

## Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT)

(LIFT merges programs formerly known as Strong Foundations- SF, Texas Instructional Leadership- TIL, and Texas Lesson Study- TXLS)

### High Level Program Description

The LIFT grant provides a three-year program to strengthen instructional systems across districts and campuses, building instructional capacity around Bluebonnet, in the following key areas:

- **Curriculum Adoption Support:** Needs assessment of current instructional materials to guide Bluebonnet curriculum adoption (Planning Phase).
- **Training & Skill-Building:** Professional development to build staff understanding of the curriculum, strengthen skills, and set up schoolwide systems (Planning Phase).
- **Observation and Feedback Cycle Development:** Support to launch and refine observation and feedback systems that improve instructional quality (Planning and Implementation Phase).
- **Implementation Training:** Ongoing training to ensure effective use of Bluebonnet curriculum (Implementation Phase).
- **Instructional Leadership Coaching:** Coaching and feedback for leaders to strengthen instructional leadership and schoolwide routines (Implementation Phase).

### Eligibility

Eligible applicants are Texas public school systems that meet the following criteria:

- Commit to selecting and implementing a [State Board of Education \(SBOE\)](#)-approved high-quality instructional material (HQIM) in the 2027–28 school year, or
- Commit to implementing a Bluebonnet Learning (BL) product in the 2026–27 school year.

Participation in other grant programs does not disqualify applicants but may be considered during prioritization.

### Best Fit for school systems seeking:

- Comprehensive support to adopt and implement high-quality instructional materials (HQIM), including technical assistance for planning, training, and building enabling conditions for long-term success.
- Structured instructional leadership development through coaching, feedback cycles, and schoolwide routines aligned to Research-Based Instructional Strategies (RBIS).

- A multi-year phased approach to instructional improvement with options to begin in either a planning phase (HQIM adoption) or implementation phase (Bluebonnet Learning rollout).

### Funding Estimates

- **Estimated Total Allocation Available** - ~\$248 million
- **Initiative Duration**- 3 years
- **Estimated Total Value of Award\*** - \$855K-4.5M
- **Estimated Number of Awards** - 350 to 475

### Approximate Program Timeline

- **Begin Date:** March 2026

### Key Program Commitments to Consider

*Note: This is not a comprehensive list of all assurances or requirements. The full list of requirements is provided in the program guidelines.*

- **Product use and Board, Superintendent, CAO/Equivalent Approval:** Commit to (with Board approval) implementing a Bluebonnet Learning (BL) product in the 2026–27 school year (if applying to the “Implementation Phase”) or committing to selecting and implementing a State Board of Education (SBOE)-approved high-quality instructional material (HQIM) in the 2027–28 school year (if applying to the “Planning Phase”).
- **Approved Provider:** Contract with a single Approved Provider from the LASO Cycle 4 State Approved Provider list for the duration of the program.
- **Fidelity of Implementation:** Submit instructional framework artifacts, implementation plans, district level observation data, student outcomes data, and progress updates as requested by the Approved Provider or the TEA.
- **Professional Learning:** Engage in upfront training, implementation support, and coaching.
- **Participation of Leaders and Coaches:** Appoint a designated LIFT Lead as the primary point of contact and identify at least two additional contacts. The primary point of contact should be the equivalent of a senior academic team member or manager of campus principals. Participate in required TEA-led activities, including a grant kick-off and communities of practice

### Contact Information

[lift@tea.texas.gov](mailto:lift@tea.texas.gov)

\*Estimated Total Value of award reflects direct grant funds and in kind supports available in the current LASO cycle 4 in addition to potential continuation grants over the full program duration.

## LIFT Add on: School Improvement PLC Support (LIFT SI PLC)

(available only for Title I Comprehensive, Targeted, and Additional Targeted)

### High Level Program Description

The LIFT Add on: School Improvement PLC Support grant supports Title I, School Improvement LIFT campuses to enhance implementation support for campuses participating in the Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT) program, in the following key areas:

- **Additional Funding & Support:** Extra funding and targeted assistance for Title I campuses in school improvement (CSI, TSI, ATSI).
- **Enhanced PLC Support:** Expanded PLC facilitation, coaching, and observation feedback to strengthen collaboration.
- **Implementation Monitoring:** Ongoing monitoring of instructional material implementation to ensure fidelity.

### Eligibility

- Eligible campuses include campuses that are Title I served with a 2025 federal accountability identification, including Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI), or Additional Targeted Support (ATS). Comprehensive campuses in their second year of identification (Comprehensive Reidentified or Comprehensive Progress) are also eligible. Campuses must remain in operation during the grant cycle and remain Title I served for the 2026-27 school year.
- Note: a school system is eligible to apply to both Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT) and LIFT SI PLC Support grants, but if both are awarded, the school system must select the same Approved Provider for both LIFT and the LIFT SI PLC Support grant.

### Best Fit for school systems seeking:

- Targeted support for campuses identified for School Improvement, including CSI, TSI, or ATS campuses under federal accountability.
- Enhanced instructional systems through PLC facilitation and coaching with additional observation/feedback cycles and individualized support for instructional leaders and teachers.
- Closely monitored implementation of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM), with reinforced

planning time, instructional minutes, and fidelity to scope and sequence.

### Funding Estimates

- **Estimated Total Allocation Available** - ~\$45 million
- **Initiative Duration**- 1 year
- **Estimated Total Value of Award\*** - \$60K to \$120K per campus
- **Estimated Number of Awards** - 150 to 300

### Approximate Program Timeline

- **Begin Date:** March 2026

### Key Program Commitments to Consider

*Note: This is not a comprehensive list of all assurances or requirements. The full list of requirements is provided in the program guidelines.*

- **Product use and Board, Superintendent, CAO/Equivalent Approval:** Commit to (with Board approval) implementing a Bluebonnet Learning (BL) product in the 2026–27 school year (if applying to the “Implementation Phase”) OR commit to selecting and implementing a State Board of Education (SBOE)-approved high-quality instructional material (HQIM) in the 2027–28 school year (if applying to the “Planning Phase”).
- **Approved Provider:** Contract with a single Approved Provider from the LASO Cycle 4 State Approved Provider list for the duration of the program.
- **Fidelity of Implementation:** Submit instructional framework artifacts, implementation plans, district level observation data, student outcomes data, and progress updates as requested by the Approved Provider or the TEA.
- **Professional Learning:** Engage in upfront training, implementation support, and coaching.
- **Participation of Leaders and Coaches:** Appoint a designated LIFT Lead as the primary point of contact and identify at least two additional contacts. The primary point of contact should be the equivalent of a senior academic team member or manager of campus principals. Participate in required TEA-led activities, including a grant kick-off and communities of practice.

### Contact Information

[lift@tea.texas.gov](mailto:lift@tea.texas.gov)

\*Estimated Total Value of award reflects direct grant funds and in kind supports available in the current LASO cycle 4 in addition to potential continuation grants over the full program duration.



SAS#: LASOAE26

Organization: UVALDE CISD  
 Campus/Site: N/A  
 Vendor ID: 1746002426

County District: 232903  
 ESC Region: 20  
 School Year: 2025-2026

2025-2026 Learning Acceleration Supports Opportunities (LASO) Cycle 4

**Program Budget**  
**BS6001 - Program Budget Summary and Support**

Statutory Authority: See individual project Program Guidelines for program authority.

**Part 1: Available Funding**

Available Funding								
Description	25-26 LIFT 26026705	25-26 LIFT 26031080	25-26 LIFT 26038403	25-26 LIFT Add-On: SI PLC Sup	26-27 NEXT	26-28 VHPA	26-28 ADSY Plan & Execute	26-28 TSS
1. Fund/SSA Code	429		429	211				
2. Planning Amount								
3. Final Amount	\$495,133		\$222,867	\$120,000				
4. Carryover								
5. Reallocation								
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	\$495,133		\$222,867	\$120,000				

**Part 2: Budget Summary**

A. Budgeted Costs									
Description	Class/ Object Code	25-26 LIFT 26026705	25-26 LIFT 26031080	25-26 LIFT 26038403	25-26 LIFT Add-On: SI PLC Sup	26-27 NEXT	26-28 VHPA	26-28 ADSY Plan & Execute	26-28 TSS
1. Consolidated Administrative Funds		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No							
2. Payroll Costs	6100								
3. Professional and Contracted Services	6200								
4. Supplies and Material	6300								
5. Other Operating Costs	6400								
6. Debt Services	6500								
7. Capital Outlay	6600								
8. Operating Transfers Out	8911								
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>									
9. Indirect Costs									
<b>Total Budgeted Costs</b>									
<b>Total Funds Available Minus Total Costs</b>		\$495,133		\$222,867	\$120,000				
10. Payments to Member Districts of SSA	6493								

**B. Pre-Award Costs**

Part 2B Pre-Award Costs is hidden because it does not apply to the funding source(s) for this grant application.

**National Institute for Excellence in Teaching Proposal of Services  
For  
Uvalde CISD  
March 2, 2026**



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March 2, 2026

Amy Graeber  
Uvalde CISD  
1000 N Getty  
Uvalde, TX 78801

Dear Ms. Graeber,

We are pleased to present Uvalde CISD with this Proposal of Services from the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching. Please find included in the following pages an outline of proposed services for training and support during the 2026-27 school year.

Uvalde CISD has requested NIET support for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years for the LASO 4 Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT), Implementation Phase, and SI PLC grant. NIET support will include a cohesive set of supports designed to strengthen instructional systems, build educator capacity, and drive sustainable improvement across schools and districts. Services are designed to support the effective implementation of HQIM and TX LIFT priorities. Support will include:

- Comprehensive needs assessment conducted on each campus;
- District action plan that outlines priorities, milestones, and implementation;
- Training offerings to meet district and school needs (as identified in the action plan);
- Coaching and support, which helps to build consistent routines and observation and feedback practices that support instruction and implementation of HQIM with fidelity;
- At a minimum, LIFT and Qualifying PLC Add-on campuses will receive support as outlined in the TEA LIFT program guidance;
- Project management and implementation planning to ensure partnership components are coordinated, timely, and aligned to outcomes. This includes establishing timelines, managing deliverables, supporting communication structures, attending required training, and ensuring clarity across all stakeholders.

The total cost is \$562,600 (inclusive of travel). This agreement is effective immediately and will continue through June 30, 2027; additional details are outlined in Appendix A. The parties acknowledge and agree that the General Terms and Conditions along with the additional details outlined in Appendix A are hereby incorporated into this Statement of Work.

Please find attached Appendix A with more details on the specific proposed support plan and costs. We look forward to supporting Uvalde CISD.

Sincerely,



**Joshua H. Barnett, Ph.D. | Chief Executive Officer**

National Institute for Excellence in Teaching  
<https://www.niet.org/>

## Appendix A: NIET Proposal of Services

Time Period	Training/Support	# of Days	Target Participants	Actions
2025-2026 SY	TX LIFT District Action Plan	1		NIET will collaborate with district leadership to develop a District Action Plan that outlines priorities, milestones, and implementation strategies. This plan ensures coherence across schools, aligns systems to instructional goals, and provides a roadmap for monitoring progress and adjusting support throughout the year.
2025-2026 SY	TX LIFT Project Planning and Management	0		NIET will provide planning and management to ensure LIFT grant components are coordinated, timely, and aligned to outcomes. This includes establishing timelines, managing deliverables, supporting communication structures, and ensuring clarity across stakeholders.
2026-2027 SY	TX LIFT Project Planning and Management	0		NIET will provide planning and management to ensure LIFT grant components are coordinated, timely, and aligned to outcomes. This includes establishing timelines, managing deliverables, supporting communication structures, and ensuring clarity across stakeholders.
2025-2026 SY	TX LIFT Strengths-Based Needs Assessment (SBNA)	12		The LIFT Strengths-Based Needs Assessment (SBNA) is a two-day service designed to provide schools with an evidence-based understanding of current instructional practices and leadership systems. Findings highlight strengths, identify priority areas, and guide the design of targeted supports aligned to school and district goals.
2026-2027 SY	TX LIFT Support Days	122		District and school leaders receive ongoing coaching and implementation support, delivered both onsite

and virtually. Coaching may include modeling, observation, and feedback; leadership development; co-planning; and support for executing the District Action Plan.



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**NIET Estimated Costs for Outlined Services**

<b>Proposed Training/Support</b>	<b>Days</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>2025-2026 SY and 2026-2027 SY</b>		
TX LIFT District Action Plan	1	\$ 3,000.00
TX LIFT Project Planning and Management	0	\$ 31,520.00
TX LIFT Project Planning and Management	0	\$ 126,080.00
TX LIFT Strengths-Based Needs Assessment (SBNA)	12	\$ 36,000.00
TX LIFT Support Days	122	\$ 366,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 562,600.00</b>

*Please note: NIET issues invoices on a monthly basis for support outlined in this Proposal. NIET invoices in half and full day increments based on direct hours of support. For 3 or fewer hours, a half-day will be invoiced. For more than 3 hours, a full-day will be invoiced. This Proposal of Services is valid for 60 days from the date hereof, and becomes binding if signed and delivered by both parties during that period.*