

General Questions

1. When will the recordings and slides be posted on the website?

Recordings and slide from all webinars will be posted as quickly as possible to the TCLAS website after the webinar concludes.

2. If a district did not apply for one of TCLAS grants by the deadline, will there be another opportunity to apply for an additional TCLAS grant(s) in the future?

TCLAS Decision 11, an afterschool tutoring decision, will be posting in the near future for all eligible LEAs regardless of receipt of the original TCLAS Grant.

TCLAS Grant Questions

3. If the LEA was not awarded funds for a decision, are we obligated to fulfill the decision, or does it opt the LEA out automatically?

The LEA is committing to the listed assurances for the decision points it was awarded. The LEA does not need to commit to assurances for decision points it was not awarded.

4. Do we need board approval for this grant? Do we need to have a public meeting notice for this grant application?

LEAs must follow all local rules and policies when accepting this grant, including those relating to board approval and public meetings.

5. Are TCLAS ESSER III funds then different from the ESSER III funds already received by our district?

Yes. The TCLAS ESSER III funds are the Texas Education Agency's discretionary ESSER III Funds. These are separate from the ESSER III funds the LEA has already received.

6. Was the decision for the boxes to be grayed out, blank, or have a \$0 arbitrary or is

7. What is the fund number for TCLAS? Are there different fund numbers for projects funded through ESSER III versus GR funds? How will we know if we are receiving funds from ESSER II or GR

The ESSER III fund code is 279. The GR fund code is 429. The amounts awarded will be indicated on the award letter sent to LEAs via email and in the eGrants system.

8. Is the amount awarded per year or it's a total that needs to be divided into 3 years?

The amount awarded to LEAs from the TCLAS grant is the total funding amount expected to be budgeted over the length of the grant, 2021-2024.

9. Can the budget be amended after a NOGA is issued?

It may be necessary to do an amendment, depending on the details of the situation. The LEA will follow the [“When to Amend the Application”](#) document for guidance around creating an amendment. Contact your ESSER Grant Negotiator for assistance.

10. What indirect cost rate can LEAs use?

The LEA may find more information about indirect costs rate on the [TEA website](#).

11. Is there a 25% variance for each object code like in federal grants?

Yes. The LEA will follow the [“When to Amend the Application”](#) document for guidance around creating an amendment.

12. Are we using the money values from our award and entering them again into the application? If not, where do we find the values?

Yes. The LEA will find the award values in the award document on the Grant Opportunities [page](#)

13. Is there a matching requirement for these grants?

No, there is not a matching requirement for the TCLAS Grant.

14. In an earlier webinar they said there may have been an issue with the budget calculator sent in our email confirmation and there was an updated link. Can you remind us of where the updated link for the budget calculator?

The budget calculator tool has been updated and posted to the TCLAS [webpage](#).

15. If we have both the funds and the in kind will the in-kind award have to be written into the eGrants?

In-kind awards will not be budgeted by the LEA in the eGrants system.

16. What if the LEA was awarded more than what will be needed to meet the requirements?

Award amounts were allocated based on the information submitted by the LEA. The LEA will need to budget all grant funds according to guidance to best meet the needs of the LEA and meet the outcomes and assurances o(nd)-0.9 (a)-7.9 (s)-7 (s)-(e)-3 (n)1 (o)-(e)-3 (n)1 (o)-(e)-3

19. We have been awarded several Decisions - After reviewing and meeting with district team, we are not sure we would be able to implement some with fidelity. Is it too late to remove ourselves from the commitments?

The LEA will need to have an 'authorized official' complete the ADC form. Please reach out to the regional Grant Negotiator for further support.

37. Can we stop the application process and continue another day?

Yes. An LEA may enter the eGrants system begin the application, save progress, exit and

43. On the ADC form are we applying for TCLAS ESSER III and TCLAS GR? Wasn't sure what GR is?

GR is General Revenue funds. The awarded funding sources will be active in the eGrants system. If an LEA is not awarded a decision point funded by either ESSER III or GR the LEA will see that line grayed out.

44. If we do not want to use indirect costs, how do we change it in e Grants?

If the LEA is not choosing to claim indirect costs, there is no need to change anything. The LEA will budget all funds for Direct Costs.

45. In eGrants, I am able to enter for the TCLAS III but it is grayed out for TCLAS GR.

The GR line being grayed out indicates the LEA was not awarded a decision point that is funded by the TCLAS GR funding source.

Decision Specific Questions

46. Can we use a vendor to contract for the D. 1 Data Fellow position or do they need to be an employee of the LEA?

The LEA may contract with an external individual to fill the Data Fellow position. This cost may be budgeted in 6200 – Professional and Contracted Services.

47. We were awarded decision 1.B. besides the salary, can we budget for things as a laptop and other supplies like you said is okay to do for decision 7b?

Yes, supplies and materials to support an FTE position are an allowable cost.

48. We were awarded 1b Data Strategy FTE position and 7b Funding for ADSY Project Manager. Does this need to be 2 different people or can 1 person do both?

Data fellows are expected to attend all RSSP meetings with their district team, PLCs each month, and creating and setting up the data systems, structures, and protocols for measurement and monitoring of their strategic plan. Similarly, the ADSY Project Manager will be required to drive the strategic plan development over the course of the

illustrative, providing a snapshot of materials that serve as the starting point for the finalized Learning Dynamics Texas product .

55. 3C Decodable Text - What do LEAs need to submit and when?

A print order form will be sent through e-mail to TCLAS designated points of contacts in late October through November . The e-mail will include guidance for completing the form and when it is due . LEA's will need to complete the print order form to obtain resources. For more information visit the [TCLAS webpage](#) to access [Decision 2B & 3C: Print Access Webinar](#) slides and presentation recording.

56. Can you provide some guidance on decision 3e College Bridge? Is the requirement for students to pass with a 90% regardless of district MOU.

If districts want students to receive a developmental education exemption with the Texas College Bridge [partnering institutions](#) , then the students must complete the course with 90% mastery (at which point a certificate of completion will be generated and the student can give to the institutions). If the district's local institution has different requirements in their local MOU, then districts will need to ensure course completion as outlined in the MOU.

57. 4a does not allow to add Direct Admin cost to be used for possible subs. How do we entire that?

Substitutes may be covered under 6100 – Payroll costs.

58. For Decision 4, paraprofessionals will be awarded to pay for tuition and other resources. How do we fund this? Reimburse the individuals?

To some extent, this is a district decision. Please confer with your district business office, and refer to the Budgeting Costs Guidance Handbook:

https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/budgeting_costs_guidance_handbook.pdf

Regarding tuition:

- If the paraprofessional is a district employee, and if the district will pay the tuition on their behalf, budget this under BS 6101 - Payroll Costs, Part 3, Line 1 or Line 4, as appropriate.

- If the paraprofessional is a district employee, who will pay their own tuition, and then get reimbursed, budget this under BS 6401 – Other Operating Costs, Remaining 6400.

- If the paraprofessional is not a district employee, see https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/budgeting_costs_guidance_handbook.pdf, Page 6, Participant Support Costs for guidance.

Regarding other resources:

- Budget the resources under the appropriate Class Object Code (for example, 6300 for supplies, 6400 for travel).

59. We are applying for decision 4a -I have a question about the budget. Will all funds be for salary -stipends for the paras to use to pay for classes, supplies, or do we need to pay universities and reimburse for supplies?

The funding amount for 4a is split into two categories: (1) candidate reimbursement plus living stipend and (2) indirect plus administrative costs. For example, the \$19,000 given for candidates completing both degree and certification is split in the following ways: (1) \$18,000 reimbursement plus living stipend for the candidates and (2) \$1,000 to cover indirect or administrative costs related to the grant. These amounts are (1) \$7,500 and (2) \$500 for the \$8,000 in funding given for candidates pursuing their certification only.

The stipends are to be delivered to the candidate and/or university once each year. GYO is a two-year grant cycle , thus two payments will be made.

Each LEA will outline in their MOU the process for reimbursing candidates or paying universities directly on behalf of the candidate. Any funding out of the \$18,000 or \$7,500 that is not needed to cover tuition and supplies is considered an additional living stipend for the candidate . Funding from this amount should not be transferred to administrative or indirect costs.

60. Can you provide clarity on allowable expenditures in Decision 5b for Flexible Funding ?

For decision 5b, grant funds must be used to support residency implementation. This could look like funding for mentor stipends, a site supervisor role, training/professional development expenses for mentors, residents, and staff responsible for implementing the residency program, resident recruitment supports, or other means at the LEA's discretion to support the residency and innovative staffing implementation.



The ESC's and some select LEAs will be providing training to tutors on the three subsidized vendor's content. LEAs' will need to consult with the training providers to determine additional costs might be included in training.



71. Data Fellow has out of state travel - can you estimate the number of times and location?

Out of state travel is not allowable by grant program guidelines.

