Welcome and Thanks for Joining Today!

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Agenda and FYIs for Today's Webinar

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Overview of the Application process and Timeline

3. Technology Lending Grant Deep Dive:
   Program description, eligibility, key commitments, scoring, allowable expenditures

4. Next Steps

FYIs
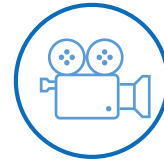
For questions, please drop them in the **Question and Answer** box in Zoom.

A recording of this webinar and a copy of this slide deck will be posted on the LASO website once all the webinars have been conducted.

For follow up questions, please **email** LASO@tea.texas.gov

Overview of LASO

Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) 2.0

TEA is continuing to offer streamlined, consolidated grant applications, bundling programs that facilitate and accelerate academic gains.

**$190.2 Million**
in services and supports

10
TEA initiatives to support learning acceleration and innovation

1
LEA program application to access funding

While we have seen a rebound in STAAR RLA and Math results, continued attention is needed toward both Reading and Math to be able to accelerate learning

Percent of Students that Met Grade Level or Above in RLA
(Grades 3-8, English I & II)

- 2019: 47
- 2021: 43
- 2022: 52
- 2023: 52
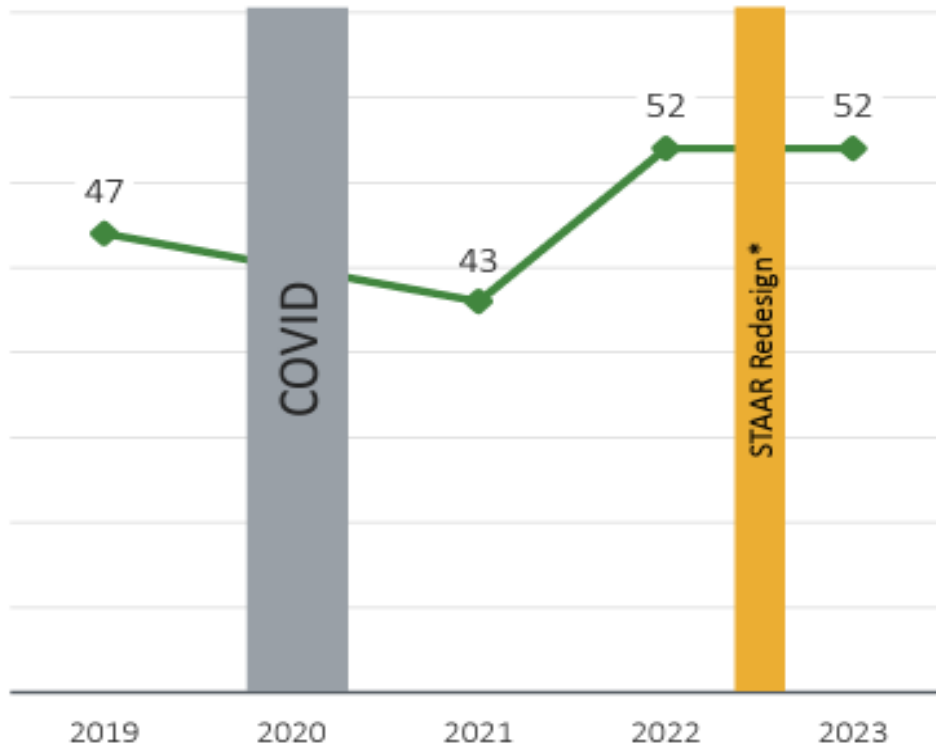
Percent of Students that Met Grade Level or Above in Math
(Grades 3-8 & Algebra I)

- 2019: 50
- 2021: 35
- 2022: 40
- 2023: 43
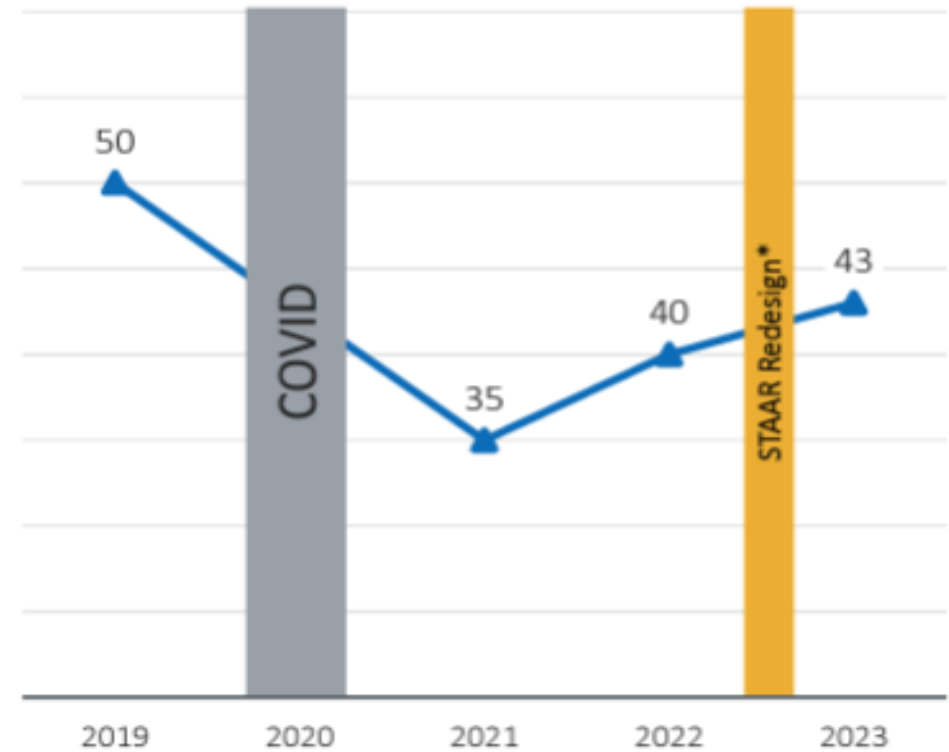
*The STAAR test was redesigned in 2019 to better align with classroom instruction, which necessitated re-setting of standards and scales from 2022 to 2023.

LASO's Key Learning Acceleration Strategies

LASO 2.0 is grounded in three key learning acceleration strategies

Strategic Planning	Instructional Materials	Teacher Pipelines	More Time	Innovative School Models
Strategic planning and performance management to prioritize, launch, and continuously improve learning acceleration strategies	Rigorous, **high-quality instructional materials** designed to make up ground and master grade level TEKS	**Talent pipelines that support teachers** to deliver excellence in the classroom, getting more than 1 year of growth in 1 year	**More time** for the students most in need, including expanding instructional time in the summer and with targeted **tutoring**	Innovative school **models** to incorporate all aspects of the learning acceleration framework
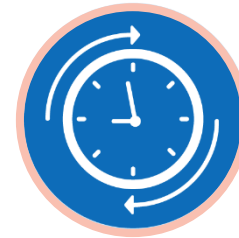
LASO will provide 10 grant opportunities embedded in three learning acceleration strategies

Instructional Materials

Strong Foundations Planning
Ready to plan in SY24-25 and implement in SY25-26
RLA/Math planning support

Strong Foundations Implementation
Ready to Implement in SY24-25
OER K-5 Math/RLA and OER 6-12 Math high quality instructional material implementation support

Technology Lending Grant
Ready to Implement in SY24-25
Tablets, hardware, and internet hotspots for digital instructional materials

Blended Learning Grant
Ready to Implement in SY24-25
Technical assistance and supplemental curriculum support to design and implementation of a high fidelity blended learning model

Math Supplemental Curriculum Licenses
Launch: Spring/Summer 2024
PK-12 supplemental online curriculum

Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (APCSP)
Ready to Implement in SY24-25
Curriculum, technology and teacher support APCSP course

More Time

ADSY Planning & Execution Program: Summer
Ready to Implement in SY24-25
PreK-5 planning and implementation support to design evidence-based summer learning program

More Time

ADSY Planning & Execution Program: Full Year
PreK-5 planning and implementation support for a full calendar and master schedule redesign. Ready to Implement SY 24-25
Now included as one of the options in School Action Fund!

Innovative School Models

Pathways in Technology Early College High School
Planning Year | SY24-25
Implementation Year | SY 25-26
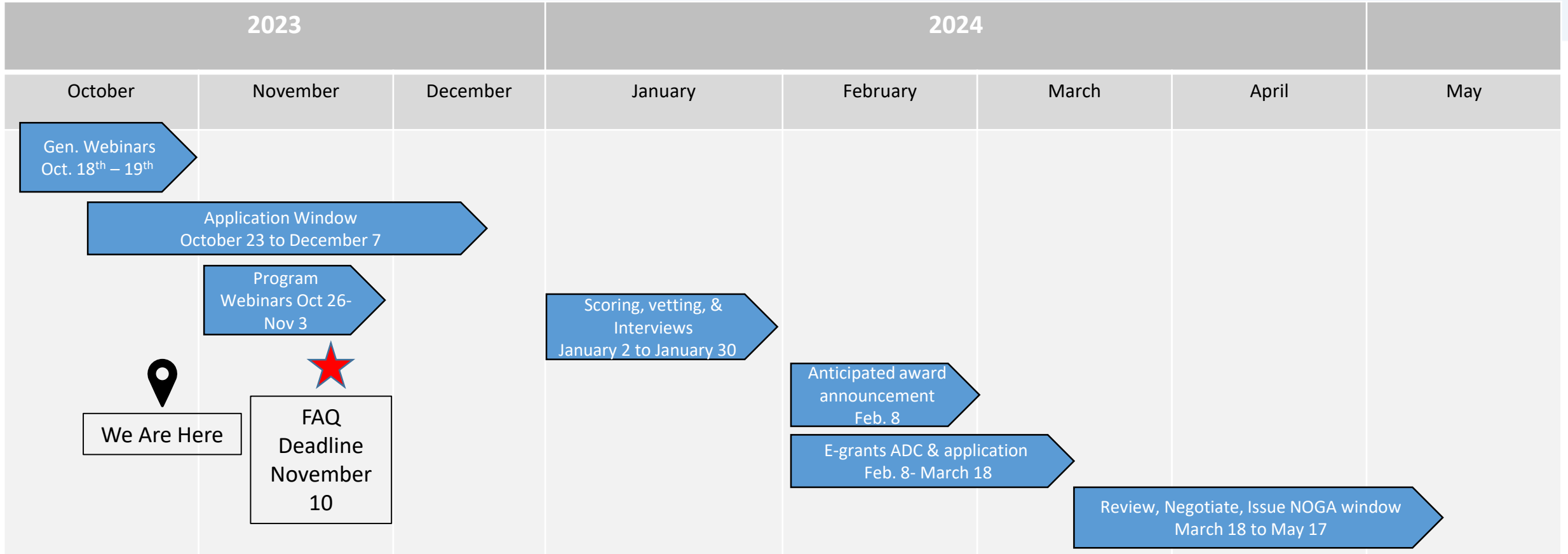*provides opportunities to students to earn certifications*

Early College High School
Planning Year | SY24-25
Implementation Year | SY 25-26
provides opportunities to students to access higher ed courses

School Action Fund
Ready to plan in SY24-25
* support in planning and implementing whole-school models to address chronic underperformance and unmet community needs*

Timeline and Application Process

	2023			2024				
October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May

Gen. Webinars Oct. 18th – 19th

Application Window October 23 to December 7

Program Webinars Oct 26- Nov 3

Scoring, vetting, & Interviews January 2 to January 30

Anticipated award announcement Feb. 8

E-grants ADC & application Feb. 8- March 18

Review, Negotiate, Issue NOGA window March 18 to May 17

We Are Here

FAQ Deadline November 10

Key Considerations
- **Application** | opens on October 23rd and closes on December 7th at 5:00 pm. LEAs have 45 days to complete the consolidated application
- **Scoring and Interview** | Runs from January 2nd to January 30th. This window allows TEA to score applications and reach out to as needed, to provide a two-way opportunity to determine readiness and fit.
- **NOGA** | There is a 60-day window for NOGA issuing. The process will start on March 18th and culminate on May 17th. LEAs can receive their NOGA at any time between that window. Note, the NOGA can only be issued once the LEAs certifies and submits their budget in the e-grants system. If there is a delay in LEAs submission, that may impact the NOGA date.

Application is open from October 23rd to December 7th

- Based on LEA feedback, our application window has moved earlier to avoid semester testing & holiday breaks.

- A **unique application link was emailed** to LEA superintendents on October 23rd.

- If the LEA is unable to receive the application link in the superintendent email, LEAs can complete a **form** to acquire a new link.

- A **PDF** of the application was posted on the LASO website on October 23rd. However, formal submission of the application must be through Qualtrics. The survey **must be signed by the superintendent** to be accepted.
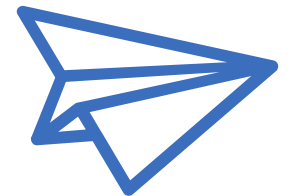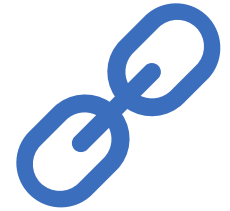
Change Requests and Declines

- TCLAS was unique in the aspect of the funding source (ESSER) and the speed at which we were operating to distribute the funding.

- Therefore, to accommodate the unique circumstances of TCLAS, change requests and decline options were provided to LEAs

- Since we are no longer operating under the unique circumstances of TCLAS, we are returning to a traditional grant process to ensure equity and fairness

- LASO is again anchored in the informal discretionary competitive grant process
  - Declines and change requests are not advisable in typical competitive process
  - If declines are requested, they will be considered on a case-by-case basis for the LEAs and could raise the LEA's federal grant risk level in the coming year

JH

Technology Lending Grant Deep Dive

Technology Lending Grant (TLG) High Level Overview

Instructional Materials

Rigorous, **high-quality instructional materials** designed to make up ground and master grade level TEKS

Total Funding Available	$5 Million
Range of Award	Up to $225,000
Total Grantees	50-100 LEAs
Timeline	Ready to Implement for School Year 24-25

Technology Lending Grant (TLG) Program Description

The Technology Lending Grant program awards grant funds to school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to provide students the equipment necessary to access and use digital instructional materials at school and at home.

Necessary equipment approved as use of funds from this grant include:

- individual **student devices** such as laptops or tablets (including management licenses to support these products)
- individual **residential internet access or area internet access** such as hot spots
- **insurance and care** for the aforementioned devices and internet access products
- **other equipment necessary** to access and use electronic instructional materials such as classroom display devices

Current Equipment and Tech Plan | Applicants must provide the availability of existing equipment to students in the LEA and other funding available for the purchase of student technology devices. TEA may request the LEA's technology plan.

Performance Data | The LEA may, upon TEA request, provide any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.

TEA Available Instructional Materials | The LEA must ensure that devices will be prioritized for classrooms and students using Texas Available Instructional Materials

Training | The LEA must provide the teacher, associated instructional coach, and students with training in the proper use of the device within 90 days of installation of the device in the classroom.

General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 8, 88th Texas Legislature, Texas Education Code (TEC) §32.301

Technology Lending Grant (TLG) Eligibility Requirements

All school districts and open-enrollment charter schools can apply for the Technology Lending Grant.

LEAs will be split into two main categories based upon two criteria:

1) **Priority Level 1** | Participation in a TEA OER product (as listed on the TEA Available Instructional Materials page)

- COVID Recovery Instructional Materials Support Initiative (CRIMSI)
- Decision 2 State Approved Vendor List (through TCLAS)
- Math Innovation Zones
- Strong Foundations Implementation Supports (through LASO)

2) **Priority Level 2** | Nonparticipation of a TEA OER product (as listed on the TEA Available Instructional Materials page)

Application assurances and usage

- Program services and activities to be funded from this **grant will be supplementary** to existing services and activities and will not be used for any services or activities required by state law, State Board of Education rules, or local policy.

- **Adheres to all Statutory Requirements and TEA Program Requirements** as noted in the 2024-2025 Technology Lending Grant Program Guidelines.

- **Adheres to all Performance Measures**, as noted in the 2024-2025 Technology Lending Grant Program Guidelines, and shall provide the Texas Education Agency, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.

- Funds provided under the **Instructional Materials and Technology Allotment (IMTA) or other funding are insufficient** to purchase enough lending technology for every student who needs dedicated access to a device.

- Will provide **access to lending technology and residential access to the internet for students**, including economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities, who do not already have either the needed equipment or internet service for learning at home.
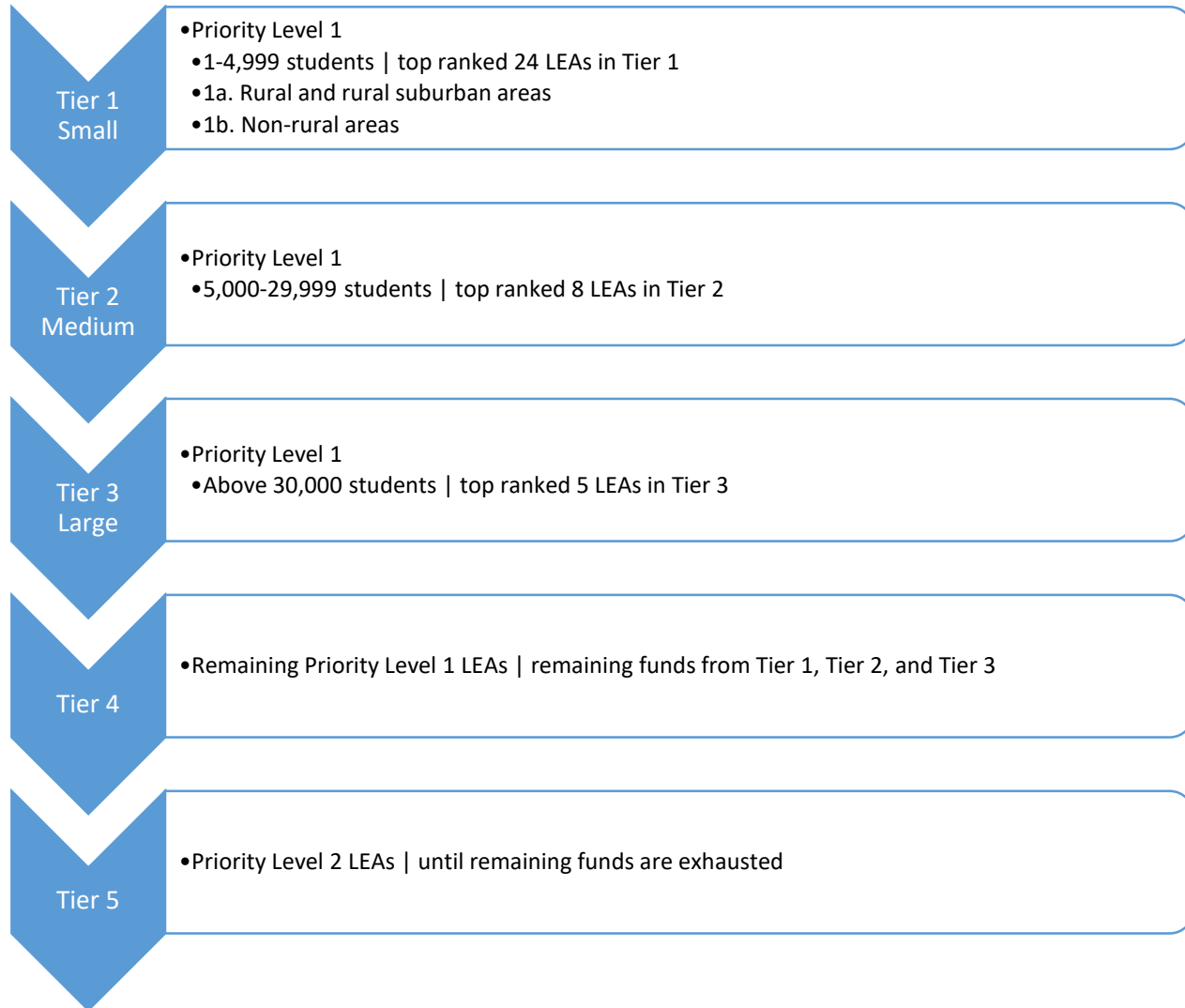
Technology Lending Grant (TLG) Key Commitments

Application assurances and usage

- The **infrastructure and technical support are adequate** to support students' use of loaned equipment provided through the grant at its participating campus(es).

- LEAs account for the technology lending equipment in accordance with district policy for accounting for such equipment, including providing insurance when insurance is typically provided for such equipment. **Grant funds cannot be used to replace lost, stolen, or damaged equipment.**

- **Devices will be prioritized** for classrooms and students using [TEA Available Instructional Materials (OER).](#)

- LEAs provides information (inventory logs) including a **list of students, classrooms, and schools** with access to devices or hotspots upon request by TEA.

- LEA assures that classroom-based technology will be installed in a classroom where instruction with [TEA Available Instructional Materials (OER)](#) will occur for at **least the full school year in which the grant is given**.

- LEA assures that the student device will be used for instruction with [TEA Available Instructional Materials (OER)](#) for at least **51% or the majority of the time.**

- LEA assures that the **district will provide the teacher, associated instructional coach, and students with training** in the proper use of the device within 90 days of installation of the device in the classroom.

Technology Lending Grant (TLG) Scoring & Prioritization

Tier 1 Small
- Priority Level 1
  - 1-4,999 students | top ranked 24 LEAs in Tier 1
  - 1a. Rural and rural suburban areas
  - 1b. Non-rural areas

Tier 2 Medium
- Priority Level 1
  - 5,000-29,999 students | top ranked 8 LEAs in Tier 2

Tier 3 Large
- Priority Level 1
  - Above 30,000 students | top ranked 5 LEAs in Tier 3

Tier 4
- Remaining Priority Level 1 LEAs | remaining funds from Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3

Tier 5
- Priority Level 2 LEAs | until remaining funds are exhausted

Priority level 1 LEAs include those with previous TEA OER product participation.

Within each tier, applicants are sorted by % economically disadvantaged students to determine prioritization.

Technology Lending Grant (TLG) Interviews

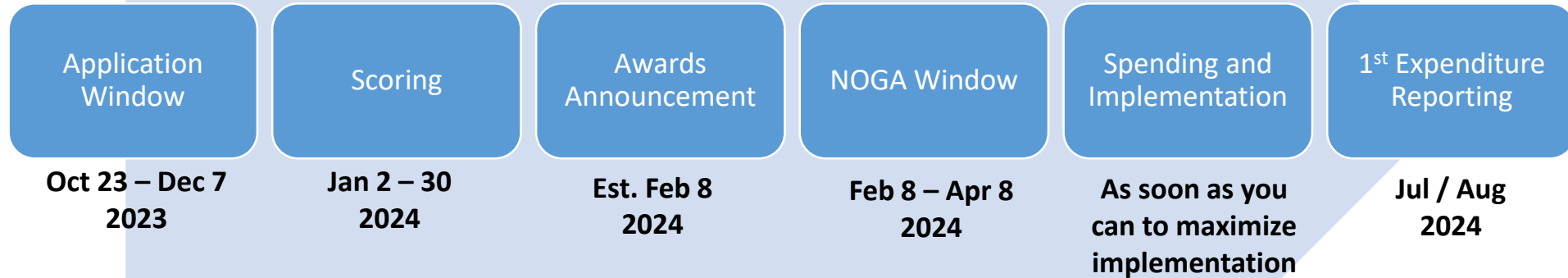Interviews will not be conducted as a part of this grant.

This grant does not incorporate any vendors

Technology Lending Grant (TLG) Allowability vs Non-allowability

Allowable expenditures/uses	Unallowable expenditures/uses
Individual student devices (laptops or tablets)	Field trips
Management licenses supporting products	Advisory Council
Individual residential internet access or area internet access such as hot spots	Cost of membership for any civic or community organization
Insurance and care for devices and internet access products purchased under TLG	Hosting or sponsoring of conferences
Other equipment necessary to access and use electronic instructional materials, such as classroom display devices	Out-of-state travel and other travel costs
	Lease-purchase services
	Audit services for state-funded grants
	Personnel costs
	Purchase or lease of furniture

Technology Lending Grant Specific Timeline

Application Window	Scoring	Awards Announcement	NOGA Window	Spending and Implementation	1st Expenditure Reporting
Oct 23 – Dec 7 2023	Jan 2 – 30 2024	Est. Feb 8 2024	Feb 8 – Apr 8 2024	As soon as you can to maximize implementation	Jul / Aug 2024

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Application Walkthrough

Technology Lending Grant (TLG)

Committing to Assurances

9. The LEA assures that it will account for the technology lending equipment in accordance with district policy for accounting for such equipment, including providing insurance when insurance is typically provided for such equipment. The applicant understands that the grant funds cannot be used to replace lost, stolen, or damaged equipment.

- Yes
- **No**

10. The LEA has a campus and/or district plan to administer student technology devices to participating campuses.

- Yes
- No

Technology Lending Grant (TLG)

Warning

In order to be considered for the Technology Lending Grant (TLG) grant, the LEA must agree to meet the General and Fiscal Guidelines and all the assurance requirements. By selecting "No" to any of the assurances, the LEA is opting out of this grant. If the LEA still wishes to apply for this grant, please click the ← Back Button and go back to select "Yes" to the eligibility and assurances. If the LEA does not want to apply for the TLG grant, then click the → Next Button and you will be redirected to apply for the remaining grants that you have selected.

← Back   → Save and Next

Application Walkthrough Cont'd

Technology Lending Grant (TLG)

18 a. Number of students utilizing the benefits at the Elementary School Level

18 b. Number of students utilizing the benefits at the Middle School Level

18 c. Number of students utilizing the benefits at the High School Level

19. Are the schools that enroll the students for whom you are requesting the devices or hotspots participating in a TEA-supported High-Quality Instructional Materials initiative?

Yes

No

← Back   → Save and Next

We ask that you give us the **total** number of students for each level: Elementary, Middle School, and High School.

Technology Lending Grant (TLG) Application Walkthrough

- Official submission of this application requires superintendent signature.

- In rare case that the Superintendent is unable to sign, the LEA should email LASO@tea.texas.gov

Closing

Signature

Official submission of this application requires a Superintendent signature. Application cannot be considered submitted without the formal signature from the Superintendent.

If the Superintendent is unable to sign because they are on leave or in role transition, please email at LASO@tea.texas.gov.

If you are the superintendent, please proceed to the Question 1 below by selecting yes and proceed to submitting the application.
If you are not a Superintendent, pause on submitting this application, email LASO@tea.texas.gov to identify the LEA's grantee official who can submit the application in superintendent's absence, Once the name of the grantee official has been identified, then return back to this page select 'No' for Question 1 and answer Question 2 to submit the application.

1. Are you a Superintendent

Yes
No

Note to the Superintendent :

By signing this application, I acknowledge that I have read the inputs in this application and confirm all the responses included in this application.

×   SIGN HERE

clear

TLG Communications

- Newsletters
  - Sent to Superintendents
  - Subscribe to receive newsletters
    - Please send your full name, job position, and email address to be added to our subscription list.
  - Located on the LASO 2.0 webpage
- Email: Techlending@tea.texas.gov

Closing and Next Steps

Office Hours

Office Hours are an opportunity to receive further technical support & high-level guidance. Office hours topics can include technical assistance (accessing & submitting the Qualtrics application), referrals to TEA resources, and high-level reviews of dates, timelines, and estimated funding.

Examples:

- An LEA is having trouble logging in to the Qualtrics app and attends for assistance logging into their application.
- An LEA wants to ensure the timeline of a LASO initiative aligns with current district programs.

Office Hours will take place on:
- November 7th | 2:00-3:00 pm   Registration Link
- November 10th | 2:30-3:30 pm   Registration Link

Next Steps & Points of Contact

TLG Points of Contact

- Lisa Walker, Digital Content Manager: techlending@tea.texas.gov
- LASO: laso@tea.texas.gov

Next Steps

- Review the LASO 2.0 webpage
- Prepare your questions for the Office Hours
- Revisit the General FAQ. Updated FAQ's will be posted by Friday, November 17
- Participate in the TLG Office Hours:
  - November 7th | 2:00-3:00 pm Registration Link
  - November 10th | 2:30-3:30 pm Registration Link