

Frequently Asked Questions

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.

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General Questions and Resources

Refer to the General Webinar FAQ deck <u>here</u>, for information on Program Guidelines, Webinar Decks, Guidance Docs, and more.

Below are the FAQs related to the Additional Days School Year Planning and Execution Program (ADSY PEP) Initiative:

Section A: Program Overview

What is the purpose of the ADSY PEP initiative?

- High-quality, evidence-based ADSY programs help prevent summer learning loss, which disproportionately affects students from low-income backgrounds and can lead to academic gaps of up to three grade levels by fifth grade. The Additional Days School Year Planning and Execution Programs (ADSY PEP) provide support to school systems in extending instructional time through research-based strategies. Prekindergarten through 8th grade campuses are eligible for this grant and will engage in a supported planning and refinement process to design research aligned programs while leveraging grant funding and ADSY Formula Funding through Texas Education Code 48.0051.
- School Systems may choose between two implementation models: Full Year Redesign or Summer Learning.

If a district has an 1882 charter school campus, and the charter qualifies for the ADSY grant but the district does not because of the number of school days attended by the students, will there be an option or comment session of the grant to explain this situation?

• The school district needs to agree that *participating campuses* will be moving to ADSY-eligibility; it doesn't need to be School System-wide. So, they should be able to proceed as long as they can make that assurance.

Can a district apply for ADSY PEP if they just finished their last cycle this past summer?

- School systems that have previously participated in ADSY PEP may apply to ADSY PEP in LASO 4 if they meet one of the following conditions:
 - They have PK-5 campuses that have not previously received ADSY formula funding under the ADSY Planning and Execution Program.
 - They previously participated in a grant-supported ADSY Planning and Execution Program with PK-5 and wish to expand to grades 6-8 through the Grade 6-8 Expansion Pilot.

When it says serves 1 grade level, can that be at just one campus or does it have to be across the district?

• ADSY formula funding can be utilized for as little as one student for one day (therefore the campus eligibility is that they serve at least one of the ADSY-eligible grade levels; PK-8).



• Separately, for the ADSY PEP grant program through LASO 4, we're looking for districts to identify specific campuses that would be going through the planning process. This will be separated by PK-5 grade bands and 6-8 grade bands, and actual implementation across grade levels may vary depending on local context.

How much help to manage this does the approved provider provide?

The approved provider for ADSY Full Year Redesign and ADSY Summer Learning supports
districts by guiding the planning process while the district's project manager completes the
strategic plan. During implementation, the provider will support the school system through
structured observation cycles, feedback loops, and ongoing consultation to help ensure highquality ADSY programming at participating campuses.

Must the 1 hour of TEKS based enrichment be taught by a certified teacher?

• Yes, anything that qualifies as instruction must be taught by a teacher meeting your district's certification requirements. This is due to qualifying towards the minimum amount of instructional time to meet the definition of a full day, which is four hours (so three hours of TEKS-based academics + 1 hour of TEKS-based enrichment).

In order to receive the 3/4th funding, school districts need to have 200+ days between the calendar and ADSY Summer Learning. We have a 180-day calendar and plan to do a 20-day summer learning program. Will we qualify for the 3/4 funding for summer 2026 for Prek-8th grade?

• Yes, that will qualify. We have had more information coming out on HB 2 changes to ADSY starting 10/23, along with an ADSY formula funding webinar that was held on 10/30. Visit tea.texas.gov/adsy for more details, including the webinar.

If selected for the 6th-8th expansion, is the first summer of the program summer 2026 or summer 2027?

The first summer for ADSY PEP Summer 6th-8th expansion would be Summer 2027. Grantees
would begin their grant participation and planning for that program in the 2026-2027 school
year.

Is there a website page or document where we can learn about the process or timeline to become an approved vendor for the next LASO cycle for ADSY?

Please send an email to adsy@tea.texas.gov so we can help you identify any next steps.

If we only have 171 instructional days, but we do meet the 75,600 instructional minute requirement, are we eligible to apply? I see the 175-day requirement but want to double-check.

A school system with a current 25-26 academic calendar of 171 instructional days would be
eligible to apply. See page 24 of the program guidelines for which calendar tier a 171-day
calendar would fall into. Also, please note that school systems must provide evidence by June



2026 of a board-approved ADSY eligible calendar (175+ days) for the 26-27 school year to participate in the grant should they be awarded.

Is it permissible for an individual campus to adopt a different calendar and operate as an "extended school year" campus, even though ADSY PEP is designated as a district-level initiative?

Yes, this is permissible. While ADSY is listed as a district-level initiative under LASO 4 due to
the involvement of the central office steering committee and the required school board and
superintendent approval of an ADSY-eligible calendar, the ADSY PEP grant itself is campusspecific. Only the campus participating in the grant must have an ADSY-eligible calendar
aligned to the selected or awarded ADSY model for the duration of the grant.

What does IMRA stand for?

• Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA).

We use Bluebonnet curriculum for Math but not Reading. How would our points be calculated?

- In this scenario, because Bluebonnet is an Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA)-approved product, the school system would receive half of the base points for using an "IMRA Product" and half of the priority points, since Bluebonnet is used for Math only.
- If the Reading product is not IMRA-approved, the school system will not receive the remaining half of the base or priority points.
- A total of 15 points are available to applicants implementing Bluebonnet in both Math and Reading. If Bluebonnet is used in only one subject, the school system receives half of the total available points (i.e., 7.5 points).

Can a district apply if its campuses are not currently using IMRA-approved HQIMs?

• Yes. Districts may still apply if they intend to ensure that IMRA-approved high-quality instructional materials (HQIMs) are in use during the implementation year.

Section B: Application and Submission

How do I get a link to the application?

- TEA emailed unique application links to school system superintendents on October 3 (if needed, LEAs can complete a <u>Request for Application Link Form</u> to receive a new link).
- A PDF of the application is posted on the <u>LASO Cycle 4 website</u>; however, school systems must submit the application through Qualtrics using the unique application link.
- Applications must be signed by the superintendent to be accepted.

When is the deadline to apply?

December 3, 2025; 5:00 p.m. CT



Section C: Funding and Compliance

When will I receive my NOGA?

- There is a 60-day window from March 5, 2026, to May 5, 2026, for NOGA issuing. The NOGAs are processed in the order received. A delay in submission may impact the NOGA date
- Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) issued upon successful completion of the negotiation process.

What are the allowable uses of funds?

• For a full list of allowable and unallowable uses of funds, please review pages 20-21 of the published <u>ADSY PEP Program Guidelines</u>.

Section D: Implementation and Monitoring

What are the key program commitments?

- Assign a qualified and experienced project manager with district-level decision-making authority who can align campus-based actions with district goals, and who will:
 - Attend all Learning Community professional development workshops,
 - o Participate in calls with the designated approved provider,
 - Lead the District's ADSY PEP steering committee,
 - And ensure timely and high-quality completion of the LEA's ADSY PEP strategic plan and deliverables
- Implement and maintain a base academic calendar of 175 instructional days and 75,600
 operational minutes, and add at least 25 Additional Days (aligned to the approved model) to
 the calendar at the eligible campuses for the full duration of the grant

For a full list of program commitments, please review the Program Specific Requirements and Assurances on page 13-17 of the published <u>ADSY PEP Program Guidelines.</u>

How will performance be evaluated?

- Continuation in the ADSY PEP grant is contingent upon demonstrated effort to implement feedback, adherence to all grant requirements, and evidence of yearly progress
 - Attend all Learning Community professional development workshops,
 - o Participate in calls with the designated approved provider,
 - Lead the District's ADSY PEP steering committee,
 - Ensure timely and high-quality completion of the LEA's ADSY PEP strategic plan and deliverables
 - Engage in observation of the program to assess implementation and continuous improvement focus areas

For a full list of performance evaluation measures, please review Performance and Evaluation Measures on page 19-20 of the published <u>ADSY PEP Program Guidelines.</u>

Section E: Support and Resources



Where can I find additional resources or training?

- Should a school system be awarded the ADSY PEP grant, the system will receive planning support from an assigned approved provider and must also engage in regular professional development opportunities.
- For additional resources outside of the grant-provided training and support, please visit the **TEA ADSY webpage:** Additional Days School Year | Texas Education Agency

What support can I expect from an Approved Provider?

The approved provider for ADSY Full Year Redesign and ADSY Summer Learning supports
districts by guiding the planning process while the district's project manager completes the
strategic plan. During implementation, the provider will support the school system through
structured observation cycles, feedback loops, and ongoing consultation to help ensure highquality ADSY programming at participating campuses.

Section D: Contact Information

Who should I contact for questions?

- For questions about the application process or technical assistance with the application, contact <u>LASO@tea.texas.gov</u>
- For questions about ADSY, contact ADSY@tea.texas.gov