

LEARNING ACCELERATION SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES (LASO)

TEA Grant Program Update

Tuesday, March 24th, 2026





Context & Purpose

LASO Cycle 4 Grant Program

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?

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



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



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



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.

*Each program has a participation cap of 40 individuals



PREP Mentorship Program

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



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.

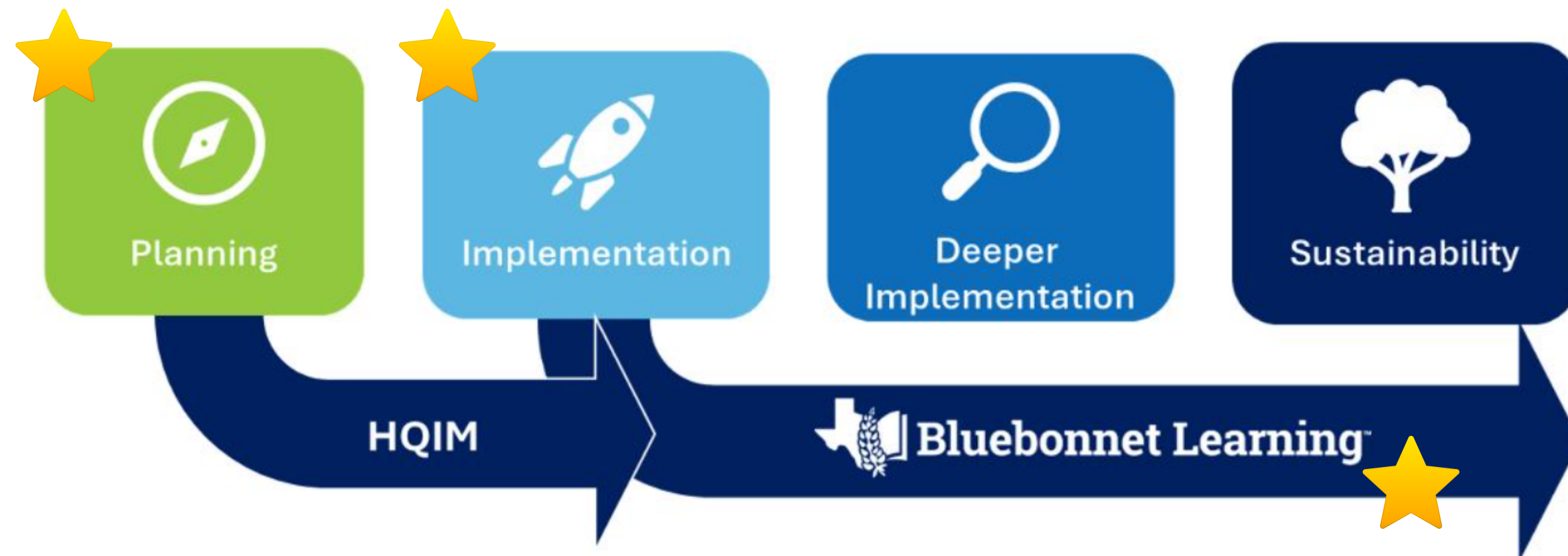




What is LASO LIFT?

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.





LIFT Grant Implementation

Grant Award Details

Killeen ISD Year 1 LIFT Award amount: \$627,000.00				Killeen ISD	Tech. Assist. Provider
Implementation Year	Willow Springs ES	K-2 Math	\$194,621	\$58,387	\$136,234
Planning Year	Jimmie Don Aycock MS Live Oak Ridge MS Nolan MS Patterson MS	6-8 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

- 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

- **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 **five 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

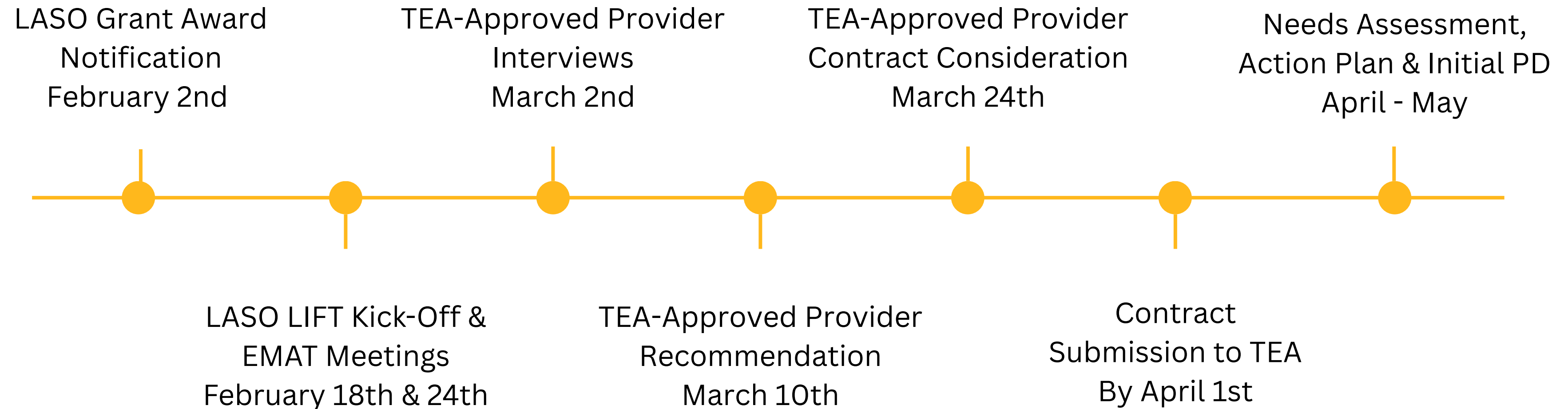


- Level of expertise
- Previously engaged in the LIFT grant program
- Established relationship
- Familiarity with strengths and needs of district
- Track record of high-quality technical assistance



LIFT Grant Program

Key Activities Timeline





Killeen ISD Campus Support Plan

For Non-Awarded Priority Schools

- 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

