

# **Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan**

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone
Norton Science & Language Academy	Dr. Fausto Barragan	fbarragan@lcer.org
	Principal	909-386-2300

The following is the local educational agency's (LEA's) plan for providing supplemental instruction and support to students, including those identified as needing academic, social-emotional, and other supports, including the provision of meals and snacks. The plan will explain how the LEA will use the funds it receives through the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant to implement a learning recovery program for at least the students included in one or more of the following groups: low-income students, English learners, foster youth, homeless students, students with disabilities, students at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, disengaged students, and students who are below grade level,

including, but not limited to, those who did not enroll in kindergarten in the 2020–21 school year, credit-deficient students, high school students at risk of not graduating, and other students identified by certificated staff.

For specific requirements please refer to the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan Instructions.

## **Plan Descriptions**

A description of how parents, teachers, and school staff were involved in the development of the plan.

Parents, teachers, and school staff were engaged in the development of this plan through various surveys. We found that school surveys were the most conducive for families during COVID-19 to ensure their safety and the safety of school staff. Surveys that centered around extended learning were sent to families, certificated and classified staff. Questions were asked about whether families and staff would like to see extended learning opportunities such as summer sessions, after-school tutoring, intersessions (during school breaks), field trips, and Saturday school. The majority of responses indicated their top requests were field trips, summer sessions, and after-school tutoring. When asked what areas they'd like these extended learning opportunities to focus on, STEM and fitness were at the top with math, social, and reading activities close behind. Based on this information, two summer sessions will be offered that focus on hands-on, inquiry-based learning in the areas of science, technology, art, engineering, fitness, and math. During the school year, we will use this data to develop an after-school program and offer field trips.

Outside of surveys, families have also participated in the development of the plan through Cafecito, School Board Meetings, and School Site Council. Stakeholders at these meetings review school data and make recommendations. The NSLA staff meets regularly to discuss their needs for in-person, hybrid, and distance learning including technology and PPE ensuring a robust and safe learning experience for all.

From the community, we work closely with Desert Mountain Special Education Local Plan Area (DM SELPA) to review the needs their office is observing in the community and how they can help our school address these needs, providing support for staff and families.

A description of how students will be identified and the needs of students will be assessed.

A variety of assessments will be used to identify the needs of students and determine the types of support necessary to facilitate learning gaps. These include school-wide assessments such as our iReady diagnostic assessments for reading and math, the Smarter Balanced Assessment for ELA, math, and science, and on-site benchmarks in the areas of ELA, SLA, and math. Through our Professional Learning Communities (PLC), we review grade-level data that teachers have collected: student attendance, curriculum-based assessments, observations, and progress monitoring. These data points help to identify students or student groups who need extra support. Grades and transcripts will be closely monitored in high school to ensure students are on track for graduation. Any student needing support will meet with the school's counselor to discuss available help in passing current classes and possible credit recovery programs.

Through our multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) team, we provide a structured framework of student support services. All student supports, including Special Needs, counseling, social-emotional, behavioral, among others, are discussed weekly at the site level. Discussions may involve significant interventions for a segment of the student population or a specific student with the goal of moving these

students into reduced interventions as they progress. Utilizing a tiered system of support, all students' needs are analyzed via assessment results, observational data, teacher referrals, and parent surveys.

A description of how parents and guardians of students will be informed of the opportunities for supplemental instruction and support.

The administration uses multiple formats in both English and Spanish, to keep families informed of opportunities for supplemental instruction and support. While the majority of these formats are internet based, any family who does not have online access to complete surveys or attend virtual meetings will be provided a hard copy of the information.

Formats include:

- Staff and parent surveys using Survey Monkey
- Mail and email letters
- Messenger on Infinite Campus
- Weekly staff meetings on Zoom
- Regular updates posted on social media
- Informal question and answer forums via Facebook Live
- Parent forums which have been held weekly in August and will be held bi-weekly moving forward using GoToWebinar
- LCER Board meetings broadcast on GoToWebinar
- San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools meetings

A description of the LEA's plan to provide supplemental instruction and support.

Field trips were high on the list from both families and staff. The school has not been able to have fundraising events for over a year due to COVID-19, which is where field trip money would stem from. Families would also help supplement field trip costs if the fundraising was not enough to provide the total cost of the trip. With the COVID-19 funds provided through this grant, we are budgeting to offer two field trips for each grade level including our annual 8th grade Science camp and 7th grade Ocean Institute field trip. We are hopeful that field trips will be in-person and run as normal for the 2021-22 school year. In addition to these, we will be providing cultural field trips on Saturdays throughout the year where students can experience different cultures and practice their language skills in neighboring communities. The ELO funds will fully fund field trips giving our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) time to begin rebuilding our future funds and allow our families the relief of not having to find money to supplement field trips.

A summer academy in July of 2021 and another in August of 2021 will provide students with an engaging, in-person learning experience. Certificated teachers will organize and plan inquiry-based activities for students to apply their knowledge to real-world problems including Space Science, team building, STEM, and fitness. These extended learning opportunities will continue into the 2021-22 school year with after-school extended learning that focuses intentionally on the identified needs of students. Students will work on their identified areas of need and will be monitored to ensure they are making growth. NSLA will use its current library as a hub for students before and after school and lunchtime to provide students with a quiet, structured environment to continue their work. A paraprofessional will help monitor the lab and be available to help as needed. Students will be able to access the school's Wi-Fi to access their applications for school work and recharge their devices.

Enrichment courses have been a long-standing offering to our elementary students both during and after school. These courses have been on hold during the pandemic but will be brought back for the 2021-22 school year. We will offer enrichment classes for STEM, PE, Mandarin, and Music for all students in grades K-5. Enrichment courses provide an extension of learning for our students in areas that are sometimes difficult to include in daily instruction. We will have an elective zero period before school offering Mandarin, Spanish, Associated Student Body (ASB), and Computer Science for both middle school and high school.

High school students will have the opportunity to enroll in courses offered by the local community college that meet general education requirements for associate's and bachelor's degrees. These courses will be offered during the school day and taught by the college professor. College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP), allows students to earn college credit concurrently pursuing their college degrees and meeting some A-G requirements. The program also helps the school broaden its current offerings to students outside of its master schedule.

NSLA will continue to provide students with the best STEM opportunities possible. We will continue our one-to-one device program supplying all incoming 3rd graders with a Chromebook so all students in grades 3-9 will have a school-supplied one-to-one device. Students in TK-2 will have a full class set of iPads for use during the school day. NSLA plans to add a Robotics Team and eSports team for high school which will include additional technology.

Teachers will receive professional development throughout the school year to support in-person instruction of the adopted curricula, early literacy, and Love & Logic. New teachers will receive Induction training where they are paired with a teacher coach, working together to provide the best instruction and environment for the students served. There will be an emphasis on the social-emotional health of staff and students through consistent training during the 2021-22 school year. NSLA will work together with the DM SELPA to implement trauma training for students, staff, and families to support strategies that address anxiety and behavior issues with the return to an in-person school environment. Mindfulness training for staff will provide strategies for anxiety and how best to support students. In addition to training, the DM SELPA has developed a new online referral system designed to quickly identify, test, and qualify students for mental health support. The counseling teams will provide group counseling, individual counseling, crisis response support, among other services, to students and staff. The counseling team has established web-based resources on the school's website for anyone to access.

Students need to have all their needs met in order to learn especially their nutritional needs. NSLA will continue to provide breakfast and lunch to all students free of charge throughout the 2021-22 school year.

## **Expenditure Plan**

The following table provides the LEA's expenditure plan for how it will use ELO Grant funds to support the supplemental instruction and support strategies being implemented by the LEA.

Supplemental Instruction and Support Strategies	Planned Expenditures	Actual Expenditures
Extending instructional learning time	363,500	
Accelerating progress to close learning gaps through the implementation, expansion, or enhancement of learning supports	19,800	
Integrated student supports to address other barriers to learning	103,158	
Community learning hubs that provide students with access to technology, high-speed internet, and other academic supports	17,650	
Supports for credit deficient students to complete graduation or grade promotion requirements and to increase or improve students' college eligibility	5,000	
Additional academic services for students	79,000	
Training for school staff on strategies to engage students and families in addressing students' social-emotional health and academic needs	6,000	
Total Funds to implement the Strategies	594,108	

A description of how ELO Grant funds are being coordinated with other federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds received by the LEA.

The ELO Grant funds are being utilized to provide new opportunities for students. These include extended learning opportunities such as a summer academy, after-school learning, and field trips along with training for staff to address learning gaps and social-emotional health for students. Funds will also support students to earn credits towards graduation and provide learning hubs during extended learning times. Once ELO Grant funds are exhausted, ESSER funds will be used to continue supporting these programs for the future.

### **Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan Instructions: Introduction**

The Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan must be completed by school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools, collectively referred to as Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), that receive Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant funds under California *Education Code* (*EC*) Section 43521(b). The plan must be adopted by the local governing board or body of the LEA at a public meeting on or before June 1, 2021, and must be submitted to the county office of education, the California Department of Education, or the chartering authority within five days of adoption, as applicable. The plan must be updated to include the actual expenditures by December 1, 2022.

For technical assistance related to the completion of the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan, please contact <u>ELOGrants@cde.ca.gov.mailto:lcff@cde.ca.gov</u>

### **Instructions: Plan Requirements**

An LEA receiving ELO Grant funds under *EC* Section 43521(b) is required to implement a learning recovery program that, at a minimum, provides supplemental instruction, support for social and emotional well-being, and, to the maximum extent permissible under the guidelines of the United States Department of Agriculture, meals and snacks to, at a minimum, students who are included in one or more of the following groups:

- low-income,
- English learners,
- foster youth,
- homeless students,
- students with disabilities,
- students at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation,
- disengaged students, and
- students who are below grade level, including, but not limited to, those who did not enroll in kindergarten in the 2020–21 school year, creditdeficient students, high school students at risk of not graduating, and other students identified by certificated staff.

For purposes of this requirement

- "Supplemental instruction" means the instructional programs provided in addition to and complementary to the LEAs regular instructional programs, including services provided in accordance with an individualized education program (IEP).
- "Support" means interventions provided as a supplement to those regularly provided by the LEA, including services provided in accordance with an IEP, that are designed to meet students' needs for behavioral, social, emotional, and other integrated student supports, in order to enable students to engage in, and benefit from, the supplemental instruction being provided.
- "Students at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation" means students who are identified as being at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation in a written referral from a legal, medical, or social service agency, or emergency shelter.

*EC* Section 43522(b) identifies the seven supplemental instruction and support strategies listed below as the strategies that may be supported with ELO Grant funds and requires the LEA to use the funding only for any of these purposes. LEAs are not required to implement each supplemental instruction and support strategy; rather LEAs are to work collaboratively with their community partners to identify the

supplemental instruction and support strategies that will be implemented. LEAs are encouraged to engage, plan, and collaborate on program operation with community partners and expanded learning programs, and to leverage existing behavioral health partnerships and Medi-Cal billing options in the design and implementation of the supplemental instruction and support strategies being provided (*EC* Section 43522[h]).

The seven supplemental instruction and support strategies are:

- 1. Extending instructional learning time in addition to what is required for the school year by increasing the number of instructional days or minutes provided during the school year, providing summer school or intersessional instructional programs, or taking any other action that increases the amount of instructional time or services provided to students based on their learning needs.
- 2. Accelerating progress to close learning gaps through the implementation, expansion, or enhancement of learning supports including, but not limited to, any of the following:
  - a. Tutoring or other one-on-one or small group learning supports provided by certificated or classified staff.
  - b. Learning recovery programs and materials designed to accelerate student academic proficiency or English language proficiency, or both.
  - c. Educator training, for both certificated and classified staff, in accelerated learning strategies and effectively addressing learning gaps, including training in facilitating quality and engaging learning opportunities for all students.
- 3. Integrated student supports to address other barriers to learning, such as the provision of health, counseling, or mental health services, access to school meal programs, before and after school programs, or programs to address student trauma and social-emotional learning, or referrals for support for family or student needs.
- 4. Community learning hubs that provide students with access to technology, high-speed internet, and other academic supports.
- 5. Supports for credit deficient students to complete graduation or grade promotion requirements and to increase or improve students' college eligibility.
- 6. Additional academic services for students, such as diagnostic, progress monitoring, and benchmark assessments of student learning.
- 7. Training for school staff on strategies, including trauma-informed practices, to engage students and families in addressing students' socialemotional health needs and academic needs.

As a reminder, *EC* Section 43522(g) requires that all services delivered to students with disabilities be delivered in accordance with an applicable IEP.

#### **Fiscal Requirements**

The following fiscal requirements are requirements of the ELO grant, but they are not addressed in this plan. Adherence to these requirements will be monitored through the annual audit process.

- The LEA must use at least 85 percent (85%) of its apportionment for expenditures related to providing in-person services in any of the seven purposes described above.
- The LEA must use at least 10 percent (10%) of the funding that is received based on LCFF entitlement to hire paraprofessionals to provide supplemental instruction and support through the duration of this program, with a priority for full-time paraprofessionals. The supplemental instruction and support provided by the paraprofessionals must be prioritized for English learners and students with disabilities. Funds expended to hire paraprofessionals count towards the LEAs requirement to spend at least 85% of its apportionment to provide in-person services.

• An LEA may use up to 15 percent (15%) of its apportionment to increase or improve services for students participating in distance learning or to support activities intended to prepare the LEA for in-person instruction, before in-person instructional services are offered.

## **Instructions: Plan Descriptions**

Descriptions provided should include sufficient detail yet be sufficiently succinct to promote a broad understanding among the LEA's local community.

#### A description of how parents, teachers, and school staff were involved in the development of the plan

Describe the process used by the LEA to involve, at a minimum, parents, teachers, and school staff in the development of the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan, including how the LEA and its community identified the seven supplemental instruction and support strategies that will be implemented. LEAs are encouraged to engage with community partners, expanded learning programs, and existing behavioral health partnerships in the design of the plan.

# A description of how parents and guardians of students will be informed of the opportunities for supplemental instruction and support.

Describe the LEA's plan for informing the parents and guardians of students identified as needing supplemental instruction and support of the availability of these opportunities, including an explanation of how the LEA will provide this information in the parents' and guardians' primary languages, as applicable.

#### A description of how students will be identified and the needs of students will be assessed

Describe the LEA's plan for identifying students in need of academic, social-emotional, and other integrated student supports, including the LEA's plan for assessing the needs of those students on a regular basis. The LEA's plan for assessing the academic needs of its students may include the use of diagnostic and formative assessments.

As noted above in the Plan Requirements, "other integrated student supports" are any supports intended to address barriers to learning, such as the provision of health, counseling, or mental health services, access to school meal programs, before and after school programs, or programs to address student trauma and social-emotional learning, or referrals for support for family or student needs.

#### A description of the LEA's plan to provide supplemental instruction and support

Describe the LEA's plan for how it will provide supplemental instruction and support to identified students in the seven strategy areas defined in the Plan Requirements section. As a reminder, the LEA is not required to implement each of the seven strategies; rather the LEA will to work collaboratively with its community to identify the strategies that will be implemented. The plan must include a description of how supplemental instruction and support will be provided in a tiered framework that bases universal, targeted, and intensive supports on students' needs for academic, social-emotional, and other integrated student supports. The plan must also include a description of how the services will be provided through a program of engaging learning experiences in a positive school climate.

As a reminder, *EC* Section 43522(g) requires that all services delivered to students with disabilities be delivered in accordance with an applicable individualized education program. Additionally, LEAs are encouraged to collaborate with community partners and expanded learning programs, and to leverage existing behavioral health partnerships and Medi-Cal billing options in the implementation of, this plan (*EC* Section 43522[h]).

### **Instructions: Expenditure Plan**

The 'Supplemental Instruction and Support Strategies' column of the Expenditure Plan data entry table lists the seven supplemental instruction and support strategies that may be supported with ELO Grant funds.

Complete the Expenditure Plan data entry table as follows:

In the 'Planned Expenditures' column of the data entry table, specify the amount of ELO Grant funds being budgeted to support each supplemental instruction and support strategies being implemented by the LEA and the total of all ELO Grant funds being budgeted.

The plan must be updated to include the actual expenditures by December 1, 2022. In the 'Actual Expenditures' column of the data entry table the LEA will report the amount of ELO Grant funds that the LEA actually expended in support of the strategies that it implemented, as well as the total ELO Grant funds expended.

# A description of how these funds are being coordinated with other federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds received by the LEA

Describe how the LEA is coordinating its ELO Grant funds with funds received from the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund provided through the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (Public Law 116-260), also known as ESSER II, to maximize support for students and staff.

California Department of Education March 2021