

This LOI application may be submitted via email to competitivegrants@tea.texas.gov.

Shared Services Arrangements

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) are **not** permitted for this grant

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.

- 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.
- 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.
- The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Statutory and TEA Program requirements as noted in the 2023-2025 Texas Center for Student Supports LOI Program Guidelines.
- The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2023-2025 Texas Center for Student Supports LOI Program Guidelines, and shall provide to TEA, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.
- The applicant will formally establish the Texas Center for Student Support (TCSS).
- The applicant will dedicate a full-time director level position or above with personnel approved by TEA to lead the planning, execution, and implementation of all TCSS functions.
- The applicant will contract with a technical assistance provider or set of providers to develop a TEA aligned student support team framework that includes protocols for team operation, recommendations for team staffing, standardized forms, resources, and tools that LEAs will use to support their student support teams.
- The applicant will contract with a technical assistance provider or set of providers to develop a parent and family engagement playbook with resources and tools that LEAs can use to partner and build support with parents and families prior to a student support team assessment, and during the student support implementation process, to facilitate a student support partnership with families.
- The applicant will contract with a technical assistance provider or set of providers to establish and implement a campus leader, teacher, parent/family, and student advisory group and use subgroup focus groups to provide feedback and input on needs for services and support and on products developed for the Student Support Program.
- The applicant will contract with a technical assistance provider or set of providers to develop and implement job-embedded professional learning, technical assistance, and coaching to support LEAs with establishing and implementing student support team structures.
- The applicant will contract with a technical assistance provider or set of providers to develop and implement a data reporting system to gather and analyze data to monitor efficacy of the implementation of the Student Support Program, including student support team structure, quality of support leading to positive outcomes, and data related to increases in desired outcomes (e.g. increase in student support team referrals for nonacademic needs, increase in effective supports received by students, reduction in disciplinary incidents, reduction in bullying and harassment, increase in referrals for mental health services, reduction in removals from class, etc.).

Statutory/Program Assurances Cont'd

- The applicant will provide timely response to requests from TEA for information and data regarding program development, implementation, and performance and evaluation measures.
- The applicant will establish a collaborative partnership through contract procurement with the University of Texas at Austin Behavior Sciences and Policy Institute, and with the Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health (TIEMH) at the University of Texas at Austin, to develop the Student Support Program.
- The applicant will develop a plan to sustain the TCSS to support ESCs and LEAs beyond the life of the grant cycle.

Qualifications and Experience for Key Personnel

Outline the required qualifications and experience for primary project personnel and any external consultants projected to be involved in the implementation and delivery of the program. Include whether the position is existing or proposed.

| Title and Responsibilities of Position | Required Qualifications and Experience |
|--|---|
| Deputy Executive Director | Experience as a successful K-12 educator, elementary and secondary campus administrator, Special Programs Director in a mid-size suburban district. Experience with leading federal statewide initiatives - EANS, (See attached) |
| Director on Mental Health and Wellness (existing) | Experience as a successful K-12 educator, Behavior Specialist, Special Programs Director in a small and rural and mid-size district. Experience with leading statewide initiatives - special populations currently leads 5 (See attached) |
| State Director of the Texas Center for Student Supports (proposed) | Experience as a successful Texas K-12 educator, working with and/or for ESCs. Experience and the ability to effectively design and execute regional or state-level programs and initiatives; lead change at the district, (See attached) |
| TCSS Content Lead (proposed) | Subject matter expertise in subjects related to safe and supportive schools, including student mental health and wellness, physical school safety, and campus and district systems and practices to support MTSS. (See attached) |
| TCSS Adult Learning Lead (proposed) | Subject matter expertise in subjects related to adult learning and application of learning. Experience designing practice-based training with clear models and tools, planning for change and executing best practices in (See attached) |

TEA Program Requirements

HISTORICAL SUCCESS: 1. Describe the success that the ESC has had in supporting LEAs with the following: **a.** electing and managing technical assistance providers to support LEAs and ESCs resulting in delivery of agreed upon deliverable and measurable outcomes; **b.** establishing and improving school culture resulting in strong relationships between staff and students, reductions in behavioral and disciplinary incidents, reductions in chronic absenteeism, reduction in incidents of bullying and harassment, and improved overall academic outcomes; **c.** implementing effective mental health training, support, and resources; and **d.** implementing effective student support team structures.

ESC 10 has considerable experience across departments and programs selecting and managing technical assistance providers. Three examples are: 1) McKinney-Vento, where ESC 10 contracts with a third party to provide statewide technical assistance, with 20 years of collaboration with Texas Homeless Education Office at UT Austin, 2) Texas Instructional Leadership (TIL), where ESC 10 manages a statewide technical assistance provider that trains and coaches the TIL Leads for all 20 ESCs. Survey results (average of over 4.7 on a 5-point Likert scale) and growth in TIL Lead action step mastery (average of over ten action steps mastered by TIL Leads per year) show that the technical assistance provider is meeting the needs of both TEA and ESCs. 3) Currently ESC 10 contracts with TEA for EANS 1, EANS II, and GAPS (i.e., statewide private schools). The activities outlined below provide support for the selection and management of technical assistance providers to support LEAs and ESCs. This includes distribution of procedures to request procurement of goods and services, verifying approval process for procurement requests for TEA approved services, creating a fiscal plan to ensure that the funds are

Amendment #

TEA Program Requirements Cont'd

STRUCTURE: 3. Describe the protocols that the ESC will develop to establish and strengthen a clear link between existing school district support systems and the student support team structure including but not limited to behavior threat assessment, mental health needs, suicide prevention, emotional and behavioral health needs, and other needs that create barriers to positive student outcomes. Describe how the ESC will support the management of technical assistance providers agreed upon deliverables.

Statutory/Program Requirements Cont'd

DATA REPORTING: 5. Describe the system the Student Support Center will use to support participating LEAs with tracking referrals to the student support team and collecting data on supports provided to students and families to monitor effectiveness. Participating LEAs will be required to report this data to the Texas Education Agency.

CAPACITY: 6. Describe the ESC capacity and expertise to fulfill the program requirements.



