



**2023-2025 Title I, 1003 ESF-Focused Support Grant
Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, April 21, 2023**

NOGA ID [Redacted]

Authorizing legislation **Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), P.L. 114-95, Section 1003, School Improvement**

This LOI application must be submitted via email to loiapplications@tea.texas.gov.

The LOI application may be signed with a digital ID or it may be signed by hand. Both forms of signature are acceptable.

TEA must receive the application by **11:59 p.m. CT, April 21, 2023**.

Grant period from **July 3, 2023-September 30, 2025**

Pre-award costs permitted from **Award Date**

Required Attachments

1. Excel workbook with the grant's budget schedules (linked along with this form on the TEA Grants Opportunities page)
2. Pathway 1: Pathway 1 Supplemental Attachment
3. Pathway 2: Pathway 2 Supplemental Attachment
4. Memo of Discussion

NOTE: All applicants MUST submit an appropriate Supplemental Pathway Attachment for EACH CAMPUS on behalf of which the applicant is applying.

Amendment Number

Amendment number (For amendments only; enter N/A when completing this form to apply for grant funds): [Redacted]

Applicant Information

Organization **Cityscape Schools** CDN **057841** Campus **EGP and BP** ESC **10** UEI **057841001/057841002**

Address **630 Texas Street** City **Dallas** ZIP **75224** Vendor ID **1752733436**

Primary Contact **Elda Rojas** Email **Erojas@cityscapeschools.org** Phone **214 546 7230**

Secondary Contact **Lisa Lovato** Email **LLovato@cityscapeschools.org** Phone **972 951 4909**

Certification and Incorporation

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by TEA or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance and compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

I further certify my acceptance of the requirements conveyed in the following portions of the LOI application, as applicable, and that these documents are incorporated by reference as part of the LOI application and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA):

- LOI application, guidelines, and instructions
- Debarment and Suspension Certification
- General and application-specific Provisions and Assurances
- Lobbying Certification

Authorized Official Name **Leonard Brannon** Title **Superintendent**

Email **Leo@Cityscapeschools.org** Phone **214 545 6550**

Signature  Date **4/19/23**

Shared Services Arrangements

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) are NOT permitted for this grant.

Number of Campuses Included in this Application

Pathway 1	<input type="text" value="2"/>
Pathway 2	<input type="text" value="0"/>

Statutory/Program Assurances

The following assurances apply to this program. In order to meet the requirements of the program, the applicant must comply with these assurances.

Check each of the following boxes to indicate your compliance.

- 1. The applicant provides assurance that program funds will supplement (increase the level of service), and not supplant (replace) state mandates, State Board of Education rules, and activities previously conducted with state or local funds. The applicant provides assurance that state or local funds may not be decreased or diverted for other purposes merely because of the availability of these funds. The applicant provides assurance that program services and activities to be funded from this LOI 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.
- 2. The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain any information that would be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general release to the public.
- 3. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Statutory and TEA Program requirements as noted in the 2023-2025 Title I, ESF-Focused Support Grant Program Guidelines.
- 4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2023-2025 Title I, ESF-Focused Support Grant Program Guidelines, and shall provide to TEA, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.
- 5. The applicant provides assurance that they accept and will comply with the requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act Provisions and Assurances.
- 6. The applicant assures that any Electronic Information Resources (EIR) produced as part of this agreement will comply with the State of Texas Accessibility requirements as specified in 1 TAC 206, 1 TAC Chapter 213, Federal Section 508 standards, and the WCAG 2.0 AA Accessibility Guidelines.
- 7. Title I served Federally Identified campuses awarded this grant will engage in the Effective Schools Framework (ESF) continuous improvement process and create a plan to be submitted to TEA that addresses the selected pathway aligned to the Essential Actions (EA) from the ESF.
- 8. The applicant ensures it will notify the Vetted Improvement Program provider of intent to apply and, if awarded, will work in good faith with the Vetted Improvement Program.
- 9. The applicant will identify a campus leader, on each awarded campus, who will be responsible for managing the grant project.

Statutory/Program Assurances, cont'd.

- 10. The applicant will provide access to TEA and its Vetted Improvement Partners for on-site visits to the district and campus(es) as appropriate.

- 11. The applicant provides assurance it will participate in all grant requirements including but not limited to an ESF Self-Assessment and ESF Diagnostic, developing a Targeted Improvement Plan, and submission of funding and pathway progress reports.

- 12. The applicant provides assurance it will provide awarded campuses access to grant funding and funding information in a timely manner, so that funding can be used to meet the needs and action steps of the campus during the grant period.

Summary of Program

1. Describe how the LEA will support campus(es) in carrying out school improvement activities, including how the LEA will help develop a Targeted Improvement Plan for the eligible campus(es) selected for this grant.

Cityscape schools is committed to supporting our campuses in carrying out school improvement activities and key actions that align with the Effective Schools Framework (ESF). Campuses have engaged in the five steps of school improvement described in the School Improvement Theory of Action. In doing this, the cyclical process is continuously implemented to include consistent assessment of current practices, prioritization of practices, capacity building, and ongoing support to guide planning and implementation around a common vision. The grant will allow each campus to participate fully and benefit from all of the resources and support that are provided. The ESF has allowed the district to develop a common language, clarity, and specificity in order to codify best practices. The diagnostic has provided a forum to assess and respond to the current state of school practices and receive support to find high leverage actions. The Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) has provided structure and accountability to action planning .

Cityscape Schools will continue to support campuses through four key actions:

Identifying Needs:

- Examine Multiple Sources of Data (ESF Self-Assessment, ESF Diagnostic, District Assessment Data, Surveys, Etc);
- Review ESF levers to ensure alignment and prioritize high leverage actions
- Conduct stakeholder focus groups

Developing a Plan for Each Campus:

- Partner with Region X
- Synthesize collected data to prioritize essential actions
- Collaborate to determine action steps, timeline, and evidence of evidence of progress

Develop campus based essential actions:

- Ensure alignment to campus needs
- Align staff and funding resources to action steps and monitor Plan4Learning

Progress Monitoring and Reflection:

- Reflect on progress made at each cycle
- Adjust or update essential actions

The LEA looks forward to continuing the partnership with Region X to improve schools by leveraging the TIP.

2. Describe how the LEA will monitor schools receiving the ESF-Focused Support Grant, including how the LEA will: (a) Monitor Targeted Improvement Plans upon submission and during implementation, and (b) Implement additional actions as needed to meet barriers and challenges, after the first year of the grant cycle.

Cityscape Schools district and campus leaders will integrate the ESF into the strategic approach to ensure schools meet submission requirements and implement action steps by:

Monitoring TIP submission:

- Meet monthly to discuss progress towards prioritized actions steps for each cycle, barriers to implementation data trends
- Guide principals through reflection process to determine high leverage next steps or adjustments needed
- Meet regularly with Region X to discuss progress, trends, and next steps
- Monitor Plan4Learning (quarterly for formative reviews)

Monitoring Implementation:

- Conduct calibration and learning walks at each campus
- Align Professional Development to address trends seen in learning walks, data meetings and campus surveys
- Provide focused, timely and ongoing feedback and support
- Participate in TIL Professional Learning and Coaching Opportunities
- Facilitate collaboration between the two campuses in order to share best practices
- Develop a system where campus leaders will present progress, goals, and next steps to district leadership quarterly

Implementing Additional Actions:

- Engage in annual leadership retreat to review each campus' progress in meeting desired outcomes
- Analyze evidence of outcomes to ensure alignment with essential actions
- Remove barriers and identify solutions for areas where progress was not met
- Align budget to support implementation of key actions
- Work with Region X to modify TIP, align resources, and determine action steps for year 2

Goals, Objectives, and Strategies, Performance and Evaluation

1. Describe how the LEA will modify, as appropriate, practices and policies to provide operational flexibility to the awarded campus, that enables full and effective implementation of the Effective Schools Framework Essential Actions and aligned Targeted Improvement Plan.

The LEA has demonstrated operational flexibility in 2023 by modifying practices and policies to align both campuses to successfully implement the ESF Essential Actions and aligned TIP. The LEA believes that effective instruction is the core of improving schools. Cityscape Schools' leaders are determined to support the learning community through a positive culture, strategic staffing, the use of data, and capacity development. The district has identified Targeted Accelerated Learning Leaders (TALL). This team carefully analyzes each campus data in order to make decisions based on individual campus needs. The LEA recognizes the unique needs of low performing campuses and will provide the flexibility to address these needs by developing a clear and consistent process for leaders, which includes the following TALL team members: campus principals, school leadership, curriculum, instruction, and assessment director; early learning director, chief schools officer, chief of culture and climate, chief of operations, HR director, director of IT, and chief of academics. TALL members will be trained in the ESF and are expected to be fluid in the commitments and essential actions per lever. Additionally, the team will review campus' data and actions steps, participate in data and state of school meetings, ensure that campus' needs are met in a timely manner and that needs are aligned with established goals (needs will be prioritized based on the campus TIP), provide and support professional development opportunities based on researched best practices to meet the individual needs of each campus.

The goal of the TALL team is to serve as a guiding coalition for the awarded campuses; therefore, the responsibilities encompass, but are not limited to:

- Stay abreast of innovative strategies, resources, and instructional best practices
- Commit to the ESF and be knowledgeable of the five levers
- Review campus proposals for resources and materials
- Align district policies and practices to support each campus' action plan
- Identify appropriate department members to provide ongoing service and support
- Make recommendations to the Superintendent (or designee) regarding potential policy changes, district initiative refinements, and/or budget adjustments

The TALL team will utilize the information in each awarded campus ESF Self-Assessment/Diagnostic to serve as its foundational and driving source and will consult with Region X (VIP Partner) on a regular basis.

Budget Narrative

1. Describe how the proposed budget will meet the needs and goals of the program, including staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, travel, etc. Include a short narrative describing how adjustments will be made in the future to meet needs.

The proposed budget will meet the needs of the program by funding expenditures aligned to meet the needs discovered in our data, self-assessment, and diagnostic.

Contracted Services: Partnership with Region X-Texas Instructional Leadership

Cityscape Schools' district and campus leadership teams will allocate funds to participate in the Texas Instructional Leadership (TIL) Program. TIL is a two year program which focuses on the following four ESF best practices: Student Culture, Lesson Alignment/Formative Assessment, Observation & Feedback/Action Coaching, and Data Driven Instruction. During the two years (July 2023-July 2025) campuses will participate in a suite of trainings designed to foster continuous improvement by building capacity in the areas of observation and feedback, school wide culture routines, and data driven instruction. Participation in this program provides an opportunity to address levers 5.1-5.3. These levers have been identified as priority focus areas through the work with the ESF & TIP.

Supplies-Technology & Software: Funds from the ESF grant will be used to provide 1:1 devices and adaptive technology for students. Teachers will leverage technology to assist teachers in spending more time addressing what each student needs to perform to their full potential. Adaptive technology will allow teachers to respond to data through pathways that best target specific learning standards. Utilizing blended learning, a mix of traditional and online resources, is a research-based approach that will be leveraged to address levers 5.1-5.3. Since state assessments are now 100 percent online, it is important to expose students to the format and develop their digital skills.

How adjustments will be made to meet future needs:

Our Targeted Accelerated Learning Leaders (TALL) team will:

- Actively monitor and review each awarded campus' progress towards goal attainment each nine weeks to ensure resources are effectively utilized and aligned to the needs of the students/campus
- Review campus proposals for resources and materials
- Align district policies and key practices to each campus' action items
- Identify appropriate department members to provide ongoing service and support
- Make recommendations to the Superintendent (or designee) regarding potential changes, district initiative refinements, and/or budget adjustments

If adjustments are needed, the DCSI will meet with Region X, the principal supervisor and the principals to discuss next steps.

Budget Narrative, cont'd.

2. Describe how the LEA will ensure campus leaders have direct access to grant funding to ensure alignment to the Targeted Improvement Plan.

The TALL team will work transparently and collaboratively to ensure alignment of all resources, funds, and activities. At monthly meetings, budgeting will be discussed and reviewed holistically to ensure that wrap-around services are provided at each campus. Each TALL team member will review expenditures to ensure they are aligned with the TIP, are positively impacting student achievement, and to determine if any adjustments should be made based on need.

The DCSI and principal supervisors will develop a process for communication, refinement, and next steps to ensure all communication and support is timely and relevant.

Equitable Access and Participation

Check the appropriate box below to indicate whether any barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups that receive services funded by this program.

- The applicant assures that no barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups receiving services funded by this program.
- Barriers exist to equitable access and participation for the following groups receiving services funded by this grant, as described below.

Group Barrier

Group Barrier

Group Barrier

Group Barrier

Appendix I: Amendment Description and Purpose (leave this section blank when completing the initial application for funding)

An amendment must be submitted when the program plan or budget is altered for the reasons described in the "When to Amend the Application" document posted on the [Administering a Grant](#) page. The following are required to be submitted for an amendment: (1) Page 1 of the application with updated contact information and current authorized official's signature and date, (2) Appendix I with changes identified and described, (3) all updated sections of the application or budget affected by the changes identified below, and, if applicable, (4) Amended Budget Request. Amendment Instructions with more details can be found on the last tab of the budget template.

You may duplicate this page

Amended Section

Reason for Amendment
