



Texas Education Agency

## To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

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DATE:	October 17, 2019
SUBJECT:	Blended Learning Planning Grants for Math Innovation Zones and Non-Math Blended Learning Pilots
CATEGORY:	Grants to Implement Innovative Instructional Models
NEXT STEPS:	Share with District Leadership: Curriculum and Instruction or Office of Innovation

TEA is excited to announce the opening of the application for **Blended Learning Planning Grants** on the [TEA Grant Opportunities Page!](#) Districts and open-enrollment charter schools may receive **planning grants of up to \$125K** and follow-on **execution grants of up to \$100K** to implement blended learning across feeder patterns over a four-year time frame.

The application is due on **November 4, 2019 by 5pm CT** and questions may be submitted to [MIZ@tea.texas.gov](mailto:MIZ@tea.texas.gov). Details are outlined below and included in the HB3 in 30 Webinar ([linked here](#)).

### **What is Blended Learning and the Blended Learning Grant Program (BLGP)?**

Blended learning combines face to face instruction with online learning to help teachers effectively differentiate instruction for all students. The BLGP is a four-year process to design, launch, and scale a high-quality blended learning program within a school district or charter school network. Beginning with planning in year 0, districts and charters will grow the blended learning program from a subset of grades in year 1 to a sustainable feeder pattern implementation in 4 years.

### **What are the BLGP Grants?**

Interested districts and charter schools may apply to participate in the BLGP through either Math Innovation Zones (MIZ) or in a non-math blended learning pilot (i.e. ELAR, etc...). Grantees will be selected based on district commitment to blended learning and dedicated personnel. TEA is seeking districts and charter schools to award up to **25 Planning Grants of up to \$125,000**. These grants will be used for costs related to the design and planning of the program and must include technical assistance and personnel costs. Districts and charters selected in the planning cohort are also eligible for **Execution Grants of up to \$100,000** in the spring of 2020 based on an evaluation of planning.

### **What are the next steps?**

Interested districts and charters should take the following next steps.

- **Now:** Search for “**2019-2022 Blended Learning Grant Program - Planning Grants**” on the [TEA Grant Opportunities](#) page and review the application
- **October 18, 2019:** Optional: Send Notice of Intent to Apply to [MIZ@tea.texas.gov](mailto:MIZ@tea.texas.gov)
- **October 18, 2019:** Deadline to submit questions to [MIZ@tea.texas.gov](mailto:MIZ@tea.texas.gov)
- **October 21, 2019 at 12pm CT:** Attend the BLGP Planning Grants Webinar [at this link](#); Webinar attendance is optional and webinar recording may be accessed using the same link
- **November 4, 2019 by 5pm CT:** Deadline to submit application and attachments to [loiapplications@tea.texas.gov](mailto:loiapplications@tea.texas.gov)

### **Contact**

Any questions regarding the Blended Learning Planning Grants may be submitted to [MIZ@tea.texas.gov](mailto:MIZ@tea.texas.gov) by October 18, 2019. All questions and responses will be published through an FAQ document on the TEA Grant Opportunities page.