



NAVARRO ISD

The Heart of Geronimo

**Learning Acceleration
Support Opportunities -
LASO Cycle 4 Grant &
Allotment Programs**

Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO)



LASO is a **single, consolidated application that combines grants, allotments, and in-kind supports**, bundled around a few key strategies to accelerate academic gains. LASO Cycle 4 will offer 15 opportunities focused on curriculum and instruction, educator training, more time, and innovative school models.

\$500M

in estimated services
and supports

15

initiatives to
support learning
acceleration and
innovation

1

application to
access funding

LASO Program Strands

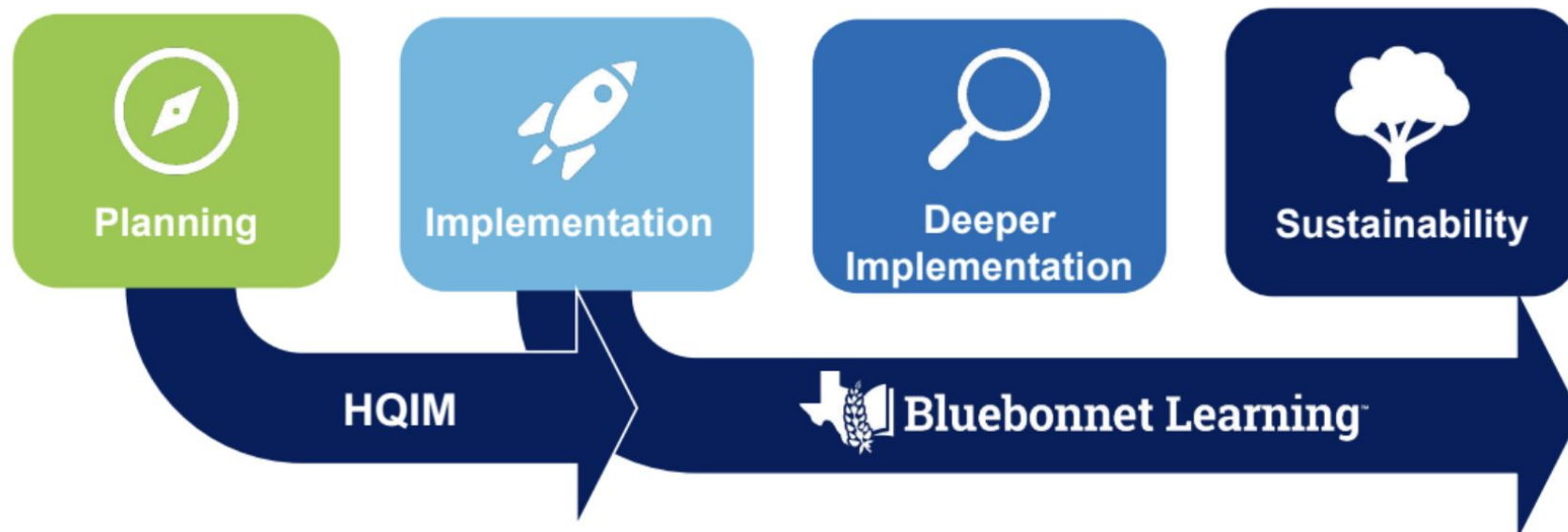
Curriculum & Instruction	Education & Training
Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT)	PREP Residency Preservice Program
LIFT Add-On: School Improvement PLC Supports (LIFT SI PLC)	PREP Grow Your Own (GYO) Program
School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction Support Grant (SI CISG)	PREP Mentorship Program
Blended Learning Grant (BLG) (Updated 10/24/25)	Texas Strategic Staffing (TSS) for Residencies Grant
Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (APCSP)	

LIFT | Comprehensive Set of Supports

LIFT is a **three-year program** that provides school system supports for **sustainable implementation of HQIM** through aligned supports and strong systems. Across three years, LIFT customizes programming to align to the needs of each school system.



LIFT begins with a diagnostic to assess a school system's individual needs to provide customized supports.



*Ongoing implementation support is only provided to school systems choosing Bluebonnet Learning.



Roles and Actions that Support Instructional Delivery

HQIM



Teachers

- **Learn** about research-based instructional strategies
- **Align** to the instructional vision
- **Engage** in initial HQIM training



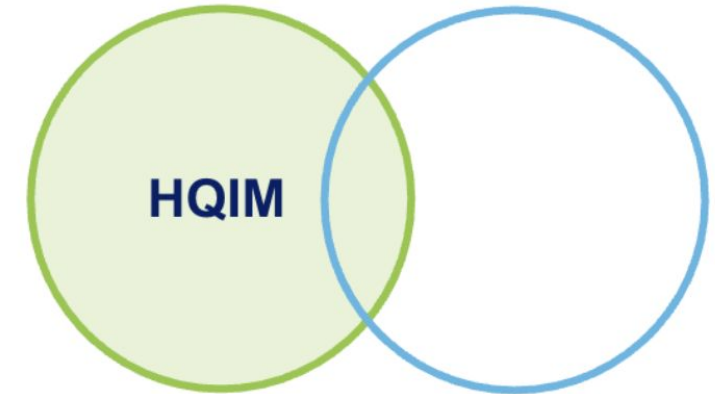
Instructional Leaders + Coaches

- **Learn** about research-based instructional strategies
- **Support** building an instructional vision
- **Communicate** the instructional vision to teachers
- **Support** selection of HQIM
- **Ensure** school-wide operational alignment to HQIM implementation



Superintendent, Chief Academic Officers, Principal Managers

- **Learn** about research-based instructional strategies
- **Define** an instructional vision alongside key stakeholders
- **Lead** planning and change management strategy
- **Select and adopt** HQIM with board support
- **Ensure** district-wide operational alignment to HQIM implementation



* These activities were formerly completed through Strong Foundations Planning

LIFT | Flexible Sustained Funding

LIFT funding varies depending on district size and program year; funding is flexible and provided through the entire tenure of the program.

District Size	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	3-Year Avg
Very Small	\$240k	\$410k	\$290k	\$360k
Small	\$290k	\$490k	\$340k	\$430k
Small Medium	\$350k	\$560k	\$390k	\$500k
Medium Large	\$610k	\$910k	\$640k	\$820k
Large	\$860k	\$1.260M	\$880k	\$1.130M
Very Large	\$1.210M	\$1.720M	\$1.200M	\$1.550M

Blended Learning Grant

This is a three-year grant. Year 1, LASO 4 Blended Learning Grant, spans from March 2026 through May 31, 2027, followed by the continuation grant for Year 2 anticipated from June 2027 through April 30, 2028 and additional continuation grant for Year 3 anticipated from June 2028 through May 30, 2029 upon satisfactory completion of annual grant milestones, including software usage expectations and a satisfactory grantee health score.

Blended Learning Grant

NISD Will Select the Academic Cohort Option

Academic Cohort

- **Focuses on blended learning in core academic areas (Math and/or Reading/Language Arts).**
- **Blended learning combines face to face instruction with online learning to provide access to core tier 1 instruction for all students while differentiating supplemental instruction based on individual student needs with powerful, adaptive online curriculum.**

Allowable Use of Funds for BLG Academic Cohort

Funds under the BLG may be used to design and implement the blended learning model. Some key allowable usages:

- Licenses for approved digital/online curricular and supplemental products.
- Professional development: training for teachers, coaches, and other relevant personnel in blended learning and in use of the digital curriculum.
- More general allowable activities include: payroll costs to manage the grant work, professional/contracted services, consumable/durable supplies & materials, and development of deliverables required under the grant.
- Payroll costs for the Blended Learning Program Manager or other positions that directly support the program.

AP Computer Science Principles Grant Opportunity



Develop or expand a computer science career pathway with a focus on AP computer science principles?

Purpose of the grant

- **Support a computer science pathway:** The primary goal is to help school systems establish and maintain a computer science pathway with a focus on the APCSP course.
- **Improve CCMR outcomes:** The grant is designed to help increase College and Career Market Ready (CCMR) outcomes for high school students.
- **Promote high-demand careers:** By taking AP Computer Science Principles, students are prepared for high-wage opportunities in computer science careers.

How funding is used

- **Course materials:** Funds can be used for supplies and materials needed to support the implementation of the APCSP course.
- **Teacher training:** Funding is available for professional development to train teachers for the APCSP course.
- **AP exam support:** Grants can cover the cost of AP exam fees for students enrolled in the course, aiming to help students achieve a score of 3 or higher.

PREP Program Allotment Application & Reviews



- The PREP Program Allotment is a **non-competitive entitlement**. In other words, all applicants that meet eligibility criteria and commit to the program requirements will be funded.
- School systems will apply for PREP Program Allotment funding through the LASO Cycle 4 process.
- Statute requires the commissioner to set performance standards and goals for partnership programs and to review performance periodically. TEA is drafting proposed rules, including provisions that:
 - Once approved for a partnership program, school systems **will not need to re-apply** for continued funding.
 - Continued funding will be dependent upon **periodic reviews**.

Preparing and Retaining Educators Program (PREP) Allotments

- Goal: Strengthen quality of teacher recruitment, preparation & mentorship leading to increased educator effectiveness & retention
- Three PREP Programs:
 - Residency Preservice
 - Grown Your Own (GYO)
 - Mentorship
- Non-competitive entitlements
- Continued funding

Plus:

- Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies (TSS) Grants

PREP Residency Preservice Partnership requirements are focused on implementing high quality, year long residencies for aspiring teachers

Residency Preservice Program \$24-39.5K



Practice-based preparation in a year long residency: Embed the teacher candidate within the school, providing for extensive practice under the supervision of an effective **cooperating** teacher for an **entire school year** prior to becoming a teacher of record.



State developed content*: Ensure high quality training content, including Reading and Math Academies, Bluebonnet Learning and other classroom management content (from trained/certified facilitators).



Formal partnerships (with written agreement): LEA and EPP create partnerships to ensure alignment of LEA needs and vision for instruction, HQIM content, and EPP content and training.



Success and needs-based funding: PREP Allotment funding is split between the EPP and LEA, compensates candidates during their residency, and increases for high need areas. Funding is tied to the success of the candidate and flows to the LEA when the candidate earns Enhanced Standard certification and to the EPP only when the candidate has also completed a successful first year of teaching.

* Requirement starts in 2027-28

Funding Snapshot: PREP Residency Preservice Partnership (\$24-39.5K per resident)

40 Residents
per year*



LEA



Resident



Cooperating
Teacher



EPP

Initial Funding

\$12K

Payment
Required

\$20K min

\$10K from allotment +
at least \$10K LEA match

+

\$2K min

Success
Based Funding

Up to \$16k

\$2k base
+Rural/High: \$0K - \$12K
+\$2K sped or bilingual

Funding flows to LEA when resident
earns Enhanced Standard cert

Up to \$11.5K

\$10k base
+\$1.5K for read/math academies

Funding flows to EPP when resident
earns Enhanced Standard cert AND
completes first year teaching

*If total number of residents exceeds 40, funding can also be provided from eligible slots from the Traditional/Preservice Alternative allocation at that lower funding level (\$10k-\$21.5k) for up to an additional 40 residents

PREP Residency Preservice Program

- Goal: Empower school systems to play a central role in cultivating a pipeline of well-prepared, highly-qualified teachers
- Elements:
 - Practice-based preparation in paid year-long residency
 - Formal partnership with Texas State University
- \$24,000 - \$39,500 per resident, split between district and partner
- District must initially match \$10,000 per resident
- Success based funding (up to \$16,000) based on residents earning enhanced standard teacher certification

Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies (TSS) Grant



The Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies program supports school systems and educator preparation programs (EPP) make staffing and scheduling decisions driven by immediate and long-term instructional needs, in the following key areas:

- **Program Coordination:** Funding for a staff member to oversee residencies and coordinate between the district, technical assistance provider, and EPP.
- **Technical Assistance:** ESC-provided guidance to design and implement sustainable teacher residencies.
- **Resident Support:** Support for structuring paid residencies, including funding for instructional roles like tutoring, substitute teaching, or paraprofessional duties.

Texas Strategic Staffing for Residencies Grants

- Goal: Support staffing and scheduling decisions driven by immediate and long-term instructional needs
- Elements:
 - Program Coordination
 - Technical Assistance through Region 20
 - Resident Support
- Enhances PREP Residency Preservice Program
- Up to \$58,400 over two years

HB 2 supports school systems in recruiting from within their own ranks by establishing the requirements for a PREP Grow Your Own Program

Grow Your Own Program \$8-12K



Earn a bachelor's degree: Partner with an IHE/EPP to enroll the paraprofessional or other employee in a BA program and provide scheduled release time for coursework and advising, so the employee completes their BA and enrolls in a PREP Preservice preparation pathway* within 3 years.



Gain early teacher training: Provide the employee with on-the-job training on teaching while in their current role, including opportunities for practice under an effective teacher.



Grow future educators: Implement a high school Education and Training CTE pathway to provide early training and practice opportunities for current students to build interest in the teaching profession.



Receive success and need-based funding: PREP Allotment funding flows to the LEA per employee, can be used at the LEA's discretion for program implementation, including for tuition costs, and is tied to the employee's successful completion of a BA.

*Note: LEAs will only be eligible for GYO Program if they also apply for a Preservice Preparation Partnership. For 2026-27, this only includes Residency Preservice Partnerships, but will expand to other Preservice Preparation Partnership options the following year.

Funding Snapshot: PREP Grow Your Own Program (\$8-12K per Employee)

**40 Para-
professionals
per year***



LEA



Paraprofessional



Advisor



IHE

Initial Funding

Per employee who
begins GYO pathway

\$4K

+Rural/High: **\$0K - \$2K**

Success Based Funding

After employee earns
BA + enrolls in an EPP

\$4K

+Rural/High: **\$0K - \$2K**

LEAs may allocate funds received to support IHE tuition costs, costs to provide structured advising to the paraprofessional so they can successfully complete their bachelor degree, costs for employee release time, and other GYO related costs.

**Other employees, besides paraprofessionals, are also eligible.*

PREP Grow Your Own Program

- Goal: Support school systems to recruit, prepare, and retain educators from within
- Elements:
 - Help Employees earn Bachelor's Degree and Teacher Certification through Texas State University
 - Implement High School Education and Training CTE Pathway
- \$8,000 - \$12,000 per employee can support tuition, structured advising, release time, and other related costs
- Includes Initial Funding and Success Based Funding after employees earn BA & enroll in educator preparation program

HB 2 establishes the PREP Mentorship Program to ensure continuity of support from preparation into novice teaching

Mentorship Program \$3K



Structured novice teacher support: Assign 1st and 2nd year teachers to a trained mentor who provides coaching and support during the instructional day



State developed mentorship training: Provide mentors and supporting school system and campus leaders with high-quality training on mentoring best practices via the agency-required Texas Mentorship Training



Financial support: PREP Allotment funding flows to the school system per novice teacher to provide the mentor teacher with at least \$1k stipend and support program implementation, including funding training costs and mentor release time

Funding Snapshot: PREP Mentorship Program

(\$3K per novice teacher)

**40 novice
teachers per
year**



LEA



Mentor Teacher

Annual Funding

Per teacher in their
1st or 2nd year being
mentored

\$3K

**At least
\$1K
stipend**

School systems may allocate funds received to provide additional stipends to mentors, cover release time for mentor and novice teacher, and/or cover the cost of mentor training

PREP Mentorship Program

- Goal: Increase beginning teacher effectiveness and retention by providing strong mentorship
- Elements:
 - Mentor Stipends
 - Mentorship Training through Region 20
 - Mentoring Release Time
- Trained mentors for all 1st and 2nd year teachers
- \$3,000 per novice teacher

THANK YOU

