



LASO Cycle 4 and Preparing & Retaining Educators through Partnership (PREP) Program Allotment

Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO)

Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) is a **single, consolidated application that combines grants, allotments, and in-kind supports**, bundled around a few key strategies to accelerate academic gains. LASO Cycle 4 will offer 15 opportunities focused on curriculum & instruction, educator training, more time, and innovative school models.

\$500.5M

in estimated services
and supports

15

TEA initiatives to
support learning
acceleration and
innovation

1

application to access
funding

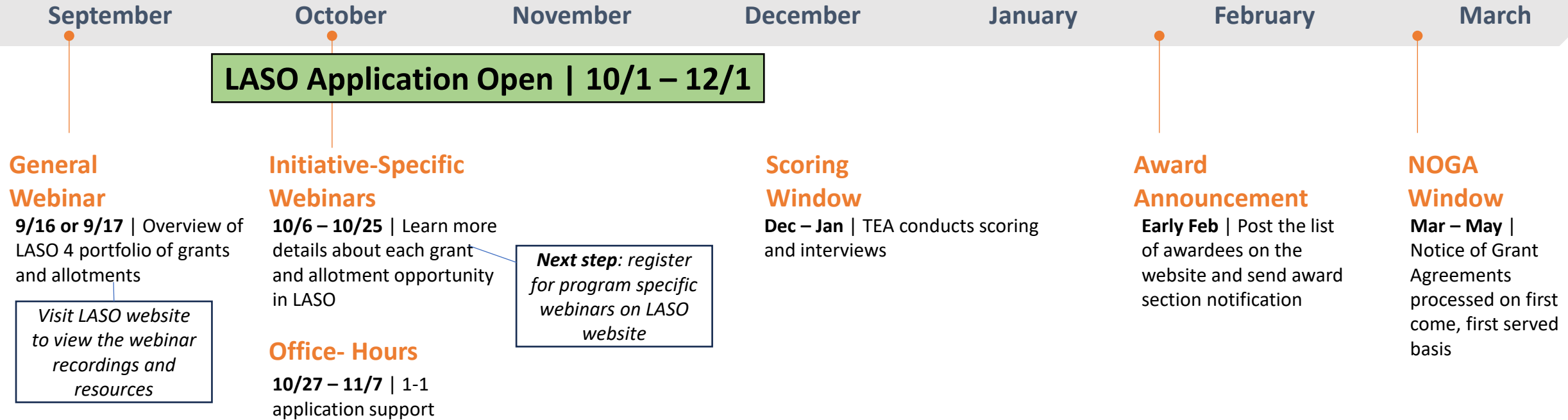
LASO 4 Portfolio



Initiative	District or Campus Level	Estimated Total Allocation Available	Initiative Duration In Years	Estimated Total Value of Award*	Estimated Number of Awards
Curriculum and Instruction					
Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT) LIFT merges programs formerly known as Strong Foundations- SF, Texas Instructional Leadership- TIL, and Texas Lesson Study- TXLS	District	\$248M	3	\$855K–\$4.5M	350-475
LIFT Add-On: School Improvement PLC Support (LIFT SI PLC) <i>(available only for Title I Comprehensive, Targeted, and Addtl Targeted)</i>	Campus	\$45M	1	\$60K-120K	150-300
School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG) <i>(available only for Title I Comprehensive, Targeted, and Addtl Targeted)</i>	Campus	\$10M	1	Up to \$200K	Up to 50
Blended Learning Grant (BLG) Two Cohorts: Academic – Math or RLA cohort and Strategic Operations Cohort	District	\$6M	3	Academic- Up to \$405K Strat Ops- Up to \$720K	15-20
AP Computer Science Principles (APCSP)	District	\$1.292M	1	\$10K- 100K	Up to 50
Education and Training					
PREP Program Allotment 1. PREP Residency Preservice Program 2. PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program 3. PREP Mentorship Program	District	\$146M	1	Residency Program: \$24K-1.6M Grow Your Own: \$8K-480K Mentor Program: \$3K-120K	All eligible districts may receive the allotment
Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies (TSS) Grant	District	\$2.9M	2	Up to \$58.4K	Up to 50
More Time					
Additional Days School Year Planning & Execution Program (ADSY PEP) Two Cohorts: Full Year Redesign and Summer Learning	District	\$7.7M	2-3	Summer- Up to \$200K Full Year- Up to \$600K	30-36
Innovative School Models - Launch Grants					
School Action Fund (SAF)	Campus	\$30M	2-3	Create new Up to \$1.3M/campus Reassign: Up to \$750k/campus Restart: Up to \$1.1M/campus	27-30
Navigating Excellence through Targeted Supports (NEXT)	Campus	\$1.75M	3	Up to \$500K	Up to 5
Early College High School (ECHS)	Campus	\$800K	2	Up to \$100K	Up to 8
Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH)	Campus	\$1M	2	Up to \$100K	Up to 10
Virtual and Hybrid Program Accelerator (VHPA)	Campus	\$5M	2	Up to \$230K	10-14

*Estimated Total Value of award reflects direct grant funds and in kind supports available in the current LASO cycle 4 in addition to potential continuation grants over the full program duration.

LASO 4 Roadmap



Superintendent calls throughout the fall will provide updates on LASO 4 and include deep dives into included supports such as **LIFT**, the **PREP Allotment**, **ADSY Planning and Execution Program**, and the **Blended Learning Grant Program**

Visit the [LASO 4 webpage](#) for access to application resources, webinar links, and 1-1 supports.



Preparing & Retaining Educators through Partnership (PREP) Program Allotment



HB 2: School Finance

Article 2 Educator Preparation and Certification

- Limits DOI exception of uncertified teachers: Must be certified in K-5 Reading and Math in 26-27, then Reading/Math/Science/Social Studies K-12 in 27-28; Districts can apply for an extension until 29-30
- \$1K grant per uncertified teacher who is certified by end of 26-27. Must have been a first-year teacher during the 22-23 or 23-24 school year and uncertified as of 1/1/25.
- Expands access to District Teaching Permit with local boards having final approval for paraprofessional promotions
- Defines new high-quality preservice preparation pathways: residency, traditional, and preservice alternative
 - Differentiates between a new preservice alternative model and other alternative certification models
- Creates new Preparing and Retaining Educators Through Partnership (PREP) Allotment:
 - Recruitment: New State Funding for Teacher Recruitment with Grow Your Own Programs:
 - Up to 40 prospective teacher candidates per LEA per year (LEA employees, paraprofessionals)
 - \$8-12K allotment per individual
 - Requires partnership with IHE, implementation of a HS E&T pathway, and time for GYO candidate coursework and practice
 - Preparation: New State Funding for Preparation, paying cost for training candidates before they begin teaching
 - Up to 40 paid residents per LEA per year (\$24-39.5K)
 - Up to 80 paid traditional student teachers or preservice alternative interns per LEA per year (\$10-21.5K)
 - Mentoring: Increase State Funding for New Teacher Mentoring
 - Up to 40 new teachers per LEA per year (\$3K)
- Requires school districts to pay novice starting teachers prepared via residency, traditional, and preservice alternative more than other novice starting teachers starting in the 2026-27, but have flexibility as to how
- Improves Teacher Prep Program Content including requiring Reading/Math Academies in funded teacher prep programs and applying a CRT ban to teacher prep

HB 2, Article 2: A Historic Investment in Teacher Recruitment & Preparation



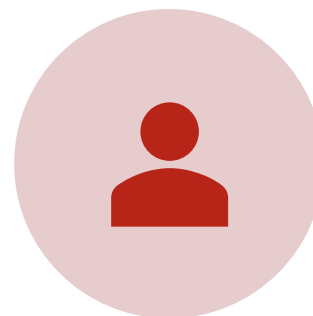
\$400M+ Annually

A statewide investment in teacher recruitment, preparation & certification, and mentoring—at scale.



Reliable Funding Streams

Establishes consistent entitlements for districts and Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs).



Support for 200+ Educators per LEA

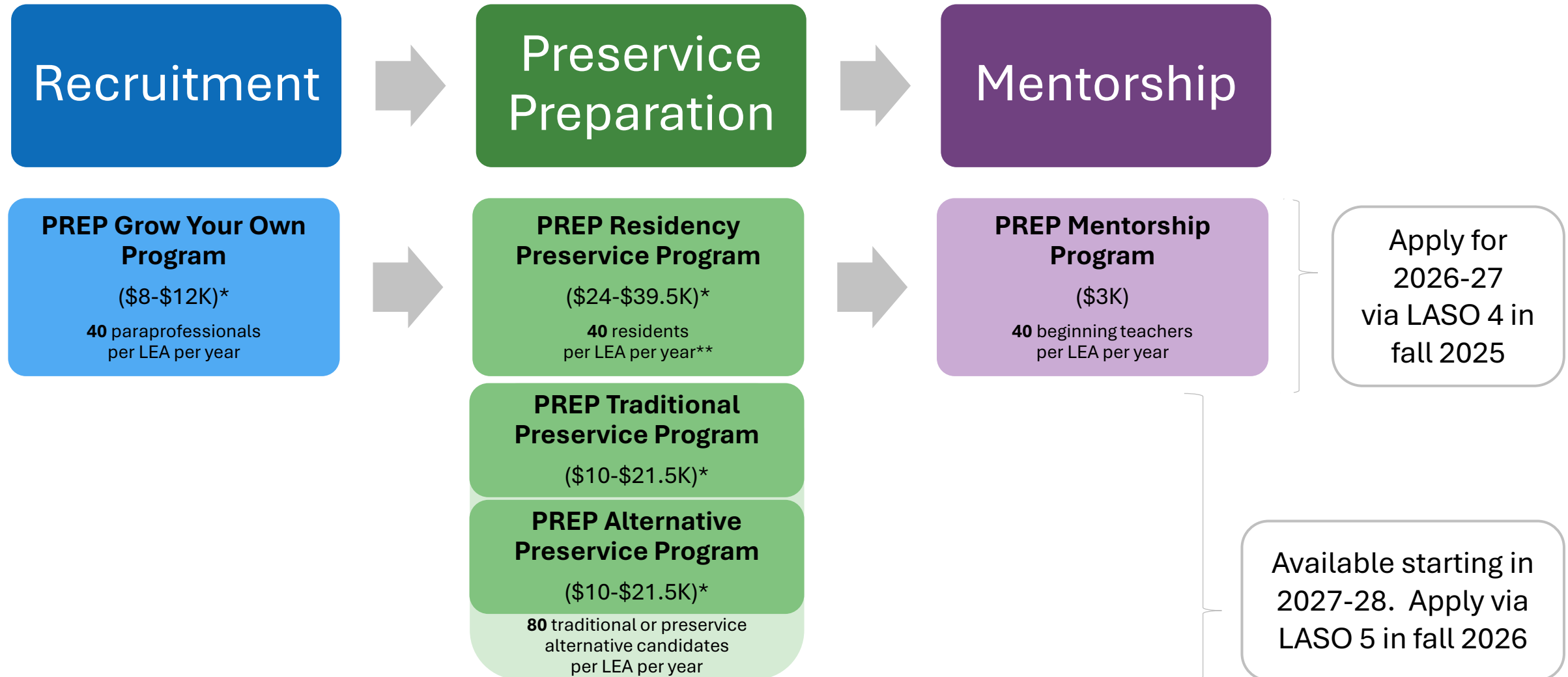
Funding for aspiring teachers and mentors every year.



Reaching 5.5M+ Students

Potential to transform learning across 1,200+ Texas districts

Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership (PREP) Allotment includes 5 formula funded programs to support teacher recruitment, preparation, and mentorship

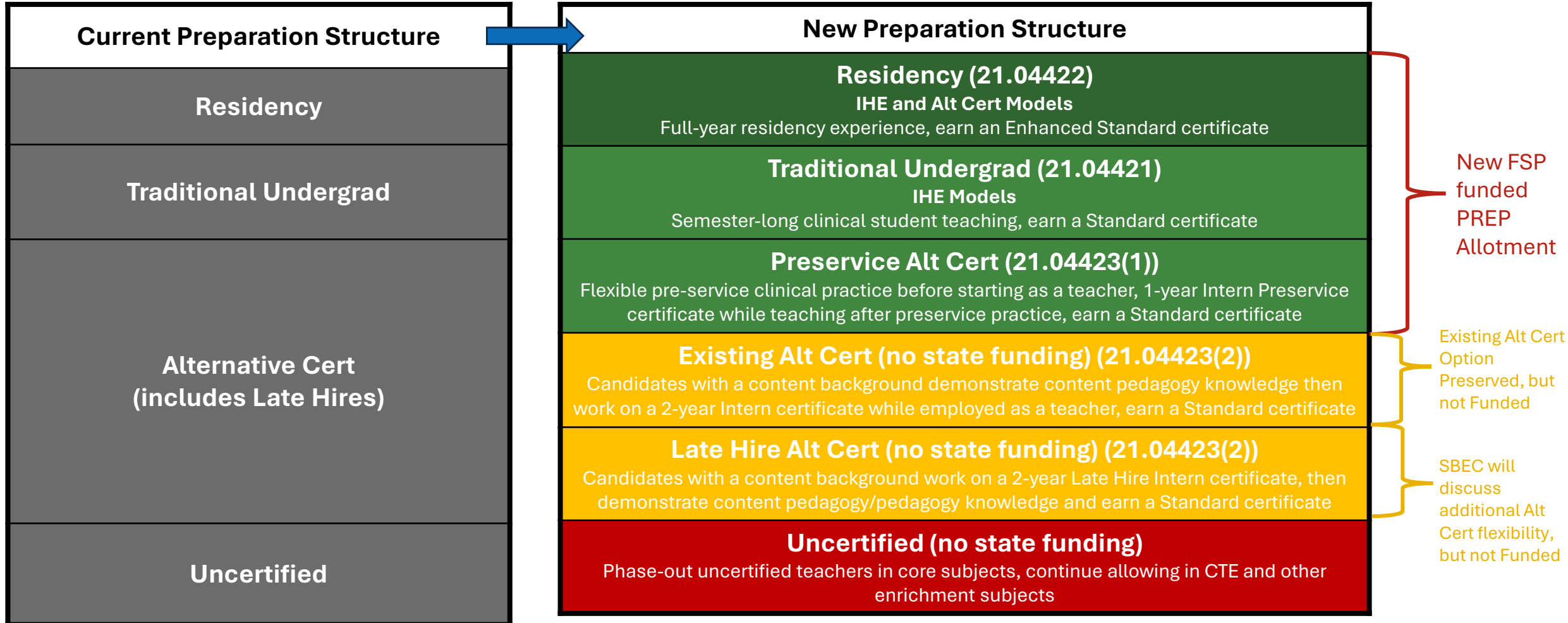


*FSP Formulas are structured with higher levels of funding for small/rural districts

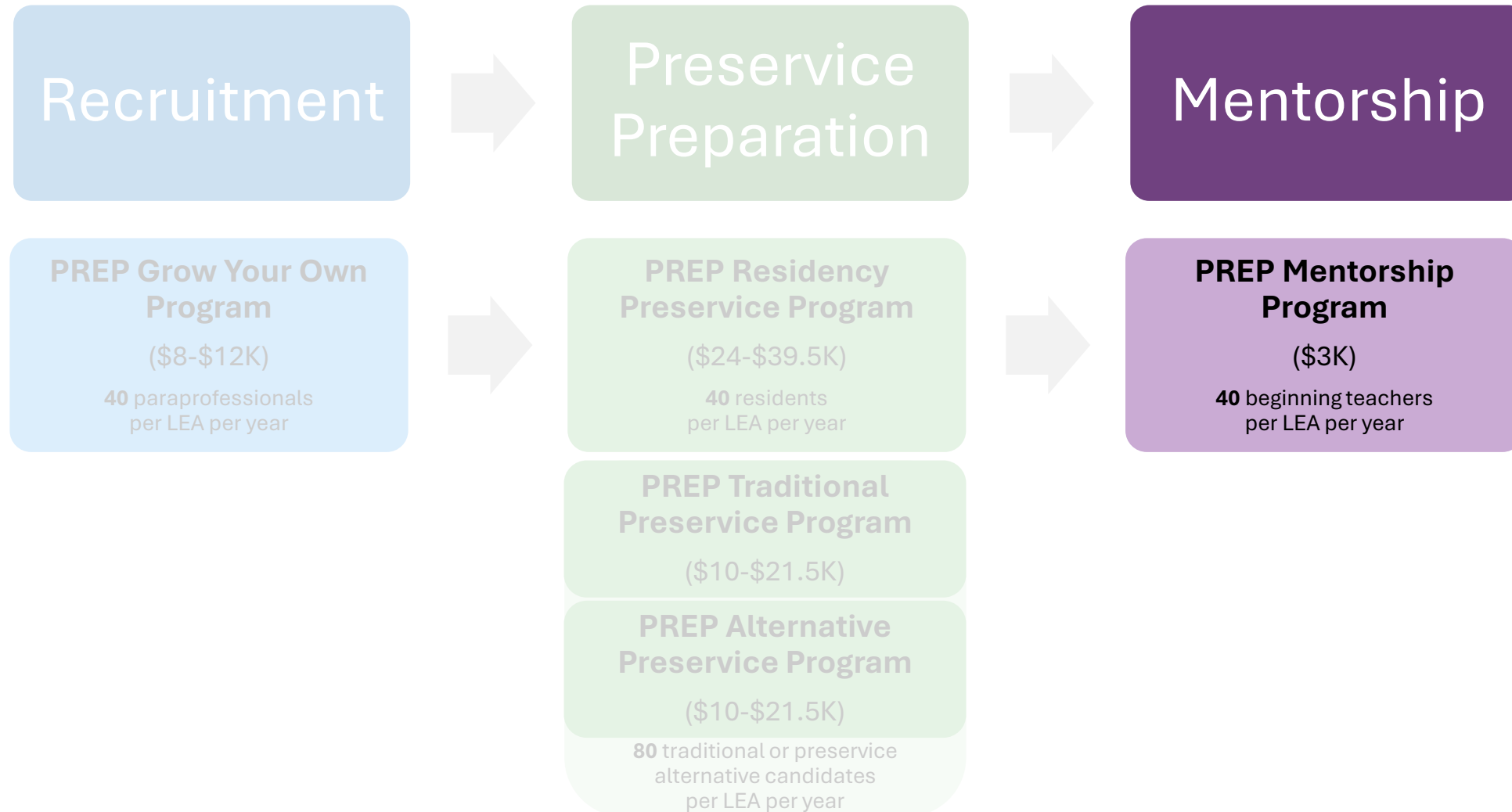
**If total number of residents exceeds 40, funding can also be provided from eligible slots from the Traditional/Preservice Alternative allocation at that lower funding level for up to an additional 40 residents

EPPs will offer the new PREP-funded pathways in addition to prior, preparation pathways which remain unfunded.

The SBEC must approve EPPs to offer the PREP-funded pathways in order for the EPP to qualify for a PREP Preservice Partnership program with an LEA.



PREP Mentorship Program funding can begin for participating school systems in 2026-27



Mentorship Program



Structured novice teacher support: Assign 1st and 2nd year teachers to a trained mentor who provides coaching and support during the instructional day.



State developed mentorship training: Provide mentors and supporting district/campus leaders with training on mentoring best practices via the agency-required Texas Mentorship Training.



Financial support: PREP Allotment funding flows to the LEA per novice teacher to provide the mentor teacher with at least \$1k stipend and support program implementation, including funding training costs and mentor release time.

Funding Snapshot: PREP Mentorship Program

(\$3K per novice teacher)

40 novice
teachers per
year



LEA



Mentor Teacher

Annual Funding

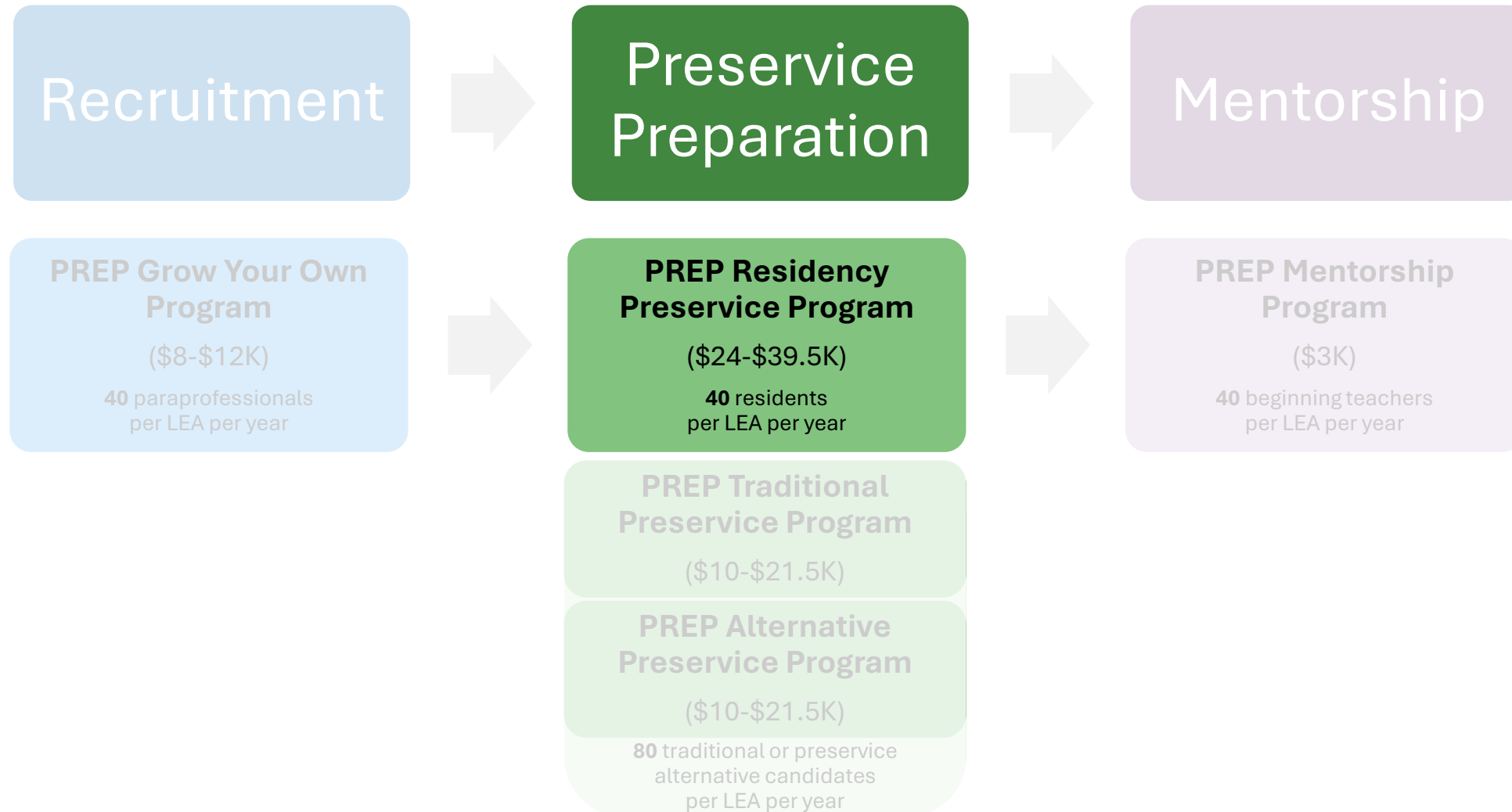
Per teacher in their
1st or 2nd year being
mentored

\$3K

**At least
\$1K
stipend**

LEAs may allocate funds received to provide additional stipends to mentors, cover release time for mentor and novice teacher, and/or cover the cost of mentor training

PREP Residency Preservice Partnership funding can begin for participating school systems in 2026-27



PREP Residency Preservice Partnership requirements are focused on implementing high quality, year long residencies for aspiring teachers

Residency Preservice Program



Practice-based preparation in a year long residency: Embed the teacher candidate within the school, providing for extensive practice under the supervision of an effective **cooperating** teacher for an **entire school year** prior to becoming a teacher of record.



State developed content*: Ensure high quality training content, including Reading and Math Academies, Bluebonnet Learning and other classroom management content (from trained/certified facilitators).



Formal partnerships (with written agreement): LEA and EPP create partnerships to ensure alignment of LEA needs and vision for instruction, HQIM content, and EPP content and training.



Success and needs-based funding: PREP Allotment funding is split between the EPP and LEA, compensates candidates during their residency, and increases for high need areas. Funding is tied to the success of the candidate and flows to the LEA when the candidate earns Enhanced Standard certification and to the EPP only when the candidate has also completed a successful first year of teaching.

Funding Snapshot: PREP Residency Preservice Partnership (\$24-39.5K per resident)

40 Residents
per year*



LEA



Resident



Cooperating
Teacher



EPP

Initial Funding

\$12K

Payment
Required

\$20K min

\$10K from allotment +
at least \$10K LEA match

+

\$2K min

Success
Based Funding

Up to \$16k

\$2k base
+Rural/High: \$0K - \$12K
+\$2K sped or bilingual

Funding flows to LEA when resident
earns Enhanced Standard cert

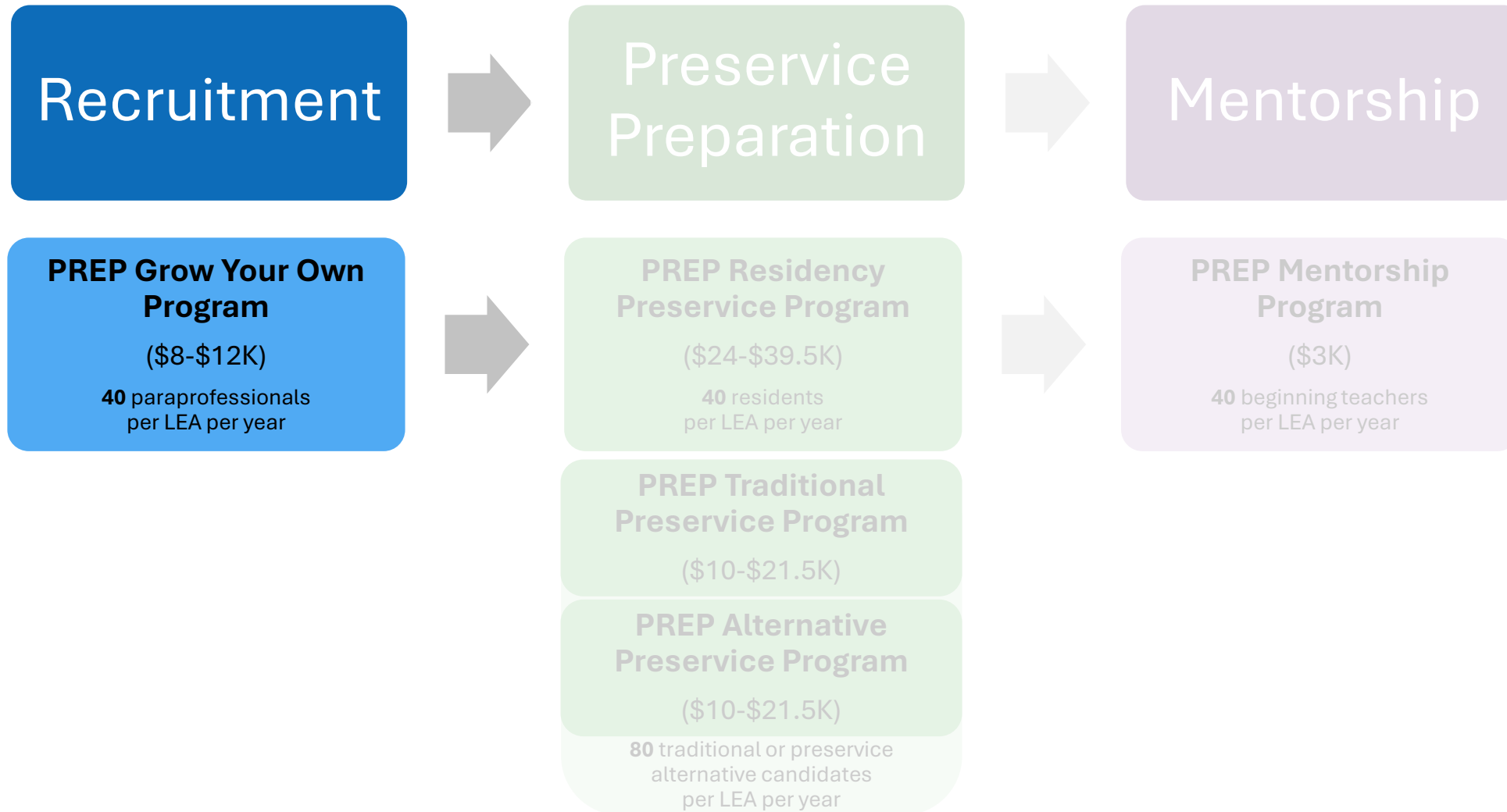
Up to \$11.5K

\$10k base
+\$1.5K for read/math academies

Funding flows to EPP when resident
earns Enhanced Standard cert AND
completes first year teaching

*If total number of residents exceeds 40, funding can also be provided from eligible slots from the Traditional/Preservice Alternative allocation at that lower funding level (\$10k-\$21.5k) for up to an additional 40 residents

PREP Grow Your Own funding can begin for participating school systems in 2026-27, if they are also participating in a Preservice Preparation Partnership



Grow Your Own Program



Earn a bachelor's degree: Partner with an IHE/EPP to enroll the paraprofessional or other employee in a BA program and provide scheduled release time for coursework and advising, so the employee completes their BA and enrolls in a PREP Preservice preparation pathway* within 3 years.



Gain early teacher training: Provide the employee with on-the-job training on teaching while in their current role, including opportunities for practice under an effective teacher.



Grow future educators: Implement a high school Education and Training CTE pathway to provide early training and practice opportunities for current students to build interest in the teaching profession.



Receive success and need-based funding: PREP Allotment funding flows to the LEA per employee, can be used at the LEA's discretion for program implementation, including for tuition costs, and is tied to the employee's successful completion of a BA.

*Note: LEAs will only be eligible for GYO Program if they also apply for a Preservice Preparation Partnership. For 2026-27, this only includes Residency Preservice Partnerships, but will expand to other Preservice Preparation Partnership options the following year.

Funding Snapshot: PREP Grow Your Own Program (\$8-12K per Employee)

**40 Para-
professionals
per year***



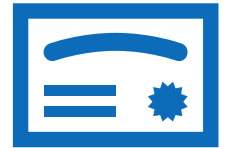
LEA



Paraprofessional



Advisor



IHE

Initial Funding

Per employee who
begins GYO pathway

\$4K

+Rural/High: **\$0K - \$2K**

Success Based Funding

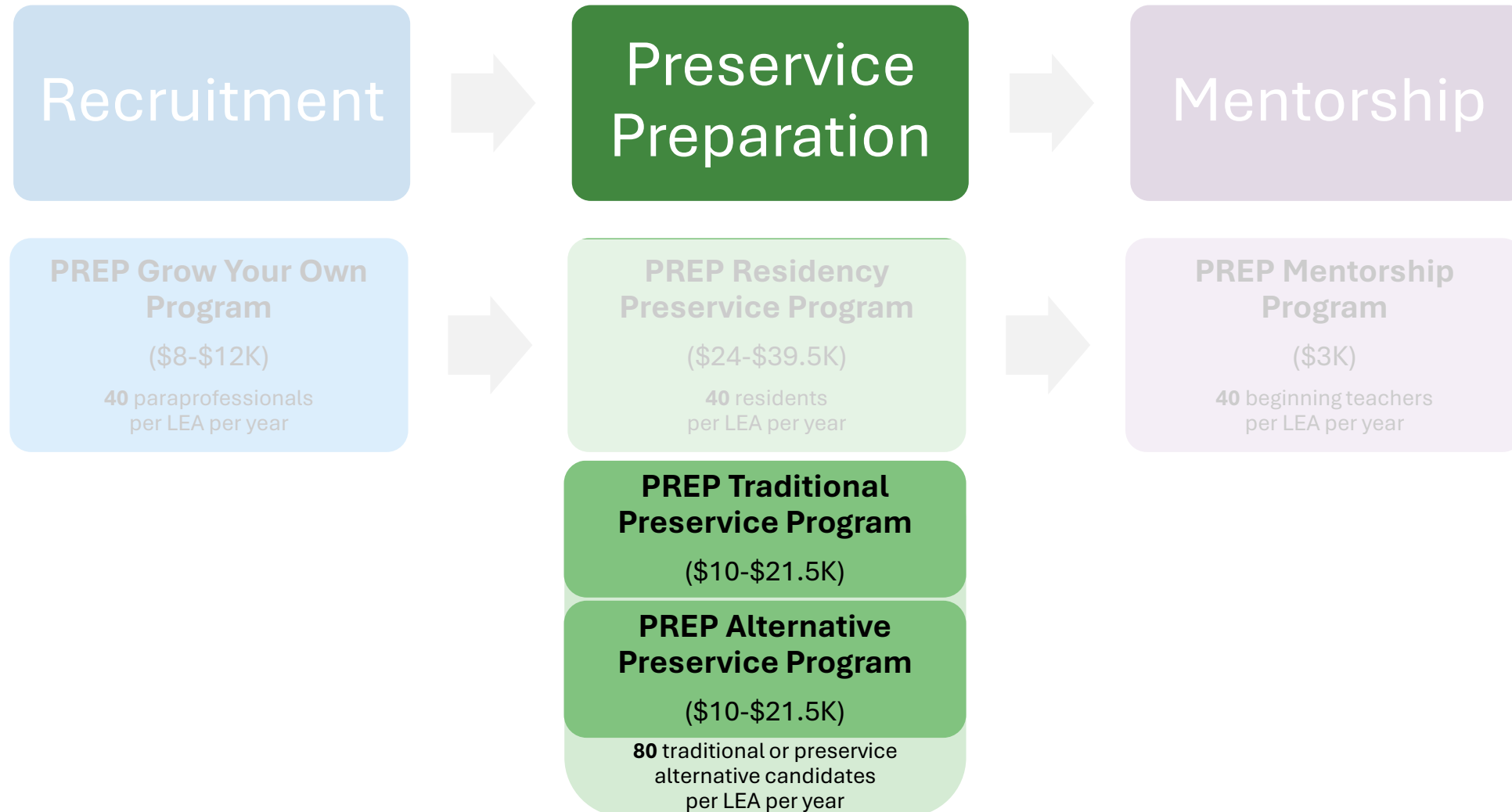
After employee earns
BA + enrolls in an EPP

\$4K

+Rural/High: **\$0K - \$2K**

LEAs may allocate funds received to support IHE tuition costs, costs to provide structured advising to the paraprofessional so they can successfully complete their bachelor degree, costs for employee release time, and other GYO related costs.

PREP Traditional and PREP Alternative Preservice funding can begin for participating school systems in 2027-28



Traditional Preservice Program



Practice-based preparation in a classroom: Embed the teacher candidate within the school, providing for extensive practice under the supervision of an effective **cooperating** teacher in a **paid semester-long student teaching experience**.



State developed content: Ensure high quality training content, including Reading and Math Academies, Bluebonnet Learning and other classroom management content (from trained/certified facilitators).



Formal partnerships (with written agreement): LEA and EPP create partnerships to ensure alignment of LEA needs and vision for instruction, HQIM content, and EPP content and training.



Success and need-based funding: PREP Allotment funding is split between the EPP and LEA, compensates candidates during student teaching, and increases for high need areas. Funding is tied to the success of the candidate and flows to the LEA when the candidate earns Standard certification and to the EPP only when the candidate has also completed a successful first year of teaching.

Available
starting in
2027-28. Apply
via LASO 5 in
fall 2026

Funding Snapshot: PREP Traditional Preservice Partnership Programs (\$10-21.5K)

80 candidates per
year split across
Traditional and Alt
Preservice
programs



LEA



Candidate



**Cooperating
Teacher**



EPP

Initial Funding

\$4K

**Payment
Required**

> \$3K

\$3K from allotment +
some LEA funds

+

\$1K min

**Success
Based Funding**

Up to \$11K

\$1K base
+Rural/High: \$0K - \$18K
+\$2K sped or bilingual

Funding flows directly to LEA when
candidate earns Standard cert

Up to \$6.5K

\$5K base
+\$1.5K for read/math academies

Funding flows directly to EPP when
candidate earns Standard cert AND
completes first year teaching

Alternative Preservice Program



Practice-based preparation in a classroom: Embed the teacher candidate within the school, providing for extensive practice under the supervision of an effective **cooperating** teacher in a well-structured, **clinical preservice practice experience**, with options ranging from a summer intensive to a year long periodic practice engagement.



State developed content: Ensure high quality training content, including Reading and Math Academies, Bluebonnet Learning and other classroom management content (from trained/certified facilitators). Reading and Math Academies must be partially completed before the candidate begins as a teacher of record.



Formal partnerships (with written agreement): LEA and EPP create partnerships to ensure alignment of LEA needs and vision for instruction, HQIM content, and EPP content and training.



Success and need-based funding: PREP Allotment funding is split between the EPP and LEA, compensates candidates during pre-service practice, and increases for high need areas. Funding is tied to the success of the candidate and flows to the LEA when the candidate earns Standard certification. The first half of funding flows to the EPP when the candidate earns an Intern with Preservice certificate and the second half only when they earn a Standard certificate.

Available
starting in
2027-28. Apply
via LASO 5 in
fall 2026

Funding Snapshot: PREP Alternative Preservice Partnership Programs (\$10-21.5K)

80 candidates per
year split across
Traditional and Alt
Preservice
programs



LEA



Candidate



**Cooperating
Teacher**



EPP

Initial Funding

\$4K

**Payment
Required**

> \$3K

\$3K from allotment +
some LEA funds

+

\$1K min

**Success
Based Funding**

Up to \$11K

\$1K base
+Rural/High: \$0K - \$18K
+\$2K sped or bilingual

Up to \$6.5K

\$5K base
+\$1.5K for read/math academies

Funding flows directly to LEA when
candidate earns Standard cert

First half of funding flows directly to EPP when
candidate earns Intern Preservice cert and
second half flows after candidate earns
Standard cert

Next Steps?

Register for upcoming PREP informational webinars

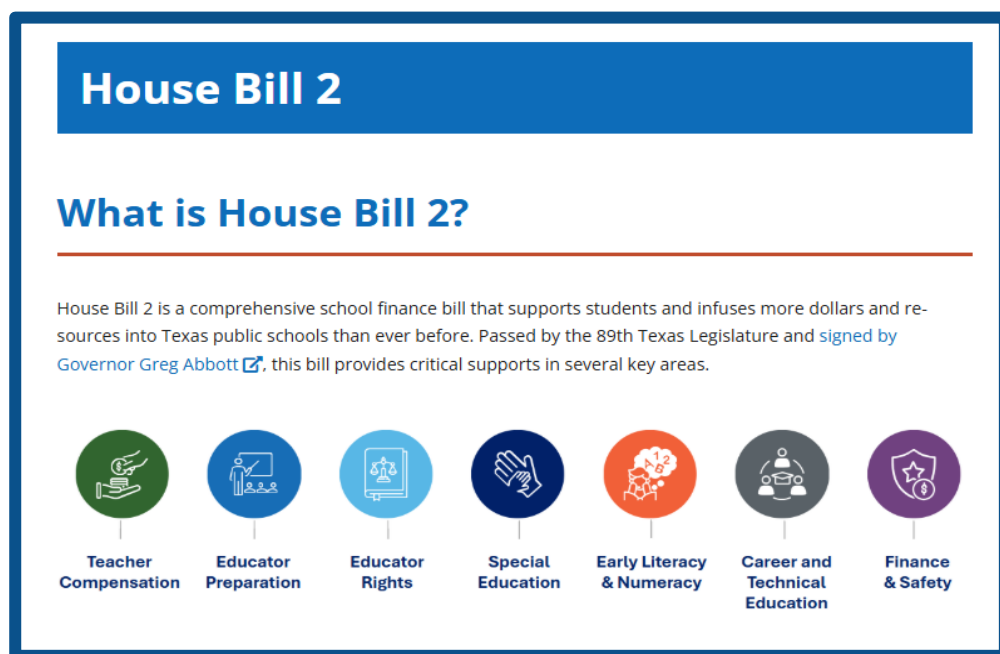
Webinars	Date and Time
PREP Program Overview webinar - option #1	October 8, 2025 12:30–1:30 PM
PREP Program Overview webinar - option #2	October 9, 2025 11:00–12:00 PM
PREP Mentorship Program webinar - option #1	October 8, 2025 3:30–4:30 PM
PREP Mentorship Program webinar - option #2	October 10, 2025 12:30–1:30 PM
PREP Residency Preservice Program webinar - option #1	October 15, 2025 11:00–12:00 PM
PREP Residency Preservice Program webinar - option #2	October 20, 2025 2:00–3:00 PM
PREP GYO Program webinar* - option #1	October 21, 2025 9:30–10:30 AM
PREP GYO Program webinar* - option #2	October 23, 2025 2:00–3:00 PM
Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies (TSS) program webinar - option #1	October 15, 2025 12:30–1:30 PM
Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies (TSS) program webinar - option #2	October 23, 2025 11:00–12:00 PM

*Note: LEAs will only be eligible for GYO Program if they also apply for the Residency Preservice Program.

Additional Available Resources

1

Visit the HB 2 website for recent TAAs, resources and questions



The screenshot shows the 'House Bill 2' website. At the top, it says 'House Bill 2' in a blue header. Below that, the title 'What is House Bill 2?' is underlined. A paragraph explains that House Bill 2 is a comprehensive school finance bill that supports students and infuses more dollars and resources into Texas public schools than ever before. It was passed by the 89th Texas Legislature and signed by Governor Greg Abbott. Below the text, there are seven circular icons representing different areas of support: Teacher Compensation, Educator Preparation, Educator Rights, Special Education, Early Literacy & Numeracy, Career and Technical Education, and Finance & Safety.

<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/government-relations-and-legal/government-relations/house-bill-2>

2

Seek out viable Educator Preparation Program Partnerships by...

- Reviewing eligible residency partnership program partners in your region:
<https://tea.texas.gov/texas-educators/teacher-residencies-in-texas#forleapartners>
- Connecting with your local ESC staff for guidance and support to seek partnership:
<https://tss.tea.texas.gov/contact-us>

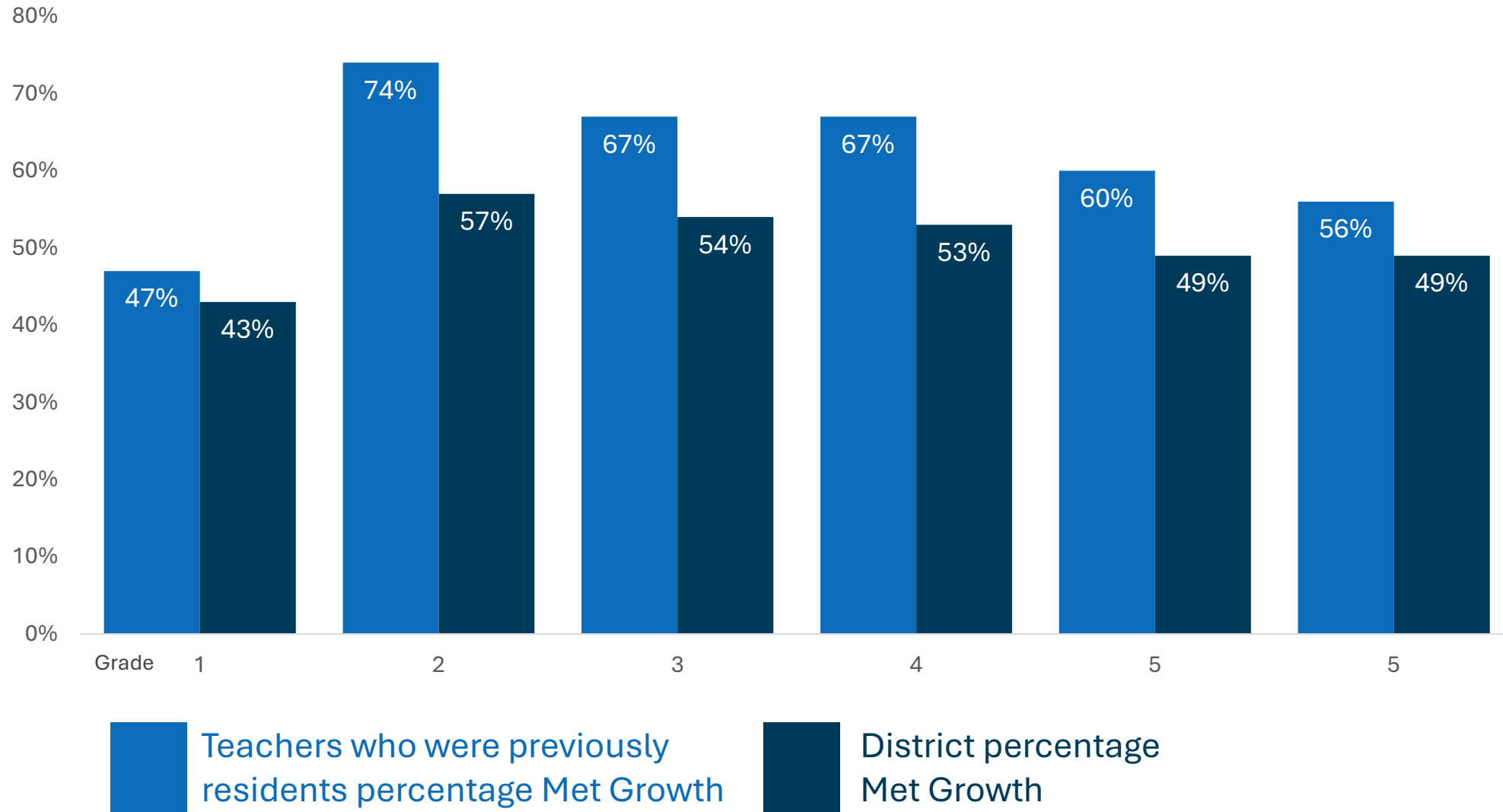


**Superintendent,
Dr. Veronica Kortan**



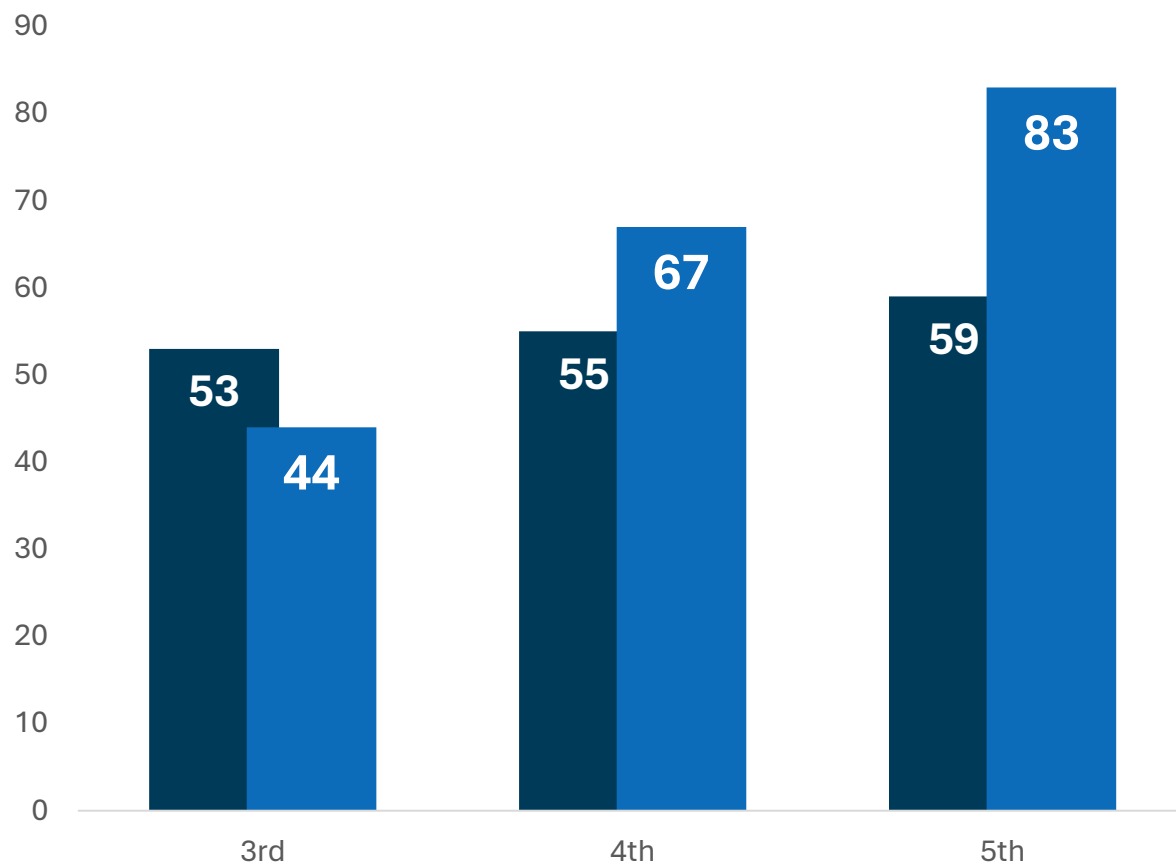
Harlingen CISD

- Region: 1 (Harlingen, TX)
- District Size: 17,034 Students (Other Central City)
- EPP Partners: University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), University of Texas-Austin

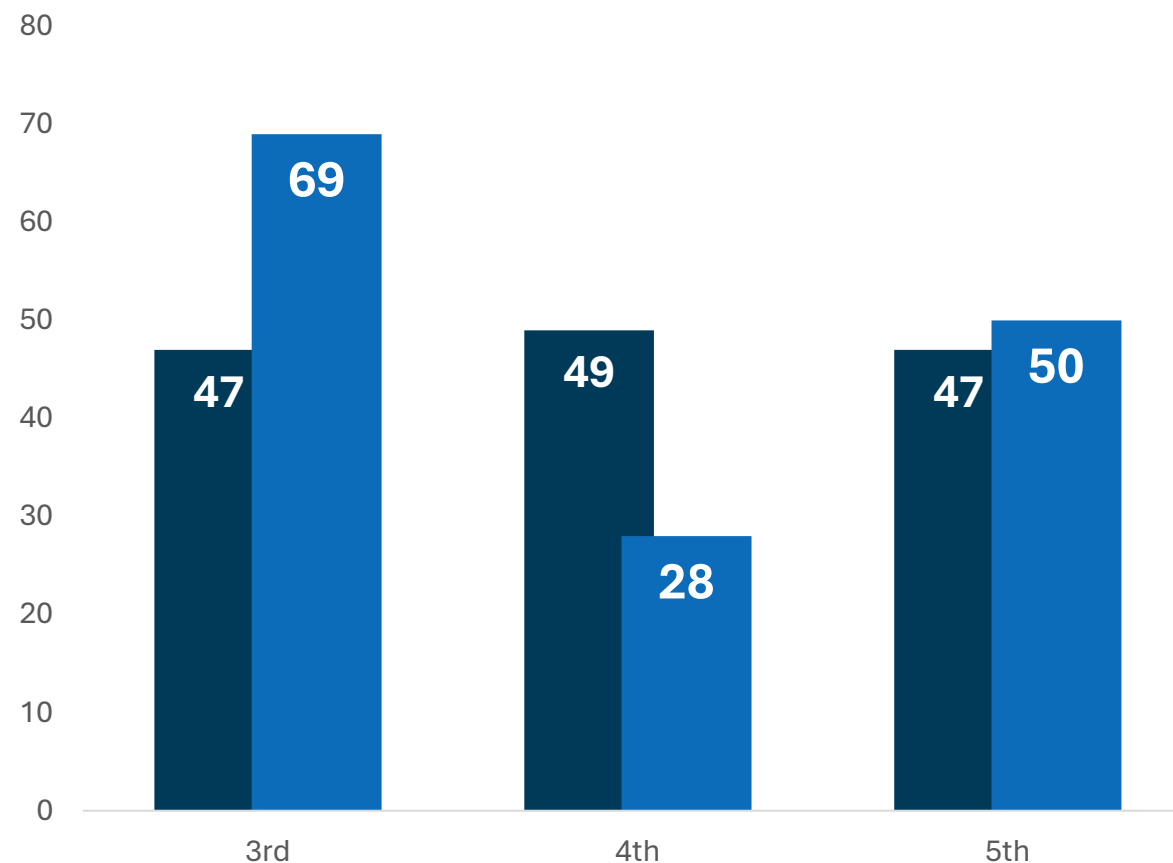




Harlingen CISD Residency Successes

2025 STAAR Reading Meets



2025 STAAR Math Meets



District Percentage   Teachers who were previously residents
percentage Met Growth