

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.

LASO Cycle 4 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)- SAF 1

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General Questions and Resources

Refer to the General Webinar FAQ deck [here](#), for information on Program Guidelines, Webinar Decks, Guidance Docs, and more.

Below are the FAQs related to the SAF initiative:

Section A: Program Overview

What is the purpose of the School Action Fund initiative?

- The School Action Fund (SAF) awards grants that support whole-school strategies districts use to increase access to high-quality schools, meet community needs, and address chronic underperformance. The ultimate goal of the SAF grant is to give more students access to A/B-rated campuses and for more families to have access to the schools they need, want, and deserve in their communities.
- Pg. 9, 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines

We have a comprehensive campus and 2 TSI campuses with the ESF grant that will run out this year.

Are these campuses eligible for a SAF grant?

Is the grant open for any Federal Accountability designation (ATS, TSI, or Comprehensive)?

Do the federal designation labels also include Reidentified/Progress categories?

- Eligible applicants are school systems that apply on behalf of schools that are Title I-serving schoolwide designated by September 15, 2025, **and** are Comprehensive Support-identified, Targeted Support-identified, or Additional Targeted Support-Identified campuses (all categories), based on school year 2024-2025 ratings.
- To be eligible for Restart and Create new Actions, a campus may not have received any School Action Fund (SAF) grants, including TCLAS Decision 10 and any LASO SAF grants, since 2019-2020 (Planning, Continuation, or Implementation).
- For Reassign actions, previous SAF grantees in Cycles 1 – 6 and TCLAS may apply for the 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation grant.
- Pg. 9, 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines

Are more points awarded for Comprehensive Campuses?

- No; the 2026-2026 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation grant does not award Priority Points for Federal Accountability designation.

Does the HQIM requirement limit the district to the provided SBOE/ IMRA list provided with other LASO grants?

- No; SAF grantees are not limited to using SBOE-approved materials. However, they must demonstrate that the materials selected meet the definition of HQIM outlined in the SAF Program Guidelines.
- Pg. 19, 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines

Could a district apply for the implementation SAF grant if we have already done internal planning for a "Restart?"

If our district has collaborated with a technical assistance provider, such as TNTP, to plan Restart campuses for SY26-27, can we apply for an implementation grant?

- Yes, the district may apply for an Implementation grant if the district has already planned the Restart Action with an approved SAF Technical Assistance provider.
- Applicants selecting an Implementation grant during the application process will select from a drop-down list of technical assistance providers. If a specific provider is not listed, there is an opportunity to enter the name of the provider with which the school system has been working.
- #5 on pg. 13, 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines, and paragraph #2 on pg. 17

If applying for the "Reassign" School Action, what are the required grant activities and fund usage? Do the funds follow the majority of the students merging into the receiving school community?

- Please refer to the SAF Program Guidelines for grant activities based on Planning or Implementation awards. For Implementation (or future Continuation) grants, funds will follow to the A/B Title 1-serving campus where a plurality of students were transferred
- Deliverables on pg. 20, 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines
- Allowable Expenditures on pgs. 22-23, 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines

What is the required timeline for a "Restart" School Action?

- The School Action Fund grant is effective March 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027.
- If awarded a Planning grant, implementation of all elements of the Restart Action (ACE Model) must begin Fall SY2027-28.
- If awarded an Implementation grant, all elements of the Restart Action (ACE Model) must be implemented in the Fall semester of SY2026-27.

Where can we find the list of Technical Assistance Providers for SAF? Are these TA providers paid out of the SAF funding or paid directly by TEA?

The technical assistance partners on the slide deck are a bit different than the SAPL list online. Is the slide a comprehensive list for SAF grants?

- The list of SAF Technical Assistance providers (TAs) may be found in the SAPL, which is linked on the LASO 4 webpage.
- The list may also be found in the SAF Cycle 10 webinar deck, which is the LASO 4 webpage.
- The TAs included in the webinar deck are not inclusive of all currently approved SAF TAs, rather those expected to be matched based on Actions, Models and areas of expertise most aligned with those available in SAF Cycle 10.

If a campus is closed and students reassigned, what is the length of time that the building needs to be vacant before we could "Create a New" school within that building?

- All repurposed campuses must meet the requirements of TAC 97.1066

If applying for implementation grant for restart, can grant activities and funds begin as soon as March 2026? Or is it limited to the upcoming SY26-27?

Are the required budget line items for Planning & Implementation per campus? We are looking to apply for multiple campuses under the Restart option.

- Allowable grant activities and fund expenditures may begin on March 1, 2026
- Yes, the budget items in the Program Guidelines are per awarded campus and are based on whether the grant is a Planning grant or an Implementation grant
- Deliverables on pg. 20, 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines
- Allowable Expenditures on pgs. 22-23, 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines

How can we learn about the revenue amount involved with SB 1882 partnerships for both the turnaround option and the innovation partnership?

- We recommend consulting your district's preferred state aid template to develop an estimated revenue amount for 1882 Partnerships.

Where is the campus eligibility list for Resource Campus designation?

- Information regarding Resource Campus Designation, including the Eligibility list, may be found [here](#).

Can you define what you mean by "campus phase out" in regard to the "create new school" track?

- In prior cycles, SAF supported the "phase out" of an underperforming campus, while "phasing in" and creating a new school. In LASO 4, SAF Cycle 10 does not support phasing out a school.

Would a virtual or hybrid in-person and virtual school model be allowable under the SAF grant?

- SAF does not currently support virtual or hybrid school models. We recommend exploring the Virtual and Hybrid Program Accelerator grant available in LASO 4.

Can you clarify that a D-rated campus in between 2 "F" ratings, still counts as 3 "unacceptable ratings"?

- For information regarding a specific campus accountability scenario, please contact sidivision@tea.texas.gov.

Section B: Application and Submission

How do I get a link to the application?

- District superintendents received a unique link to access the Qualtrics application via email on October 3, 2025.
- If a district did not receive a unique link or would like a new link, please complete the [LASO 4 Application Request Form](#), to receive your unique link.
- For a copy of the application: [PDF copy of the LASO Cycle 4 Application](#)

When is the deadline to apply?

- The deadline to apply is **December 3, 2025 5:00 pm CT**

Section C: Funding and Compliance

When will I receive my NOGA?

- It is anticipated that NOGAs will be issued between March 5 – May 5, 2025, dependent on the order that eGrants application acceptances are submitted by school systems.

What are the allowable uses of funds?

- Allowable Expenditures are found on pgs. 22-23, 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines

Section D: Implementation and Monitoring

What are the key program commitments?

- Please refer to pgs. 12 – 16 of the 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines for SAF-specific Requirements and Assurances

How will performance be evaluated?

- Grantees must establish goals which will allow student performance and achievement to result in the SAF North Star Goal of A/B rating after two years of Continuation/Implementation. These goals must be identified for Measurable Progress and written as SMART goals.
- Completion of ongoing progress monitoring through quarterly Gates and Deliverables, including Student Performance and Achievement goals, as established by the TEA.

- A School Action Fund Fidelity of Implementation (SAF FOI) Evaluation (ESF-aligned independent third-party fidelity of implementation quality review) will be completed during the Fall semester of Year 1 (one) of Continuation or Implementation, unless otherwise determined by TEA.
- Pgs. 20 – 21 of the 2026-2027 School Action Fund-Planning and Implementation Program Guidelines

Section E: Support and Resources

Where can I find additional resources or training?

- Contact the Center for School Actions ([CSA](#)) for one-on-one support and individual webinars for each school Action
- Visit the LASO [webpage](#) for additional resources, webinars, and Office Hours opportunities

What support can I expect from a SAF Technical Assistance provider?

- SAF TAs provide support in the form of coaching, HQIM implementation, project planning, operational guidance (e.g. staffing, calendars), and data analysis

Section F: Contact Information

Who should I contact for questions?

- For SAF-specific questions, please reach out [CSA](#)
- Send all other LASO 4 questions to: laso@tea.texas.gov