

# LEARNING ACCELERATION SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES (LASO)

## TEA Grant Program Update

Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026





# Context & Purpose

## LASO Cycle 4 Grant Program

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**Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities** (LASO) is a Texas Education Agency initiative that consolidates multiple state grants and support programs into a single application cycle.

LASO is designed to help districts **accelerate student learning, strengthen instructional systems, and support innovation** — particularly critical as we intensify our focus on school improvement, academic recovery, and sustainable systems coherence.

For KISD, LASO represents a **strategic opportunity** to align **state resources** with our **highest-priority campuses** and **systemwide improvement efforts**.



# What is LASO?

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LASO grants and supports are anchored in several strategic priorities, including:

- **Curriculum & Instruction:** Funding to adopt and implement high-quality instructional materials and strengthen classroom practice.
- **Education & Training:** Supports for teacher pipelines, residencies, mentorship, and professional development.
- **More Time:** Programs that expand learning time such as Additional Days School Year (ADSY) planning and implementation.
- **Innovative School Models:** Grants for strategic interventions (e.g., Early College High School, innovative school designs) to improve outcomes for targeted student groups.



# Killeen ISD LASO Application

ACE	ADSY	LIFT	PREP
<p><b>Accelerating Campus Excellence</b></p>	<p><b>Additional Days School Year</b></p>	<p><b>Leadership &amp; Instructional Foundations for Texas</b></p>	<p><b>Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnership</b></p>
<p>Provides intensive turnaround funding and support for persistently underperforming campuses to implement comprehensive school improvement strategies.</p>	<p>Funding to add instructional days to the school year (more learning time) to accelerate student outcomes.</p>	<p>Funding/support to strengthen instructional leadership and systems that drive high-quality teaching and learning coherence.</p>	<p>An allotment program to strengthen teacher recruitment, preparation, and mentorship supports to improve educator effectiveness and retention.</p>
<p>Alice W. Douse ES Hay Branch ES Audie Murphy MS</p>	<p>Brookhaven ES Harker Heights ES Killeen ES Rancier MS</p>	<p>Willow Springs ES Jimmie Don Aycok MS Live Oak Ridge MS Nolan MS Patterson MS</p>	<p>Preservice Residency Mentorship Grow Your Own</p>
<p>Not Awarded</p>	<p>Not Awarded</p>	<p>Awarded</p>	<p>Awarded</p>



# What is LASO PREP?

## Grant Program Details

Established by the 89th Texas Legislature (HB2), the PREP Program Allotment provides formula-based funding to improve teacher recruitment and retention.



**PREP Preservice Residency Program**

\$24,000 - \$39,500 per participant.  
Funding amount is determined based on rural designation and socio-economic factors



**PREP Grow Your Own Program**

\$8,000 - \$12,000 per participant. Districts receive 50% of funds upfront and 50% upon the employee's successful completion of a bachelor's degree.



**PREP Mentorship Program**

Provide \$3000 per beginning teacher to support educator retention efforts. Includes a required \$1,000 allocation to the assigned mentor teacher.



+ \$3,000 per resident for high needs or rural placement.  
+ \$2,000 per resident holding SPED or Bilingual certifications.

\*Each program has a participation cap of 40 individuals



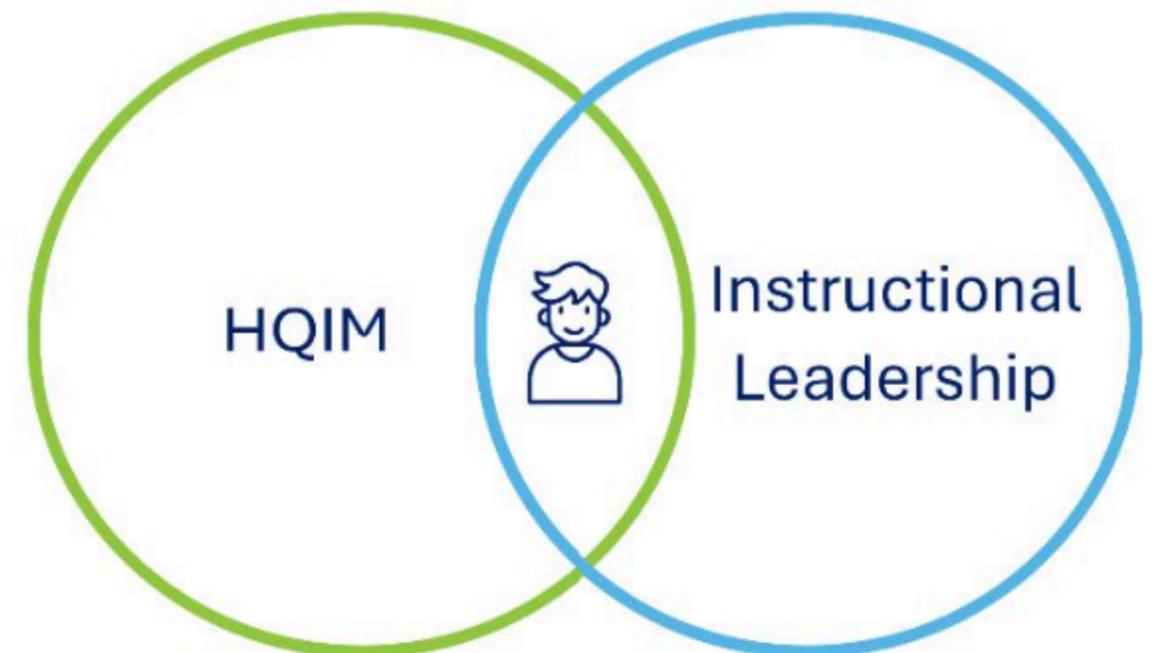
# What is LASO LIFT?

## Grant Program Details

LIFT (Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas)

A **three-year, districtwide grant program** that integrates Strong Foundations, Texas Instructional Leadership, and Texas Lesson Study to **support the adoption and implementation** of high-quality instructional materials (**HQIM**), including Bluebonnet Learning.

LIFT strengthens **instructional leadership** and **classroom practice** simultaneously to ensure **sustainable, system-wide improvements** in student learning.

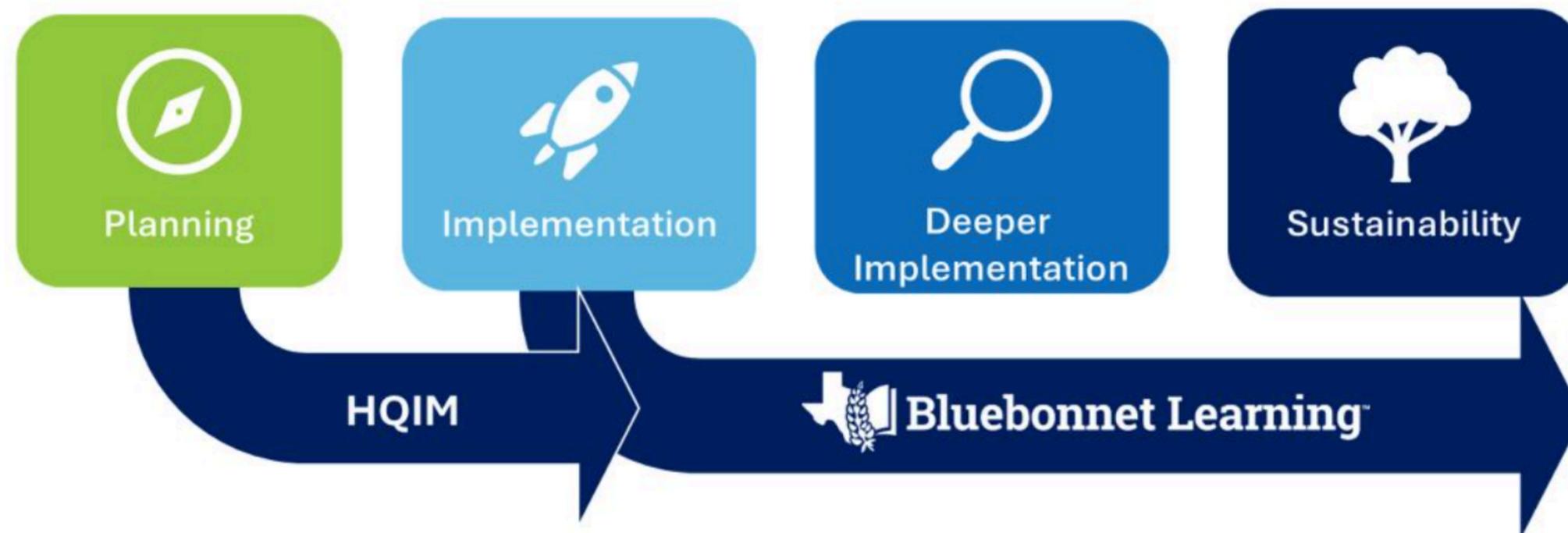




# What is LASO LIFT?

## Grant Program Details

Supports **sustainable HQIM implementation** through aligned tools, strong systems, and leadership development. The program begins with a **comprehensive needs assessment** and **delivers customized, three-year support** tailored to each district's priorities and capacity.





# LASO Grant Implementation

## Grant Award Details

Killeen ISD Year 1 LIFT Award amount: \$627,000.00				Killeen ISD	Tech. Assist. Provider
<b>Implementation Year</b>	Willow Springs ES	K-5 RLA	\$194,621	\$58,387	\$136,234
<b>Planning Year</b>	Jimmie Don Aycok MS Live Oak Ridge MS Nolan MS Patterson MS	Secondary Math	\$432,379	\$129,714	\$302,665

**Note:** At least 70% of the grant award is allocated to the TEA-approved technical assistance provider, with the remaining 30% available to KISD for allowable implementation expenses.



# LIFT Technical Assistance Provider

## Provider Roles & Responsibilities

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- Conducting a comprehensive needs assessment to evaluate district instructional systems, leadership capacity, and HQIM implementation readiness.
- Developing a customized three-year action plan aligned to district priorities and TEA LIFT requirements.
- Supporting high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) implementation, including Bluebonnet Learning, through aligned tools and systems.
- Strengthening instructional leadership capacity at both the district and campus levels.
- Providing professional development and coaching at both the district and campus levels.
- Monitoring implementation progress and supporting sustainability planning to ensure systemwide coherence and long-term impact.



# LIFT Technical Assistance Provider

## Provider Selection Process

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- TEA provides a comprehensive list of pre-approved technical assistance providers.
- Districts are encouraged to review, contact, and interview providers from the approved list to determine best fit.
- TEA recommends that districts continue partnerships with consultants currently serving the district successfully, provided they are on the approved list.
- KISD interviewed two consultants currently working in the district and four additional TEA-approved providers with experience supporting large, diverse districts engaged in school improvement efforts.
- Each interview included a 30-minute structured session with a consultant presentation, discussion prompts, Q&A, and follow-up clarification questions.



# **LIFT Technical Assistance Provider** **Provider Recommendation**

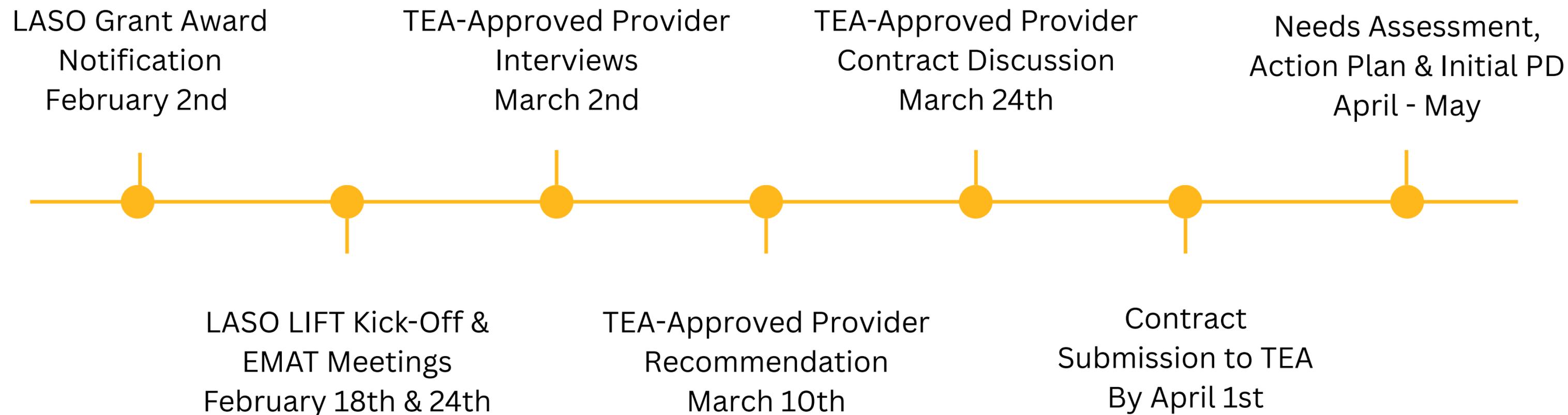
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To Be Presented at the March 10, 2026 Board Workshop



# LIFT Grant Program

## Key Activities Timeline





# **Killeen ISD Campus Support Plan**

## **For Non-Awarded Priority Schools**

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- Strategic, prioritized teacher staffing aligned to campus need
- Enhanced compensation to attract and retain highly qualified teachers
- Content-expert instructional coaching to strengthen classroom practice
- Targeted, data-driven professional development
- Campus-based summer learning programs to accelerate student achievement

# QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

