

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) v.2

2023-2025 Title I, 1003 ESF Focused Support Grant

RFA# 701-23-112

Posted April 7, 2023

Section A: Eligibility Questions

Question A-1

The district is applying for this grant?

Answer

The district applies for the grant on behalf of its eligible (Title I and Title II) elementary and middle schools. The district must apply for the grant on behalf of each eligible campus. The district must also apply for the grant on behalf of each eligible campus.

Question A-3

Can a district make several applications? I have 67 eligible campuses.

Answer

The district may apply on behalf of each eligible campus. In this example, the district would complete a single Application Part 1 (PDF), a single Application Part 2 Budget Workbook (Excel), and a required supplemental attachment for each eligible applicant campus, a total of 67 in this case.

Question A-4

If one of my campuses was awarded a SAF grant would the same campus and/or the district still be eligible for the ESF focused grant?

Answer

Campuses that are Title I-served and have a 2022 Federal Identification of Comprehensive School Support and Improvement, Targeted Support and Improvement, and/or Additional Support and

The LEA can reserve some funds as named in the ESF Focused Support Grant Program Guidelines for use at feeder pattern campuses that are title I served within one level of the awarded campus. This information is not a required part of the application.

Question B-6

Can campuses apply to continue working with the same VIPs they are currently working with under the current grant?

Answer

Yes. An LEA may choose to apply for a VIP with which a campus is currently engaged.

Question B-7 NEW

When is the deadline for districts to sign grant assurances or decline the award, if awarded this grant?

Answer

Submission of the application includes acceptance of grant assurances and acceptance of the award, should the applicant be awarded.

Section C: Program-Related Questions

Question C-1

Please explain how this grant works with the regular Title I SIG 1003 grant- if a District gets both will improvement plans be aligned?

Answer

If a district has a Title I, 1003 School Improvement Grant campuses and is also awarded the 2023-2025 ESF-Focused Support Grant, the LEA will be responsible for the measures and requirements in both sets of Program Guidelines and will submit a single Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) for each engaged campuses to meet both requirements.

Question C-2

Since it is a two-year award, what happens if a campus exits school improvement before or after

improvement. Findings identified through the self-assessment process will be used to determine the focus of the VIP support pursued in the ESF-Focused Support Grant.

Question C-4

What is the timeline for completing the ESF Diagnostic?

Answer

For the purposes of this grant, if the campus received an ESF diagnostic in Spring 2021 or earlier, the campus will be required to participate in another ESF diagnostic in Spring of 2024. ESF-Diagnostics are typically conducted during the spring months (January-

engagement in the previously engaged TIL content area. The LEA may also apply for External VIPs through Pathway 2 Supplemental Attachment or other approved ESC VIPs.

Question C-14

Are you anticipating required submissions quarterly as with the current TIPs-inclusive of progress monitoring and ongoing conversations TEA staff?

Answer

Implementation progress submissions will be required. Frequency and cadence of progress updates as well as conversations with TEA Staff will align to the 90-day cycle structure of the TIP.

Question C-15

When will LEAs who receive the grant be able to work with the vetted improvement program? After July notification or after September?

Answer

The July anticipated award announcement date will be the 'pre-award' date of the grant. The LEA may begin work on the date the awards are announced.

Question C-16

If you are implementing the regular School Improvement Grant and completing the TIP

"If the LEA allocates State and local funds to its campuses without regard to their Title I status either through a Title I-neutral SNS Methodology or by through a Statement of Exemption, the supplemental requirement for Title I, Part A funds at the campus level has been met."

Question E-10

Is 30% of grant funds the maximum that can be spent per campus or per entire grant for the VIP contracts on this grant? If we include feeder pattern campuses this could be a different cap on expenditures?

Answer

The LEA reserve is limited to 30% of the total award for costs associated with the Title I served feeder pattern campus(es)' participation in the VIP work.

Section F: Competitive Review Questions

Question F-1 NEW

How are priority points awarded for eco-dis populations?

Answer

Priority points are only added in this section if the campus has an eco-dis population greater than 71%.

Question F-2 NEW

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