2023-2024 National Board Candidacy Cohort
Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, October 31, 2022

Authorizing legislation: Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) as amended by P.L. 114-95, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title II, Part A, Section 2101 (c)(4)(A)

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, October 31, 2022.

Application stamp-in date and time

Grant period from

Pre-award costs permitted from: Pre-Award costs are not permitted for this grant.

1. Excel workbook with the grant's budget schedules (linked along with this form on the TEA Grants Opportunities page)

Amendment Number

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

Applicant Information

Organization: Region4 EducationServiceCenter CDN: 4 UEI:

Address: 7145WestTidwell Road City: Houston ZIP: 77092

Primary Contact:

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, corre 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
- ☐ General and application-specific Provisions and Assurances
- ☐ Debarment and Suspension Certification
- ☒ Lobbying Certification

RodneyWatson,Ph.D. ExecutiveDirector

rodney.watson@esc4.net 713-744-6534

Rodney Watson Digitally signed by Rodney Watson Date: 2022.11.01 08:15:14 -05'00' 11/01/2022

Statutory/Program Assurances cont'd.

☒ 7. National Board Cohort & Support Sessions

a) The grantee will implement a National Board Candidate Cohort of current classroom teachers pursuing National Board Certification in 2023-24.

b) The grantee will publicize the National Board Cohort on its website and through other communication means. Communication must include, but is not limited to, details about National Board Certification and the Candidacy Cohort.

c) The grantee assures that it will identify its external partner, if applicable, during the negotiation process.

d) If partnering with an external entity, the grantee will develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with that entity before engaging in work for which grant funds are used. The grantee will ensure that the MoU includes partnership costs and commitment to meeting program assurances. In addition, the MoU will include all major activities for which grant funding will be used and the dates for which those activities will occur, which will be within the start and end dates of the grant period.

e) The grantee will provide National Board Candidates at least 8 meeting sessions over the course of the year with Board-Certified facilitator that provides guidance and feedback on the development and submission of National Board Components.

f) The grantee will track attendance of National Board Candidates at each of the 8 meeting sessions over the cou of the year and retain the attendance tracking in case of an audit.

g) The grantee will create a scope and sequence of the 8 meeting sessions and submit it to TEA upon request.

h) The grantee will support National Board candidates ase(t to TEU1twod components forcCertification to National

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Summary of Program

Describe the proposed National Board Candidacy Cohort to be implemented with grant funds. Include the overall mission and specific needs of the organization as they relate to teacher retention and effectiveness. Describe how the National Board Candidacy Cohort will address the organization's mission and needs.

In the most diverse city in Texas, Region 4 serves more than 1.2 million students and 165,000 educators. Our core purpose of providing excellence in service for children, leads us to improve student achievement, while also building relationships near and far. The lack of high attrition, lack of experience, and inconsistency with effectiveness, have resulted in student learning disparities not seen in years. Region 4 will come alongside those we service to address these needs through the Region 4 National Board Candidacy Cohort (R4NBCC). R4NBCC charges and shifts the mindset of teachers while transforming their practice in the areas of teaching and learning by providing them the support, services, and resources needed to create and implement high-quality, engaging, and relevant learning experiences. These

Qualifications and Experience for Key Personnel

Referring to the program-specific assurances, outline the required qualifications and experience for primary project personnel and any external partners projected to be involved in the implementation and delivery of the National Board Candidacy Cohort. These positions may include but are not limited to district grant manager, external partner (if applicable), Facilitator, mentor, and candidate. Include whether the position is existing or proposed. Consider any other key personnel not listed in the table below.

Region 4 Director, Accountability and Leadership Solutions (existing) Grant Oversight and Budget Allocation	18+ yrs principal or higher administrator exp., extensive exp. writing, implementing, overseeing, and providing data for grants (including fiscal guidelines), extensive exp. with program budgeting, contracts, etc.
Region 4 Facilitator, Educator Excellence (existing) Program Developer, Professional Learning Facilitator (PLF) Grant Manager	10+ yrs high-impact teaching evidence w/ evaluations and student growth measures; 5+ yrs professional development and curriculum and instruction exp. and 5+ yrs admin. exp. at campus and district level, also a trained NBC PLF.
Texas National Board Coalition of Teaching (external partner) Provider of Mentors	The organization will provide fully trained and vetted, NBCT mentors to provide the required program assurances for each cohort candidate, including but not limited to required number of hours of 1:1 mentorship.
Texas National Board Coalition of Teaching (external partner) Provider of NBCT Professional Learning Facilitator	The organization will provide fully trained NBCT PLF, to work along side a trained Region 4 PLF ensuring all program assurances are met for the cohort candidates, including but not limited to required number of meetings.
Region 4 National Board Cohort Candidates (R4NBCC) National Board Teacher Candidates (up to 15)	Meet all updated National Board requirements that went into effect 09/19/22, align to demographics and student needs of Region 4 districts, and are identified as highly effective teachers.

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Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

Referring to the program-specific assurances and performance and evaluation measures within the program guidelines, describe the major goals/objectives of the proposed National Board Candidacy Cohort. Describe activities/strategies that will be implemented to meet those goals/objectives.

R4NBCC desires to be a dynamic program known for its energy and zeal to take highly effective teachers to the next level, reigniting their passion for impacting student growth and achievement across the region. We will be representative of our region demographics as R4NBCC seeks to increase the number of NBCT's from 58 to 75, and continually add 10-15 NBCT's every 1-2 years as the program grows and becomes self sustaining. Identifying and recruiting teachers will begin by using regional data. Highly effective teachers who meet NB requirements, are not eligible for their district's local designation system or in districts without one will be determined. Other identifiers will also be used to ensure a large application pool. Marketing, advertising, and communication about the program will need to reach all parts of the region with a detailed plan (including timeline), leveraging all partnerships. The dynamic and robust nature of the program will begin with pre-candidacy. This part will prepare the R4NBCC for the rigor and pace needed for component success. In addition, it will provide a deep dive into other essentials. To take their ability to the next level collaborating with TXNBCT will provide NBCT mentors, and a NBCT PLF, to work along side the Region 4 PLF. Positive changes for the R4NBCC will come from learning and engagement at meetings, working with PLC's, and using materials that will make teaching more enjoyable sooner due to relevant learning topics that pertain to components and what they do everyday (ex: sequencing lessons for differentiation and less stress) R4NBCC component success leading to certification increasing the number in region and decreasing attrition will be done through

Performance and Evaluation Measures

Describe the plan for collecting, evaluating, and responding to data on performance measures identified for this grant. Include the descriptions of tools used to measure and evaluate performance, as well as the processes that will be used to ensure the effectiveness of the National Board Candidacy Cohort objectives and strategies.

Refer to the lines from the Application Part 2 Budget Workbook to describe how the proposed budget will meet the needs and goals of the National Board Candidacy Cohort grant program. Be sure to include why each item included in your budget (Application Part 2 Budget Workbook) is reasonable and necessary to achieving the goals of your National Board Candidacy Cohort. If applicable, include a high-level snapshot of funds currently allocated to similar programs. Include a short narrative describing how adjustments will be made in the future to

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