



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

Authorizing legislation

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

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):

Applicant Information

Organization CDN Campus ESC UEI

Address City ZIP Vendor ID

Primary Contact Email Phone

Secondary Contact Email Phone

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 Title

Email Phone

Signature Date

Shared Services Arrangements

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

Number of Campuses Included in this Application

Pathway 1	1
Pathway 2	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.

If selected for the grant, Lohn ISD will continue its strong targeted improvement plan practices. Lohn's instructional leadership consists of K-12 Principal, Director of Curriculum, and Superintendent. The leaders are responsible for developing the systems and culture on a campus, and Lohn will have a new superintendent for the first time in over two decades. All leaders have collaborated to prepare a vision for student achievement and have worked through the Effective Schools Framework(ESF) and Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) to build a positive school culture focused on student performance. The LEA has made strides, and marked improvement is noted in student scores. The ESF 3.0 will lead to deeper conversations about observation and feedback for the 2023-2024 school year. Lohn K-12 has a TIP in place and vision has been refined by defining a minute-by-minute plan for routines to build systems.

The ESF Diagnostic identified 3.1 and 5.1. With the transition in instructional leadership, a focus on ESF 1.1 will be critical in supporting the foundation that has been started. TEA made a site visit to observe strategies and provided a positive review. Support for leadership to continue positive routines and sustaining a vision is critical. The Education Service Center for Region 15 will provide implementation support and one-on-one coaching to ensure that all action steps are mastered in the TIP. The Effective School Diagnostic and current Cycle 4 review will guide future needs as the Texas Instructional Leadership (TIL) team moves forward in the new school year. Lohn K-12 students will be supported by implementation support and guidance on effective instructional feedback and coaching.

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.

Lohn ISD is a K-12 campus, and instruction is aligned for the entire campus. The Targeted Improvement Plan is built collaboratively with input from leadership team, staff, ESC support, and is based on areas identified by the Effective Schools Framework Diagnostic. Lohn ISD will primarily utilize the campus Principal, Director of Curriculum, and Superintendent to monitor implementation progress. The Education Service Center for Region 15 will assist in implementation support and progress through action steps as they are targeted. Support will consist of weekly checks to provide implementation support and coaching. The plan is intended to be reviewed on an intermittent cycle, that will be reflected on a master calendar for continuous review and revision, with calendar indications for communication with the entire district.

(a) In order to monitor Targeted Improvement Plans upon submission and during implementation, the Lohn ISD leadership team will develop a look-for document for identified areas. Look-for documents will be shared with staff as a means of offering clear and specific expectations that will foster student growth. The look-for document will be used to regularly check fidelity to the established system, but will also offer a means of providing consistent and immediate positive and/or corrective feedback to staff. In addition to this ongoing method of support, it will also be critical for leadership to follow a cycle similar to the cycle of the Targeted Improvement Plan to monitor student growth.

(b) Based on end-of-year data review, additional actions will be implemented as next steps. Barriers and challenges will be addressed and/or lessened by consistent review of implementation data, and frequent or immediate communication and feedback to implementation staff regarding necessary changes or supports to get back on track. Communication and feedback are key elements to a working system.

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 will modify as necessary to provide operational flexibility to allow full and effective implementation of the Effective Schools Framework Essential Action and Targeted Improvement Plan by affording full support to the grant process. Time will be dedicated in the master schedule to conduct data meetings and to facilitate coaching sessions with teachers. The commitment from the school board, administration, and parents has been illustrated in board minutes. Lohn is a rural school district with approximately 85% of students transferring to the district. Though the ESF Diagnostic was completed in the spring of 2022 for Lohn ISD, the district would like to review the Essential Action 5.2 that is being introduced in the revised ESF 3.0. Prioritized Essential Actions. Providing high level feedback was identified as a gap. ESC 15 will help provide guidance to review the level of implementation.

Master schedules and school calendars have been or will be approved to include time for teachers to conduct data driven instruction meetings and to continue professional development around high quality instructional strategies. Lohn ISD has limited technology and does not have an adequate PLC room that has a presentation screen. These efforts will also be supported by the TIL team from the ESC 15.

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.

Building the capacity of instructional leaders and teachers to improve classroom instruction for all students continues to be a focus for the Lohn ISD. Lohn ISD is a rural school district that is over 20 miles from the nearest city. Recruiting teachers can be a challenge. The district has made a commitment to building capacity in educators. The funding will be used to utilize Texas Instructional Leadership services from the Education Service Center for Region 15. Prioritized Essential Actions will be addressed by implementing the appropriate Texas Instructional Leadership Levers identified in the Effective School Framework Diagnostic. Services from the Education Service Center for Region 15 will include face-to-face professional development, implementation support, and one-to-one coaching for key instructional leaders. Action steps will be tracked to illustrate success. Funding will be utilized to provide embedded professional development that builds capacity in instructional leaders and teachers on the campus. Funding will be reserved to hire substitutes for teachers to attend professional development planning days scheduled at the ESC in San Angelo. Lohn ISD has limited technology, so funding will also be utilized to secure a data display, Smartboard. This will allow for group data meetings with visual representations of student data as a focus. Adjustments to future needs of the campus/district will be determined by needs established by staff input and available data. Instructional leaders and staff will determine necessary adjustments to budget needs by reallocating funds in order to meet the prioritized needs of the campus.

Funding will be used to utilize data and build capacity in instructional leaders and teachers. Funds will be utilized to provide professional development in implementing rigorous instruction with fidelity. Major funding priorities are listed below:

- * Capacity Building Contract for Texas Instructional Leadership with ESC 15
- * Professional Development Coverage by employing substitute teachers
- * Supplies to provide data tools for data meetings, including a Smartboard or comparable visual screen
- * Coverage by substitutes for teachers attending professional development
- * Supplemental instruction opportunities

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.

Lohn ISD is a K-12 district, and the campus principal will have access to the funding to carry out the required activities involving professional development, securing substitutes, and providing supplies to support the activities to engage students in high intensity instructional activities. The principal has direct access to the director of curriculum which will be the grant administrator. Communication in Lohn will not be a problem. The director of curriculum took over the PEIMS position after a problem occurred in the 2022-2023 school year which negatively affected the district. The position was maintained over the course of several months until a suitable replacement could be secured. Some of the student data was not entered accurately during previous school years. During the 2021-2022 school year, the economically disadvantaged percentage that was reported as 68%, but this is believed to be inaccurate due to reporting errors. The economically disadvantaged rate for the 2022-2023 school year on snapshot day was 80%, which is believed to be an accurate reporting for the school's current status. The district has taken strides to rectify data entry, and commitment to providing efficient systems and protocols is a priority. The campus principal and director of curriculum meet weekly if not daily to discuss campus procedures. Both are engaged in Targeted Improvement Planning.

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