

# EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES: STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW

Presented to the Expanded Learning  
Opportunities Council

September 29, 2014



# SENATE BILL 503

## TEXAS EDUCATION CODE, CHAPTER 33, SUBCHAPTER G

**ELO Defined: Opportunities provided to public school students during an extended school day, an extended school year, or a structured learning program that occurs before school, after school, or during summer hours.**

Statutory Topics	Council-added Topics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Safe places</li><li>• Academic success</li><li>• Working families</li><li>• Best practices</li><li>• Existing programs</li><li>• Unmet needs</li><li>• Business incentives</li><li>• Charitable support</li><li>• STEM</li><li>• Workforce needs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extended day and year</li><li>• Financial topics</li><li>• Health and social well-being</li><li>• Special education</li></ul>

- ▶ 3 council workgroups
- ▶ 12 workgroup webinars
- ▶ 2 informational webinar presentations
- ▶ Literature research and resources
- ▶ Professional consultation
- ▶ Public input
- ▶ 3 full council meetings

## PLAN DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES



- ▶ High quality ELO programs provide safe places, economic impact, close the academic achievement gap
- ▶ Program standards that are tied to funding provide a framework for high quality ELO programs
- ▶ Many Texas students do not have access to high quality ELO programming
- ▶ Non-academic components or programs are important
- ▶ Texas currently has no state funding stream dedicated to ELO programs

## KEY FINDINGS

- ▶ Federal education funding dedicated to afterschool programs
- ▶ Texas receives about \$100 million annually
- ▶ In FY 2014 served nearly 190,000 students in 174 ISDs
- ▶ Program quality and consistent participation matter
- ▶ Some programs have been sustained locally

21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING  
CENTERS: TEXAS AFTERSCHOOL CENTERS  
ON EDUCATION (ACE)

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Program	Program Measure	Average Cost per Pupil Enrolled	Average Cost per Day per Pupil Enrolled	Average Cost per Pupil Attending	Average Cost per Day per Pupil Attending
Texas ACE	Annual per pupil maximum	\$1,851	NA	NA	NA
Out-of-School Time Programs National Study (Grossman, et.al, 2009)	School year (K-8)	\$4,320	\$24	\$3,620	\$20
	Summer (K-8)	\$1,150	\$32	\$1,330	\$27
	School Year (Teen)	\$1,880	\$33	\$4,580	\$27
	Summer (Teen)	\$790	\$44	\$1,420	\$37
Extended Learning Time Programs National Study (Kaplan, et.al, 2013)	Longer day (132 – 540 hours)	\$290 – \$1,695	NA	NA	NA

## RESEARCH: AVERAGE COST

## Examples: Other States' Funding

State	Program Description	State Funds (in millions)	21 <sup>st</sup> CCLC (in millions)	State:Fed Ratio (rounded)
California	Formula grants - new OST	\$550.0	\$124.9	4:1
New York	Competitive grants – new OST and enrichment to reduce school violence	\$57.0	\$84.5	1:2
Wyoming	Formula grants - new OST	\$16.5	\$5.6	3:1
Illinois	Competitive grants - CBOs serving at-risk teens	\$8.8	\$52.1	1:6
Utah	Competitive grants - new STEM-focused OST	\$5.0	\$7.2	1:1
Connecticut	Competitive grants – OST	\$4.5	\$9.1	1:2
New Jersey	Formula grants- supplemental family services in existing OST	\$2.5	\$22.2	1:9
Massachusetts	Competitive grants – supplemental to existing OST	\$1.6	\$16.8	1:10
New Mexico	Competitive grants – new OST	\$1.1	\$8.8	1:8
Rhode Island	State match - private foundation funding for summer learning	\$.25	\$5.6	1:22

RESEARCH: STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING EXAMPLES

- ▶ Essential for high quality programs
- ▶ Address safety, nutrition, interactions, programming, diversity, family engagement, community partnerships, school partnerships, staff development, evaluation, sustainability
- ▶ Texas ACE standards are in the grant agreement
- ▶ TXPOST standards for OST

HIGH QUALITY PROGRAM STANDARDS

- ▶ Dedicate funds via rider in the Texas Education Agency's appropriation for the purpose of implementing the components of the Texas ELO Initiative
  1. Pilot Competitive Grant Program
  2. Training and Technical Assistance
  3. Statewide Leadership and Coordination
  4. Program Evaluation

OVERARCHING RECOMMENDATION

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- ▶ High quality programs that agree to meet minimum standards including
  - ▶ Soft skills development
  - ▶ Health and nutrition
  - ▶ Family involvement
- ▶ Expand access
- ▶ ELT and OST allowed
- ▶ Demonstrate partnerships with community and employer based programs
- ▶ Supplemental academics

# PILOT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

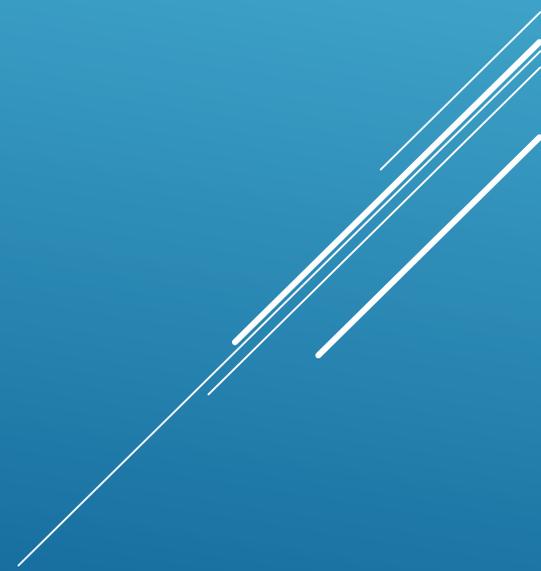
- ▶ Program guidance statewide and program-specific
- ▶ Texas ELO Initiative Blueprint
- ▶ High quality resources brought to scale
- ▶ Annual summit and networking opportunities
- ▶ Repository for program-related information and reports

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



- ▶ Maintain current data on ELO programs statewide
- ▶ Develop, modify and adopt quality standards for ELT and OST programs in Texas
- ▶ Designation process
- ▶ Conduct an economic impact analysis useful for attracting and retaining businesses
- ▶ Professional ELO certificate program

## STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION



- ▶ Evaluate the design, implementation and outcomes of the Texas ELO Initiative
- ▶ Collect and analyze data
- ▶ Report results
- ▶ Explore aligning Texas ACE data collection and analysis for comparison and full impact

## PROGRAM EVALUATION

1. Addressed – Edits or already covered
2. Future – Will be addressed by the Council
3. Clarification – Additions or Improvements
4. Out of Scope – Not in council directive

## CATEGORIES FOR PUBLIC INPUT DISCUSSION



## Explaining Need and Definitions

- Explain with more emphasis what the critical needs are and how programs address these needs.
- Elaborate on the statistics showing the increasing demand for ELO
- Define “at-risk” – not only poverty
- Consider submitting another report as an addendum to highlight the impact of programs on families, especially working families and families that cannot afford enrichment programs.
- Explain more about how HB5 addresses STEM
- Include the initial results of the Texas A&M study

PUBLIC INPUT: NEED AND DEFINITIONS

## High Quality Programs

- Use the quality standards currently being established by TXPOST
- Make the adoption of TXPOST standards clearer in the goals section
- Add “relationships” to the elements of high-quality programs
- Review “Afterschool Programs: Helping Students to Become 21<sup>st</sup> Century Lifelong Learners” by Denise Huang
- Make the importance of program quality a central theme of the report

PUBLIC INPUT: HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMS

## Grant Program

- Emphasize parent involvement, family engagement, healthy lifestyles, and social/emotional skills
- Change “soft skills” to “work-life skills” or “21<sup>st</sup> century skills”
- Prioritize funding for programs that demonstrate an overall body of evidence for their program’s effectiveness and demonstrate results
- Incentivize STEM by awarding additional points in the grant application
- Allow parent fees to build sustainable programs up front
- Include flexibility on whether instructors need to be certified teachers
- Ensure equitable distribution of resources

PUBLIC INPUT: GRANT PROGRAM

## Cost and Administration

- Add comparisons of other state-funded ELO examples in addition to California
- Set criteria to select providers, including standards for organizations receiving state contracts
- Consider a minimum cost baseline rather than an average cost baseline to ensure that programs made available to Texas students are of a certain level of quality
- Note that additional staffing will be required at the Texas Education Agency to implement a grant program in addition to the funding

PUBLIC INPUT: COSTS AND  
ADMINISTRATION

## Program Evaluation

- Make performance measures more specific
- Explore the feasibility of measuring longitudinal student data or even cohort data to see if student outcomes are improving over time and the overall impact of the ELO initiative
- Add an activity to Goal 4: Utilize current Texas ACE 21<sup>st</sup>CCLC findings to inform future ELO program designs, establish program performance standards, and identify programs demonstrating best practices

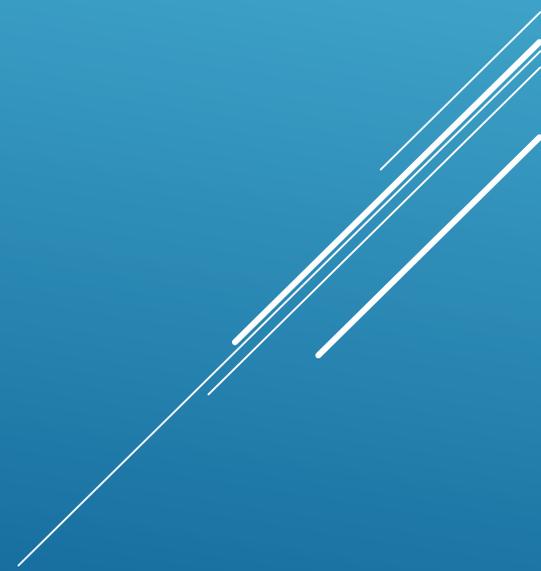
PUBLIC INPUT: PROGRAM EVALUATION

## Infrastructure

- Note more intentionally that programs need to be supported by the proposed ELO infrastructure
- Demonstrate a commitment to partnerships that increase access to existing high quality initiatives
- Encourage and pursue private investments from both foundations and corporations
- Make available high quality materials and resources on sustainability and funding flexibility
- Build a coordinated database system for programs to share data about students they are serving so a strong referral and follow-up system can ensure that students are accessing the supports they need the most
- Consider adding a link to the Texas ACE website

PUBLIC INPUT: INFRASTRUCTURE

QUESTIONS?



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PUBLIC INPUT DISCUSSION: BUCKETS

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