Latexo Elementary serves a rural population with the majority of our students living on isolated stretches of winding dirt roads. Bus routes average well over an hour each way to and from school. A campus-wide needs assessment is regularly conducted to determine the optimal plan for providing continuous internet access to students. The Technology Planning Committee has determined there is a need to bridge the gap between school and home when students are on extensive bus routes averaging over one hour. The district's transportation director verified using video footage that all three route buses have students who regularly spend over an hour each way between school and home. The majority of students who ride the school bus are economically disadvantaged. The grant will allow for 2 hotspots to be installed on each school bus and activated for the duration of the grant period. These hotspots will be continuously content-filtered to meet compliance standards with CIPPA and our local Acceptable Use Policy.

Program Requirements

2. Describe how the lending program aligns with current curriculum, instruction, and classroom management policies and/or practices on its participating campus(es).

The lending program aligns with current curriculum by providing devices for students to access the adopted digital curriculum both at school and at home. The lending program is also supportive of our campus instructional goals by allowing for anytime, anywhere instructional delivery. The programs also provide students with immediate feedback on their mastery of learning standards and progress through the curriculum. Classroom management will also be greatly improved through the technology lending program. By ensuring that all students have a dedicated device that can go home, as well as internet access on the bus, teachers are able to assign digital homework without negatively impacting the learning of economically disadvantaged students. Students who are absent will have access to both digital instruction and assignments from home. Teachers who are absent will be able to continue on with rigorous instruction through remote delivery of lessons and monitoring of student work.

3. Describe how the district is using digital instructional materials in one or more foundation curriculum subject area(s) for one or more grade level(s).

Latexo Elementary utilizes digital instructional materials in all four foundation curriculum subject areas. Our school has adopted McGraw Hill Wonders for reading/ language arts as a vertically aligned TEKS-based digital instructional material. Pearson Envision and Digits for math provides immediate feedback to students on their assignment grades and syncs with Google Classroom for seamless delivery and parent involvement with portal views. Discovery Techbooks for science allows students to participate in digital labs, interactive vocabulary, and full integration with Google Classroom. Both the math and science curriculum are fully digital without print components. Studies Weekly for Social Studies allows students with disabilities to have the materials read to them in compliance with their IEP. All of these programs are accessed by students through their individual accounts. Teachers can assign lessons and monitor assignment progress through these digital instructional materials. Our Instructional Technologist provides professional development and on demand support for teachers and students as they implement these programs.

Program Requirements (Cont.)

4. Describe how infrastructure and technical support is adequate to support students' anticipated use of devices provided through the grant at its participating campus(es).

Latexo Elementary has 100mb of internet connectivity that provides adequate content-filtered internet access for the campus. Wireless access points are installed in each classroom and common area to support seamless student internet connectivity. Charging carts are also in every classroom. All devices are inventoried through the asset management system. Our District Instructional Technologist's office is centrally located on the elementary campus to easily provide on demand technical support. A student technology team is also available daily to walk over from the high school to assist with device troubleshooting. Parents are provided with multiple means of communication for technical support and troubleshooting as well. The chromebooks purchased through the grant are covered with a Platinum warranty that includes parts for repair, accidental damage protection, and theft/loss coverage. Hotspot technical support and filtering will be provided by T-Mobile and locally facilitated with district technology staff.

5. Describe how the grant will be administered on participating campus(es), including a description of how the check-out and check-in process will operate, who will oversee the check-out process, especially in cases of competing need, and the process that will be used to maintain the technology lending equipment in proper working condition.

The grant will be administered in two parts. All students will be issued a dedicated chromebook at the beginning of the school year. All route buses will be outfitted with 2 T-Mobile hotspots. The chromebook check out process will be overseen by the Technology Director and the Instructional Technologist. Once the chromebooks are delivered, they will be inventoried with the asset management system, and the protective cases will be installed. They will be enrolled in the Google Suites for Education system and accounts will be created for all student programs. Students will demonstrate mastery of grade level technology application TEKS using local methods to measure proficiency. Parents and students will sign the Acceptable Use Policy and Technology Lending Agreement. After these requirements are met, students will be issued their devices in a protective bag during class time in conjunction with the teachers. There will be no cases of competing need because every student in grades 1-4 will receive a chromebook. There are multiple processes in place to ensure the proper maintenance of the technology lending equipment. The insurance will cover parts and major loss. Our local technology staff and student technology team will provide on demand minor repair and troubleshooting.
The T-Mobile hotspots for the buses will be inventoried and installed in protected locations on the bus. The bus drivers will oversee the daily charging and maintenance of the devices. T-Mobile will provide support and replacement of hardware as needed. The Technology Director and Instructional Technologist will be available for immediate local needs.

CDN 113905　Vendor ID 17560049011　　　　　　Amendment #

Campus Name and Identification Information (can change to another title)

Enter the Campus Name and Campus Identification Number (CID) of the participating campus(es). Please use the exact name and CID from the 2018-2019 Campus Report data from the Texas Student Data System Public Education Information Management System (TSDS PEIMS) accessible on the TEA website at https://tea.texas.gov/2019accountability.aspx. Use the downloadable overview of statewide ratings data available in Microsoft Excel. If the campus name has changed (but not the CID), include the new name in parenthesis. If both the campus name and the CID do not match the referenced eligibility list, the campus is not eligible.

1. Campus Name LATEXO EL　　　　　　　　Campus Number 113,905,101

2. Campus Name　　　　　　　　　　　　　Campus Number

3. Campus Name　　　　　　　　　　　　　Campus Number

4. Campus Name　　　　　　　　　　　　　Campus Number

5. Campus Name　　　　　　　　　　　　　Campus Number

6. Campus Name　　　　　　　　　　　　　Campus Number

7. Campus Name　　　　　　　　　　　　　Campus Number

8. Campus Name　　　　　　　　　　　　　Campus Number

9. Campus Name　　　　　　　　　　　　　Campus Number

10. Campus Name　　　　　　　　　　　　　Campus Number

Request for Grant Funds

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

PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACTED SERVICES (6200)

Google Suites for Education Licensing Qty:135	3,306

SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS (6300)

Chromebooks including warranty,cases and bags Qty:135; Hotspots Qty:6	45,496

OTHER OPERATING COSTS (6400)

CAPITAL OUTLAY COSTS (6600)

Total Direct Costs	48,802
Indirect Costs	
TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST (Direct Costs + Indirect Costs)	48,802