



**2021-2023 Title I, 1003 ESF-Focused Support Grant
Letter of Interest (LOI) Application Due 11:59 p.m. CT, April 21, 2021**

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, 2021**.

Grant period from **July 8, 2021-September 30, 2023**

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 Pathway Attachment
3. Pathway 2: Pathway 2 Supplemental Pathway Attachment

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 **Itasca ISD** CDN **109907** Campus **Itasca Middle Sch** ESC **12** DUNS **080744154**

Address **123 N. College St** City **Itasca** ZIP **76692** Vendor ID **1746001446**

Primary Contact **Amy Reyna** Email **areyna@itascaisd.net** Phone **2546872922**

Secondary Contact **Mark Parsons** Email **mparsons@itascaisd.net** Phone **2546872922**

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 **Mark Parsons** Title **Superintendent**

Email **mparsons@itascaisd.net** Phone **254-687-2922**

Signature  Date **4-21-21**

RFA # [Redacted] SAS # [Redacted]

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 2021-2023 Title I, ESF-Focused Support Grant Program Guidelines.
4. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all the Performance Measures, as noted in the 2021-2023 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. For all pathways, the applicant will budget at least the minimum amount indicated in the Budget Object Code 6200 - Profession and Contracted Services.

Statutory/Program Assurances, cont'd.

- 10. The applicant will identify a campus leader, on each awarded campus, who will be responsible for managing the grant project.
- 11. The applicant will provide access to TEA and its Vetted Improvement Partners for on-site visits to the district and campus(es) as appropriate.
- 12. The applicant will attend and participate in grant orientation meetings, technical assistance meetings, other periodic meetings of grantees, and sharing of best practices through the TEA program office.
- 13. 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 web-based improvement plan, submission of funding and pathway progress reports.

Summary of Program

1. Describe how the LEA will support campus(es) in carrying out school support and improvement activities, including how the LEA will develop a web-based improvement plan for the eligible campuses selected for this grant.

Itasca ISD will assist and support Itasca Middle School in carrying out school improvement activities in several ways. First, the district will provide district level support with the web based improvement plan for the middle school. The district will assist the campus team, in the ESF Self Assessment activity and in the committee development of the improvement plan. The district will provide technical support as we are currently participating in the web based plan pilot program with 806 technologies. In addition, the district will provide the campus with principal and teacher coaching from district capacity builders who will assist the campus in checking for lesson alignment, monitoring lesson planning and delivery of instruction for alignment and help coach the principal in maintain and growing Data Driven Instruction.

2. Describe how the LEA will monitor schools receiving the ESF-Focused Support Grant, including how the LEA will: (a) Monitor a web-based improvement plans upon submission and during implementation, and (b) Implement additional action following unsuccessful implementation of such plan after the first year of the grant cycle.

Itasca ISD will monitor the Itasca Middle School improvement plan by implementing a monthly meeting with the campus project director and campus principal. They will use this meeting to monitor implementation and review data to determine success of the plan. This will allow for timely modifications and interventions should those be warranted. If data shows the plan to be unsuccessful, the district will conduct a root cause analysis to determine what caused the plan to be unsuccessful. The root cause will determine how changes to the plan are implemented and how the district can support those changes. The district will seek to increase data reviews and provide an increase in coaching support both from the district level as well as increase support provided by ESC 12.

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 aligned web-based Improvement Plan.

As the middle school is currently working through year two of addressing essential actions as indicated by the ESF conducted in Spring of 2019, we recognize that some policies and practices may need to be addressed in order to fully implement action items. For example, as we have implemented Data Driven Instruction we recognized a need to shift from teacher driven assessment to common assessments. Thus, we implemented a practice to use assessment items found in TEKS Resource System. As we continue to work through the ESF Essential actions, the district is committed to addressing modifications to practices and policies as needed.

Budget Narrative

1. Describe how the proposed budget will meet the needs and goals of the program, including for staffing, supplies and materials, contracts, travel, etc. 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 meet needs.

Currently, all School Improvement Funds are committed directly to the Middle School. This grant will allow us continuity in the level of support currently provided. This includes providing staffing in the form of coaching from a capacity builder for both the principal and teachers. The goal of the capacity builder will be to serve essentially as a trainer of trainers assisting both campus administration and teachers in understanding and implementing alignment in lesson planning and instruction as well as alignment in instructional materials. It is our goal for all teachers to implement aligned objectives, bell ringers and exit tickets and will be looking for alignment in planning through lesson plans. Supplemental instructional materials may be needed as teachers seek to ensure materials are TEKS aligned. In addition, ESC 12 support through TIL as well as content area coaches will be provided. As needs change at the campus based on changes in staff or student needs, the district will make needed budgetary changes to provide for current campus needs. This might include more funds allotted for instructional materials, training or ESC 12 support. The district is committed to making necessary amendments to provide for campus needs.

Budget Narrative, cont'd.

2. Describe how the LEA will align other Federal, State, and local resources to carry out the activities supported with funds received under this grant.

As a small district, we view the ESF as good practice for all teachers. Therefore, we strive to align the activities from our Middle School with our feeder elementary and receiving high school. For example, when we implemented Data Driven Instruction at the middle school, we also used district funds to implement at the other two campuses. As our current plan includes moving into lesson alignment for the upcoming school year, the district plans to use federal, state and local resources to provide additional training and support. In addition, we will use those resources as we work to ensure that staff have access to aligned instructional materials.

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	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>
Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>
Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>
Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>

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