



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

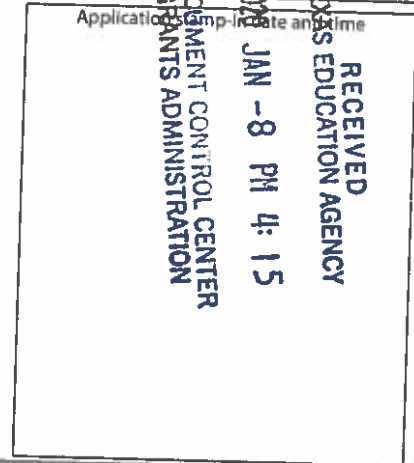
NOGA ID [redacted]

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



Grant period from

**April 6, 2020 to August 31, 2021**

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): [redacted]

**Applicant Information**

Organization **Bandera ISD** CDN **010902** Vendor ID [redacted] ESC **20** DUNS **809142750**  
Address **PO Box 727** City **Bandera** ZIP **TX** Phone **8304603890**  
Primary Contact **Dr. Jerry D. Hollingsworth** Email **jhollingsworth@banderaisd.net** Phone **8304603890**  
Secondary Contact **Suzy Groff** Email **sgroff@banderaisd.net** Phone **8304603890**

**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):

- Grant application, guidelines, and instructions
- General Provisions and Assurances
- Application-specific Provisions and Assurances
- Debarment and Suspension Certification
- Lobbying Certification
- ESSA Provisions and Assurances requirements

Authorized Official Name **Dr. Jerry D. Hollingsworth**

Title **Superintendent**

Email **jhollingsworth@banderaisd.net**

Phone **8304603890**

Signature  Ed.D.

Date **01/08/2020**

Grant Writer Name **Suzy Groff**

Signature 

Date **01/08/2020**

Grant writer is an employee of the applicant organization.

Grant writer is not an employee of the applicant organization.

RFA # **701-20-110** SAS # **469-20**

**2020-2021 Technology Lending Grant**

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**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
Accountability measures reveal limited growth in Meets and Exceeds student performance in math, reading, & writing across all student populations, including economically disadvantaged students and English language learners.	BISD is strengthening instruction through PLC's, using real-time assessment data to adapt instruction, and personalizing learning through digital technologies. For some students, access to those technologies ends when the bell rings. Lending funds will allow the purchase of 45 hot-spot enabled Chromebooks/cases to learn, collaborate, communicate, & create
Rapid growth in Bandera ISD's blended learning initiative has resulted in a need for more classrooms equipped with devices.	Bandera ISD will continue to dedicate IMA monies to equip classrooms with Chromebooks to facilitate blended learning and provide students with a more personalized learning experience. Tech lending money will be used to provide devices and connectivity to support students before and after the bell rings.
BISD spans nearly 400 miles and serves 5 separate communities and other areas in rural Bandera County. 53.5 percent of students are economically disadvantaged and 114 are English Language Learners.	Fourteen BISD bus routes serving 434 economically disadvantaged students are an hour or more . Technology lending grant funds will allow BISD to equip 14 buses with filtered, secure access to online educational content allowing students to actively engage in learning for nearly 2 hours more a day.

**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.

In the 2020-21 school year, BISD will extend learning opportunities for students beyond the school day by providing lending technology and wi-fi connectivity on 14 bus routes within the first six weeks; the extension will support BISD's blended learning initiative by allowing students, including economically disadvantaged and English language learners, to access digital instructional materials for learning, communicating, collaborating, and creating outside of the bell.

**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

Progress toward meeting the implementation goals will be gauged by accomplishing the following during the first quarter:

- \*Research best practices
- \*Order Chrombooks
- \*Order SmartBus technologies
- \*Develop policy for SmartBus technology and lending devices including eligibility to borrow, usage, loan periods, damage/repairs, and potential misuse

**Measurable Progress (Cont.)**

Second-Quarter Benchmark

Progress toward meeting the implementation goals will be gauged by accomplishing the following during the second quarter:

- \*Install SmartBus equipment, activate data plans, and customize filters and time-of-day controls
- \*Conduct test runs for connectivity along routes
- \*Create educational materials for stakeholders
- \*Parents/students sign use and loan policies for semester 1
- \*Students participate and demonstrate mastery in Digital Citizenship Program

Third-Quarter Benchmark

Progress toward meeting the implementation goals will be gauged by accomplishing the following during the third quarter:

- \*Track devices loans, usage data, and time on task
- \*Track troubleshooting tickets, discipline issues, and equipment damage
- \*Survey stakeholders (bus drivers, librarians, teachers, students, parents)

**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.

Evaluation and modification will be conducted after each benchmark. Research on best practices will guide policy development. While Verizon's coverage map shows excellent service in Bandera county, topography may impact connectivity, so test runs may lead to modifications. Device loans will start as 24-hour check outs, and students on wi-fi connected buses will complete a digital citizenship course prior to use. Loan periods, device settings, and borrowing eligibility may be adjusted to maximize the learner's experience and academic performance. As BISD librarians will oversee device loans, their input into the project will be invaluable. Project evaluation and modification will be an on-going agenda item at the regular librarian meetings, as well as in transportation and administrative meetings. Based on surveys and data, policy may need to be adjusted for the second semester.

**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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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).
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8. The applicant assures that it will provide adequate staff to administer the program and ensure successful implementation.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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12. The applicant assures that technology lending and use of electronic instructional materials are incorporated into the LEA's technology plan.
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**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.

Over the last several years, BISD has purchased devices out of the Instructional Materials Allotment (IMA). Last school year, a private donor seeded the district's blended learning initiative, which equipped several classrooms with Chromebook carts.

Campuses do not have equal accessibility to devices. Alkek Elementary, which previously had shared carts, was able to use comprehensive funds to purchase devices and to redistribute devices that had been purchased with IMA funds or through BISD Education Foundation grants. Bandera Middle School has devices in classrooms in most core classrooms, although many are aged. Hill Country Elementary has carts available for check outs as well as class sets of Chromebooks in nine classrooms. Bandera High school has Chromebook carts in all ELA classes and seven other classrooms, with a cart and a lab available for check out.

BISD is using IMA funds to alleviate the discrepancy in device accessibility across the district. In the future, funds will be used to purchase devices for three grade levels a year until all core classrooms are equipped. No funds are available for lending devices.

**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.

Through a visioning process last year, Bandera ISD identified four core values. Two of those values, choices in learning and small-town support and relationships are directly related to the technology lending project. The blended learning initiative is providing more personalized learning for students. In turn, the students have increased engagement. When the bell rings at the end of the day, some students can continue learning by staying on campus or by going home to internet connections and devices. Other students learning stops because they have to leave on district transportation, lack an internet connected device, or don't have internet in their home. BISD aims to level the playing field in two ways:

- 1)lend internet connected Chromebooks to students, including economically-disadvantaged students and English language learners, so that the students have access to their digital instructional resources before or after school;
- 2)Install wireless internet hubs for filtered internet on fourteen buses that have routes over an hour, nine of which transport students to more impoverished areas.

**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).

Through a combination of Instructional Materials Allotment monies and a private donation, over the last twelve months, Bandera ISD had outfitted 49 classrooms with Chromebooks. Thirty-one teachers have completed the 30-hour UTeach Blended Learning Series to provide a foundational understanding of personalizing learning.

The annual comprehensive needs assessment revealed that BISD students attained limited growth in Meets and Exceeds for reading, writing, and math, including economically disadvantaged and English language learners. To address this need, teachers are meeting in Professional Learning Communities to strengthen their understanding of curricula and student data. Additionally, administrators are supporting and coaching teachers to personalize learning by harnessing digital tools to maximize time and quality of student/teacher interactions. As their capacity in using digital tools grows, teachers and students are accessing more instructional materials online: Google Classroom, Seesaw, Flipgrid, IXL, Reading Plus, Newsela, and more. Even the youngest students regularly engage with instructional materials posted in web-based classrooms. Students who don't have devices or internet at home are at a disadvantage from their peers. Similarly, students who have devices and can connect at school are at a disadvantage when they can't connect when they leave school. The lending program addresses both issues: students with devices will be able to connect to their instructional resources to and from school, and students who need a device, can borrow one.

One of BISD Classroom Look-fors is meaningful and relevant engagement. Lending technology and providing access to extended connectivity will amplify that engagement beyond the school day.

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).

Bandera ISD has been promoting the blended learning model for a year. In December BISD, in partnership with ESC 20, was awarded a Blended Learning Planning Grant to strengthen and scale its blended learning initiative and to address lagging performance in math, which will result in K-8 implementation of blended learning district-wide over the next three years. Teachers will participate in coaching to provide their students with personalized learning experiences. As the teachers' competency in using digital instructional resources increases, they are becoming more heavily invested in harnessing the power of digital tools by developing tutorials to support students, providing additional resources to scaffold lessons, and ensuring that students who may be physically absent from the room don't miss out on the learning.

Over the next year, students will increasingly access digital instructional materials to learn, collaborate, and create. The tech lending grant supports the students who don't have devices at home or who don't have internet at home and can't stay after school to access the district's network. Internet-equipped school buses will extend the day by over two hours and the targeted routes. Lending devices will extend learning even more.

**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).

BISD has a guest network, so if the devices needed to connect at school, they could.

Internet accessed on buses equipped with SmartBus routers and kits will be equipped with Sentinel technology, provided by Kajeet, that will "safeguard Internet access for students, by including filtering, device management, network security, and reporting tools."

The Director of Learning will collaborate with librarians to develop materials for students and families to access on the district website for troubleshooting and accessing technical support.

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.

With classroom devices already on our campuses, BISD librarians are adept at managing device checkout through the library management system; they will manage the check-in and check-out of lending devices. The librarians will barcode the devices and record the device's serial number and MAC address to identify the device if the barcode wears off or is removed. Initially, devices will be checked out overnight only, so students will pick up devices from the library at the end of the day and drop them off at the library in the morning. Library staff will assess the devices upon check-in to make sure that they are in the same condition as when they were checked out. If a device is damaged or needs repair, the librarians will send the device to the technology department for evaluation to determine if the problem is a warranty issue, is something that can be repaired in-district, is something that needs to be repaired outside of district, or if the device must be removed from circulation. If necessary, as dictated by policy and the extent of damage, the librarian may contact campus administration.

**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	<input type="text" value="Bandera HS"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text" value="10,902,001"/>
2. Campus Name	<input type="text" value="Bandera Middle"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text" value="10,902,041"/>
3. Campus Name	<input type="text" value="Alkek EL"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text" value="10,902,101"/>
4. Campus Name	<input type="text" value="Hill Country EL"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text" value="10,902,102"/>
5. Campus Name	<input type="text"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text"/>
6. Campus Name	<input type="text"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text"/>
7. Campus Name	<input type="text"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text"/>
8. Campus Name	<input type="text"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text"/>
9. Campus Name	<input type="text"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text"/>
10. Campus Name	<input type="text"/>	Campus Number	<input type="text"/>



**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)**

GPS Location Service	695.8
Custom 5G Data Plan-shared data pool, rollover (14)	6,295.8
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS (6300)**

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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**OTHER OPERATING COSTS (6400)**

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**CAPITAL OUTLAY COSTS (6600)**

SmartBus Portable Kit (2)	259.94
SmartBus Smart Installation Kit (12)	2,759.64
SmartBus Ruggedized Mobile Router (14)	12,179.58
Sentinel ready Chromebook w/ hotspot, MDM, carrying case (45)	25,197.3

Total Direct Costs 47,388.06

Indirect Costs 2,611.94

TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST (Direct Costs + Indirect Costs) 50,000