

2023-2025 Grow Your Own Grant Program, Cycle 6
Letter of Interest (LOI) n Due 11:59 CT, October 13, 2022

® NOGA ID

Authorizing legislation **General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 40, 87th Texas Legislature**

This LOI application must be submitted via email to competitivegrants@tea.texas.gov

stamp-in time

The LOI application may be signed with a digital ID or it may be signed by hand. Both forms of signature are acceptable.

TEA must receive the application by **11:59 p.m. CT, October 13, 2022.**

Grant period from **9, 2023 to 30, 2025**

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1. Excel workbook with the grant's budget schedules (linked along with this form on the TEA Grants Opportunities page)
2. Attachment 1: Pathway Selection and Participation

Amendment number (For amendments only: enter N/A when completing this form to apply for grant funds)

CDN Vendor ID

Amendment #

The state of Texas, particularly, has struggled with retaining teachers over the last few years, with the issue only increasing in 2022. As a small district, located in a majority-rural county in Texas, Kermit Independent School District (Kermit ISD) faces many challenges retaining dedicated education professionals over the long term, including teachers from within its own

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Stipend Recipient Recruitment

There will be two phases to recruiting participants for the program. First, Kermit ISD will widely disseminate knowledge of the program around school campuses to substitutes, teacher’s aides, and others who may be eligible. This strategy will include website announcements, district-wide emails, bulletin board flyers, and morning school announcements. In the interests of recruiting diverse participants in an equitable manner, all individuals working with Kermit ISD who meet the eligibility criteria for the program will be notified and will be allowed to apply to the program. Once eligible participants have been notified and shown interest in applying for the program, the second phase of the

Stipend Recipient Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

Referencing the Program-Specific Assurances in the Program Guidelines, describe the MOUs in which: **A. Pathway 1:** Education and Training teacher stipend recipients agree to meet grant requirements and any other terms set by the LEA; **B. Pathway 1:** IHE that will partner with the LEA(s) to implement dual credit Education and Training courses and commit to supporting the Education and Training teachers and course implementation (if applicable); **C. Pathway 2:** Candidate stipend recipients commit to remain in the LEA for an agreed upon length of time as a condition of receiving the stipend and if a position is available, the LEA commits to hiring/retaining candidates with satisfactory program completion/job performance; **D. Pathway 2:** Accredited EPPs that will partner with the LEA(s) to award teacher certifications to candidates and commit to supporting candidates with completion of their teacher certification and supporting LEA(s) with implementation of the grant program.

In order to participate in the program, eligible candidates will sign a Memorandum of Understanding which will stipulate the following:
First, the six participants will commit to undertaking the studies necessary to complete their bachelor's degrees and, if they are not majoring in education, to also complete an alternate certification during the two years allotted for the program. This funding will cover \$19,000 of funding to each participant for their tuition; if there is any surplus funding, it will go towards any alternate certification programs necessary for participants graduating without certification. The amount funded and/or

Appendix I: Amendment Description and Purpose (leave this section blank when completing the initial application for funding)