



LASO Cycle 3 ESC Toolkit Support

LASO 3 Grant Initiative Leads Contact Information

Grant	Contact Lead	Contact Information
Strong Foundations Planning (SFP)	Hannah Cox, Jessica Foulke	StrongFoundations@tea.texas.gov
Strong Foundations Implementation (SFI)	Kristi Michels, Gloria Matthews	StrongFoundations@tea.texas.gov
Strong Foundations Implementation (SFI) School Improvement (SI) PLC Supports	Scott Taylor Kristi Michels, Gloria Matthews	SIDivision@tea.texas.gov StrongFoundations@tea.texas.gov
Instructional Leadership (IL)	Scott Taylor	SIDivision@tea.texas.gov
Technology Lending Grant (TLG)	Colin Dempsey	TechLending@tea.texas.gov
Blended Learning Grant (BLG)	Michael Strange	BlendedLearning@tea.texas.gov
Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Principles (CSP)	Kay Humes	kay.humes@tea.texas.gov
Additional Days School Year (ADSY) Summer	Ruchamah Belizor	ADSY@tea.texas.gov
School Action Fund (SAF)	Laura Hyatt	Laura.Hyatt@tea.texas.gov
Early College High School (ECHS)	Darin Ford	darin.ford@tea.texas.gov
Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) ECHS	Darin Ford	darin.ford@tea.texas.gov

ESC Corner on the LASO 3 Webpage

LASO Cycle 3

[← Back to LASO Homepage](#)

LASO Cycle 3 application opens in

61 13 36 49

days hrs min sec

During the Office Hours, we will be introducing new guidance docs and provide the opportunity for you to review and ask questions

ESC Toolkit

Note: Tentative until final portfolio released in October.



ESC Office Hours

To learn more about the grants offerings ahead of the LEAs webinars.



Grant Best Fit Guidance

Provides criteria to help ESCs determine if a grant fits LEAs needs.



Grant-Specific One Pagers

Preliminary grant information such as program descriptions and commitments, eligibility, timelines, and funding.



Frequently Asked Questions

The FAQ (coming soon) will support deeper understanding of LASO Cycle 3.



Prioritization and Eligibility Guidance

Prioritization and Eligibility Guidance (coming soon) helps LEAs determine ability to be awarded

Page Navigation:

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[Grant Portfolio](#)

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[Webinar Information](#)

[ESC Toolkit](#)



In October 2024, TEA is continuing to offer streamlined, consolidated grant applications, focused on a few grant programs that are bundled and that help accelerate academic gains. The Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) is the next iteration of a universal consolidated application cycle that strategically batches grant funding opportunities that are supporting with continued learning acceleration and innovation opportunities.

LASO Cycle 3 program grants are focused on three of the five learning acceleration strategies: Curriculum & Instruction, More Time and Innovative School Models.

LASO Cycle 3 consolidated grant application opens October 14, 2024 and closes on December 13, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. CST.

~\$160M

in services and supports

11

TEA initiatives to support learning acceleration and innovation

1

LEA program application to access funding

LASO resources for ESCs focused on deepening the understanding of the grant offerings to help LEAs make informed decisions



ESC Tool-Kit



Best-Fit Guidance

Provides criteria to help ESCs determine if a grant fits LEAs needs.



Grant One-Pagers

Provides criteria to help ESC determine if a grant fits LEAs needs.



ESC Office Hours

Office hours for ESCs to learn more about the grant offerings ahead of the LEAs webinars

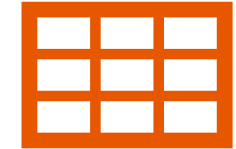
Sep.



FAQ

Provides ESCs with ready-made responses to LEAs most frequently asked questions

Oct.



Prioritization and Eligibility Doc

Provides ESCs with information on eligibility criteria and prioritization tiers to support awarding awareness

Best-Fit Guidance Doc

Goal: to provide supportive information so ESCS can coach LEAs in their decision-making process

LASO Cycle 3 (2024-2025)
Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities

Grant Best Fit Guidance

For ESCs

One-Pagers available September 2024

TEA
Texas Education Agency



Objective

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to LEAs for best fit grants

LASO Grant Portfolio

LASO 3 will provide 11 grant opportunities embedded in three learning acceleration strategies

*Curriculum & Instruction		More Time	Innovative School Models
Strong Foundations Planning Ready to plan in SY25-26 <small>*Planning supports the development of instructional frameworks in math or literacy</small>	Strong Foundations Implementation Ready to implement in SY25-26 <small>*Implementation supports for Texas OER K-8 ELA, K-8 Math, K-8 Science, and Algebra I</small>	ADSY Full Year Ready to implement in SY25-26 <small>*Year-long planning and implementation support for a full calendar and master schedule redesign. Ready to implement SY 25-26</small> One of the Models in School Action Fund	School Action Fund Ready to plan in SY25-26 <small>*Support in planning and implementing whole-school models to address chronic underperformance and unmet community needs</small>
Instructional Leadership Ready to implement in SY25-26 <small>*Training and support intended to foster continuous improvement by helping central and district administrators grow concrete instructional leadership skills</small>	SFI School Improvement PLC Supports Ready to implement in SY25-26 <small>*PLC supports for school improvement committees in Strong Foundations implementation</small>	ADSY Summer Planning and Execution Program Planning Year SY25-26 Implementation Summer 2026 <small>*Year-long planning and implementation support to design a research-based summer learning program</small>	Early College High School Planning Year SY25-26 Implementation Year SY 26-27 <small>*Offers opportunities for a student to earn a high school diploma and associate degree while in high school</small>
Technology Lending Grant Ready to implement in SY25-26 <small>*Tables, hardware, and internet hotspots for digital instructional resources</small>	Blended Learning Grant Ready to implement in SY25-26 <small>*Technical assistance and supplemental curriculum support to design and implementation of a high-fidelity blended learning model</small>		Pathways in Technology Early College High School Planning Year SY25-26 Implementation Year SY 26-27 <small>*Offers opportunities for a student to earn a high school diploma while earning industry certifications, and/or an associate degree</small>
Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles Ready to implement in SY25-26 <small>*Curriculum, technology and teacher support for AP CSP</small>			

Curriculum & Instruction

Strong Foundations Planning

Strong Foundations Planning (SFP) provides direct grant funds to LEAs for technical assistance to develop a strong instructional framework in math or literacy based in the research-based instructional strategies (RBIS) to guide key decisions about teaching and learning in the LEA.

Best Fit for LEAs who are looking for:

- High-quality professional learning (HQPL) on the math or literacy research-based instructional strategies (RBIS)
- Support in developing an instructional framework in math or literacy to guide key decisions about teaching and learning in the LEA
- Diagnostic of the current state of instructional materials and instruction
- Support in developing an instructional framework rollout plan and deciding whether to adopt high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) to achieve the instructional goals of the LEA

Best Fit Guidance

Provides criteria to help ESCs determine if a grant fits LEAs needs.



Grant One Pager

Goal: to provide supportive information so ESCS can coach LEAs in their decision-making process

Early College High School (ECHS)

High Level Program Description

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Eligibility

LEAs that:

- Serving students in Grades 9–12; or
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- All recipients of previous ECHS Planning and Implementation Grants are not eligible to apply.
- All recipients of a previous LASO-ECHS Grant are not eligible to apply.
- Any recipient of previous LASO - ECHS Grants is not eligible to apply.

Best Fit for LEAs who are looking for:

- a) An opportunity for individualized technical support in planning to build an Early College High School (ECHS) within their district.
- b) Opportunities for campuses that are new to the CCSSM network and have not received any prior ECHS grants.
- c) An opportunity to deepen their partnership with an Institution of Higher Education (IHE) to fully develop and offer a rigorous program of study that leads to the successful completion of an associate degree at no cost to the student.

Funding Estimates

- Estimated total funding available \$ 800 K
- Estimated range of award LEAs can receive up to \$ 80 K

- Estimated number of Awards 10 LEAs

Approximate Program Timeline

- Begin date | February 2025
- End Date | January 2027

Key Program Commitments to Consider

Note | Intended to provide key program commitments, not an exhaustive list of program assurances or requirements.

- **ECHS Model Planning and Implementation** | LEAs will engage in 12-18 months of ECHS model planning and implementation design elements and requirements aligned to the [ECHS Blueprint](#).
- **Crosswalks** | Together, the LEA and IHE develop course equivalency crosswalks which lead to Level I and Level II certificates, associate degrees, or completion of the Texas Core Curriculum to provide stackable credentials as students advance on the academic pipeline.
- **Personalized Learning Environment** | The ECHS shall collaborate with its IHE to personalize the learning environment for students by developing individualized student plans for ongoing academic support, filing a degree plan, and the attainment of long-term goals. The ECHS and IHE shall develop robust college and career advising systems to support student plans and advance academic progress and shall develop a process for collaboration to provide an academic bridge across the two educational systems.

Do-Now Consideration

Actions or artifacts needed at time of application submission

ECHS applicants must have identified an accredited higher education institution(s) for postsecondary opportunities.

SAPL Information

[LASO 3 Approved Provider List](#) (available in October). Please visit the SAPL webpage for more information.

Contact Information

darin.ford@tea.texas.gov

We have added some improvements as a response to feedback and elevated needs of our ESC partners

To help determine if goals of grant align to LEA need

To identify actions due at application submission

Best Fit for LEAs who are looking for:

- a) A high-quality blended learning model in math and literacy.
- b) The creation of a coherent Tier 1 curriculum and supplemental product strategy
- c) The implementation of a performance management system, such as weekly Data-Driven-Instructional meetings, to drive student usage of supplemental math or RLA products to research-backed thresholds.
- d) The continuation of previous instructional strategy work through Strong Foundations in LASO 1.0,2.0, TCLAS or CRIMSI (prior participation required for eligibility).

Do-Now Consideration

Actions or artifacts needed at time of application submission

- **Strategic Operations Cohort only** - LEAS will submit a [Software Usage Scoring Attachment](#) to help calculate the **usage evidence from the provided supplemental product vendor for Spring 2024 supplemental usage data** for award finalists.



FAQ Guidance Document- September Prioritization and Eligibility- October

FAQ Document- Coming soon...

LASO Cycle 3 (2024-2025)

Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities

FAQs for LASO 3 Guidance

ESC Toolkit



Objective

The purpose of this document is to provide answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) separated into categories.

LASO Eligibility Questions

This section contains questions regarding eligibility requirements for the LASO grant opportunity. The LASO grants are comprised of 11 independently managed grants consolidated into One Grant Application.

Use Case: If we received previous TCLAS or LASO awards, can we apply for LASO grants?

Answer	Receipt of TCLAS awards may or may not impact eligibility for individual LASO grants. Each grant has its own eligibility requirements. More information is available in the LASO Cycle 3 Grant One Pager documents on the LASO website. Full details about each grant will be available in the Program Guidelines, which will be published on October 14 th , when the grant application opens.
Category	Eligibility

Use Case: Are private schools eligible to apply for LASO Cycle 3?

Answer	Details regarding each LASO program's eligibility can be found in LASO's program guidelines and on the LASO website: https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/laso-cycle-ii
Category	Eligibility

Use Case: Are there any stipulations in Cycle 3 for those awarded grants under LASO in Cycle 1 or in Cycle 2?

Answer	Each grant will have its own specific eligibility requirements. However, generally, LEAs receiving Cycle 1 awards are not prohibited from a LASO 3.0 application.
Category	Eligibility

Eligibility and Prioritization Document- Coming soon...

Eligibility and Prioritization for LASO 3 Guidance



Resources

<https://www.instrument1.com/blog/decision-matrix-for-grants>

Objective

The purpose of this document is to provide additional information on Prioritization and Eligibility requirements of the grants contained in LASO 3 and help facilitate a deeper understanding.

Eligibility Guidance

- Am I eligible?
- What are my chances of being awarded?

Eligibility Criteria	SFP	SFI	SFI SI PLC	IL	TLG
Grades K-5	X	X	X	X	X
Grades 6-8	X	X+alg	X+alg	X	X
Grades 9-12					X
Implementing approved core products	X-Now content only	X	X		
Title 1 served			X	X	
Federal Accountability Designation (SCI/TSI)			X	X	
At-Risk (needs definition)					
180-day Instructional Calendar					

Prioritization 1: Table

TIERS	SFP	SFI	SFI SI PLC	IL	TLG
1- Low STAAR Scores	X	X	X	X	
2- Prior Participant; good standing	X	X			X
3- High Need (BOM, F-rated district)	X	X			X
4- High Ratings (A, B)					
5- Economically Disadvantaged	X	X			X
6- Rural and/or small size district	X	X			X
7- Large District					
8- New Program					

Eligibility and Prioritization for LASO 3 Guidance

Prioritization 1: Cluster Map

Low STAAR Scores <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFP • SFI • SFI SI • IL 	Prior Participation and Good Standing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFP • SFI • TLG • BLG
Rural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFP • SFI • TLG • APCSP 	High Economically Disadvantaged <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFP • SFI • TLG • APCSP • ADSY • SAF • ECHS • PTECH

Focus on providing a high-level overview to support understanding for decision making teams:

Two Guiding Question:

1. Am I Eligible?
2. What are my chances of being awarded?

Communication Roadmap

September 2024

Information Released:

- Grant One Pager
- *ESC FAQ
- *ESC Office Hours

ESC recommended actions:

- Review the Toolkit
- Register and attend Office Hours for Best Fit TA

October 2024

Information Released:

- Prioritization and Eligibility Guidance
- Program Guidelines

ESC recommended actions:

- Review the new guidance and review application choices for the LEAs to continue to support their decisions

November 2024

Information Released:

- Office Hours
- FAQs

ESC recommended actions:

- Review the new guidance and attend the office hours for technical assistance



Thank you!



Reference Slides

Grant One Pager

Goal: to provide supportive information so ESCS can coach LEAs in their decision-making process

Early College High School (ECHS)

High Level Program Description

The Early College High School (ECHS) program offers campuses an opportunity to plan to build an Early College High School within their district. This program offers opportunities for campuses to provide targeted supports for historically underserved students through rigorous instruction and accelerated postsecondary courses and provide academic and wrap around strategies that help students succeed in college level coursework at no cost to the students.

Eligibility

LEAs that:

- Serving students in Grades 9–12; or
- Will begin serving students in Grade 9 or students in Grades 9 and 10 in the first year of implementation (2026-2027) and will progressively scale up by adding at least one grade level per year after the first year of implementation.
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Best Fit for LEAs who are looking for:

- a) An opportunity for individualized technical support in planning to build an Early College High School (ECHS) within their district.
- b) Opportunities for campuses that are new to the CCRSM network and have not received any prior ECHS grants.
- c) An opportunity to deepen their partnership with an Institution of Higher Education (IHE) to fully develop and offer a rigorous program of study that leads to the successful completion of an associate degree at no cost to the student.

Funding Estimates

- Estimated total funding available \$ 800 K
- Estimated range of award LEAs can receive up to \$ 80 K

- Estimated number of Awards 10 LEAs

Approximate Program Timeline

- Begin date | February 2025
- End Date | January 2027

Key Program Commitments to Consider

Note | Intended to provide key program commitments, not an exhaustive list of program assurances or requirements.

- **ECHS Model Planning and Implementation** | LEAs will engage in 12-18 months of ECHS model planning and implementation design elements and requirements aligned to the [ECHS Blueprint](#).
- **Crosswalks** | Together, the LEA and IHE develop course equivalency crosswalks which lead to Level I and Level II certificates, associate degrees, or completion of the Texas Core Curriculum to provide stackable credentials as students advance on the academic pipeline.
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Do-Now Consideration

Actions or artifacts needed at time of application submission

ECHS applicants must have identified an accredited higher education institution(s) for postsecondary opportunities.

SAPL Information

[LASO 3 Approved Provider List](#) (available in October). Please visit the SAPL webpage for more information.

Contact Information

darin.ford@tea.texas.gov

High-Level Program Description provides an overview of the grant program and the overarching goals of the program to align to LEA needs

Grant One Pager

Goal: to provide supportive information so ESCS can coach LEAs in their decision-making process

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Contact Information

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Provides all eligibility criteria and ineligible criteria to inform decision-making teams as they collaborate to determine which grant programs have highest potential of awarding

Grant One Pager

Goal: to provide supportive information so ESCS can coach LEAs in their decision-making process

Early College High School (ECHS)

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Provides all guidance for LEAs to align the needs of the LEA with learning strategies of the grant program to be able to help LEAs determine if a grant is a good or best fit to match their internal needs and district goals

Grant One Pager

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Provides an estimate of funding, the expected range of awards, and how many LEAs are anticipated to receive an award.



Grant One Pager

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Do-Now Consideration

Actions or artifacts needed at time of application submission

ECHS applicants must have identified an accredited higher education institution(s) for postsecondary opportunities.

SAPL Information

[LASO 3 Approved Provider List](#) (available in October). Please visit the SAPL webpage for more information.

Contact Information

darin.ford@tea.texas.gov

These dates reflect when the grant will begin and when the grant will close.

Grant One Pager

Goal: to provide supportive information so ESCS can coach LEAs in their decision-making process

Early College High School (ECHS)

High Level Program Description

The Early College High School (ECHS) program offers campuses an opportunity to plan to build an Early College High School within their district. This program offers opportunities for campuses to provide targeted supports for historically underserved students through rigorous instruction and accelerated postsecondary courses and provide academic and wrap around strategies that help students succeed in college level coursework at no cost to the students.

Eligibility

LEAs that:

- Serving students in Grades 9–12; or
- Will begin serving students in Grade 9 or students in Grades 9 and 10 in the first year of implementation (2026-2027) and will progressively scale up by adding at least one grade level per year after the first year of implementation.
- All current ECHS planning, provisional or designated campuses are not eligible to apply.
- All recipients of previous ECHS Planning and Implementation Grants are not eligible to apply.
- All recipients of a previous LASO-ECHS Grant are not eligible to apply.
- Any recipient of previous LASO - ECHS Grants is not eligible to apply.

Best Fit for LEAs who are looking for:

- a) An opportunity for individualized technical support in planning to build an Early College High School (ECHS) within their district.
- b) Opportunities for campuses that are new to the CCRSM network and have not received any prior ECHS grants.
- c) An opportunity to deepen their partnership with an Institution of Higher Education (IHE) to fully develop and offer a rigorous program of study that leads to the successful completion of an associate degree at no cost to the student.

Funding Estimates

- Estimated total funding available \$ 800 K
- Estimated range of award LEAs can receive up to \$ 80 K

- Estimated number of Awards 10 LEAs

Approximate Program Timeline

- Begin date | February 2025
- End Date | January 2027

Key Program Commitments to Consider

Note | Intended to provide key program commitments, not an exhaustive list of program assurances or requirements.

- **ECHS Model Planning and Implementation** | LEAs will engage in 12-18 months of ECHS model planning and implementation design elements and requirements aligned to the [ECHS Blueprint](#).
- **Crosswalks** | Together, the LEA and IHE develop course equivalency crosswalks which lead to Level I and Level II certificates, associate degrees, or completion of the Texas Core Curriculum to provide stackable credentials as students advance on the academic pipeline.
- **Personalized Learning Environment** | The ECHS shall collaborate with its IHE to personalize the learning environment for students by developing individualized student plans for ongoing academic support, filing a degree plan, and the attainment of long-term goals. The ECHS and IHE shall develop robust college and career advising systems to support student plans and advance academic progress and shall develop a process for collaboration to provide an academic bridge across the two educational systems.

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Key commitments listed here are a few of the grant requirements that the LEA will need to agree to and complete during the implementation of the grant. This information can be used by the LEA to determine if participation and implementation can be done with fidelity and if the commitments match the LEAs goals and implementation ability

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This section was created to alert the LEA of any timely actions that will be necessary to complete, prior to application submission. If an LEA determines that a grant is a good fit, they can consider these actions to enable timely preparation

Grant One Pager

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The State Approved Provider List (SAPL) will be attached here, for convenience, for the LEA to review SAPL choices as it pertains to grants. The list will be published in October, so the link here is for the newly created website to inform the LEAs and