

Technical Assistance for Accelerating Learning through Out of School Time



The American Rescue Plan provided Texas with a third round of federal stimulus funding for accelerating K-12 public education in the wake of COVID-19 through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). [Texas received \\$12.4 billion in total ESSER III funds](#), containing over \$3 billion that can be spent on learning recovery strategies, including comprehensive afterschool and summer programs.

Creating and expanding high-quality out of school time (OST) programs requires strategic planning, convening key stakeholders, and developing continuous quality improvement systems. OST intermediaries can support local education agencies (LEAs), Education Service Centers (ESCs), and nonprofits as trusted experts and technical assistance (TA) providers in this work.

Who are OST intermediaries?

The Texas Partnership for Out of School Time (TXPOST) is a statewide intermediary whose mission is to convene, educate, and advocate to improve the quality and increase the availability of out of school time opportunities for Texas youth. TXPOST works in partnership with vital local and regional organizations, which invest deeply in their own communities to offer professional development opportunities, engage in system building work, advocate for the OST field, and support local programs.



**\$2.2
billion**

Ninety percent of Texas ESSER III funds were distributed directly to LEAs. LEAs must spend 20% of those funds—over \$2.2 billion total—on learning recovery strategies, which can include afterschool and summer programs.

**\$870
million**

Ten percent of Texas ESSER III funds were distributed to the Texas Education Agency (TEA). TEA must spend 7% of those funds—over \$800 million—on learning recovery strategies and supporting comprehensive afterschool and summer programs. TEA created the Texas COVID Learning Acceleration Supports (TCLAS) grant program with these funds, including the TCLAS Decision 11: High Quality Afterschool grant, which opened to LEAs, ESCs, and nonprofits.

How OST intermediaries can help you

Invest your ESSER III funds, including TCLAS Decision 11 awards, in OST intermediary support to ensure your afterschool and/or summer programs are high quality, accessible, and sustainable.

We can provide technical assistance, such as:

- Facilitating community partnerships between LEAs and community-based organizations to develop and implement OST programs.
- Supporting your organization/partnership or project lead in the development of a program strategic plan, implementation of the plan, and continuous improvement of the plan based on student outcomes.
- Attending TCLAS convenings and trainings to inform strategic guidance and recommendations for grant reporting.
- Facilitating a steering committee for the purposes of strategic planning, continuous quality improvement, and sustainability planning.
- Outreach and communications capacity building for staff and student recruitment and retention to ensure your program:
 - › maintains a staff-to-student ratio of 1:15 or lower; and
 - › recruits and retains students with the highest need.
- Helping connect OST staff with school day staff to communicate about student academic data, plans for future learning, or to participate in joint curriculum-aligned professional learning opportunities.



**boost
network**

Work with us!

TXPOST and regional OST intermediaries have the relationships and expertise to facilitate robust community partnerships, support continuous quality improvement systems, and build program capacity to create and expand high-quality out of school time opportunities across our state. **Email Jenna Courtney, Executive Director of TXPOST, at info@txpost.org to request technical assistance from an OST intermediary to accelerate learning through afterschool and summer programs. We look forward to working with you!**