



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Reaching for Excellence Grant

Texas Department of State Health Services

School Health Program

Printable handouts are available in the handout section of the
webinar.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Reaching for Excellence Grant

Grant Program Introduction

2022-2023

Mary Cloud, MPH, PMP
Roxanne Alvarado-Torres, DrPH



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Overview

- Background
- Goals
- Description
- Requirements
- Key Dates
- Contact Information





Background

Serving a Purpose

Positive association between healthy eating habits, physical activity, and academic performance:

- Lower absentee rates
- Higher grades
- Better cognitive performance

Historical Projects



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

- Walking/jogging trails
- School gardens
- Bicycle safety programs
- Cooking/Nutrition programs
- Community shared gardens





TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Grant Goals

- To improve health outcomes and academic performance in students.
- To decrease health risk factors of chronic disease among youths; such as obesity, cancer, and diabetes.
- Focus on key components directed by Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant program.

Conducting a Needs Assessments



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Conducting a Needs Assessment to identify a need to improve

- ASCD School Improvement Assessment Tool
- CDC School Health Index Physical Activity Programs and Nutrition Environment and Service modules





Grant Overview

- Reaching for Excellence (RFE) Grant is pilot program led by the Texas DSHS School Health Program.
- Grant will provide up to \$10,000 in seed money per district/campus. Two awards will be granted this cycle.
- Ideal candidates will have demonstrated passion in promoting positive health behaviors.



Grant Applicant Requirements



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

- Project or initiative in planning stage or operating less than one year;
- Strive to improve well-being of students and community;
- Includes one or more of the Title V components;
- Evidence of the SHAC support of the new project or initiative;
- Align with local school district's wellness policy and CDCs Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model components.

Grantee Requirements



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

- Provide DSHS with a designated contact person for the duration of the grant.
- Comply with receipt retention, submission, and reporting requirements.
- Attend monthly meetings with DSHS staff during the duration of the grant.

Grant Requirements:



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Requirements:

- Mid-Year and End of Year reports
- Continuous project evaluation

Focus:

Support the grantees in designing projects or initiatives with schools, implementation, and completion

Evaluation



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Program Evaluation

- The systematic collection of information about the activities, characteristics, and results of a program.
- Determines if the program was implemented as planned and if it achieved its intended outcomes.



Evaluation

How the program will be evaluated

- How will you determine if the program was implemented as planned?
- What are the expected outcomes of the program?
- What type of data will be collected?
- How will data be collected and analyzed?
- How will evaluation findings be used?

Example Evaluation: SHADE Project



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

What are the expected outcomes of the project?

Increased physical activity among students

How will you determine if the project was implemented as planned?

Equipment and landscape design were installed

What type of data will be used?

Quantitative (Numerical)

Example Evaluation: SHADE Project



TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

How will data be collected and analyzed?

Detailed records, sign-in sheets, surveys, and contracts

Descriptive analysis using Microsoft Excel

How will evaluation findings be used?

Reports to administrators, staff, and DSHS

Fact sheets to parents

Evaluation



TEXAS
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Deliverables

- Mid-Year Report
 - March 2023
- End-of-Year Report
 - September 2023

Technical Assistance and Support

DSHS CDE Program Evaluator will provide monthly technical assistance to grantees.

Contract Management Services



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

- DSHS will select 2 applicants to receive funding
- Awards will be up to \$10,000 for each grant recipient
- Funds will be awarded in the form of reimbursements to the schools/districts
- Retain receipts/submit receipts



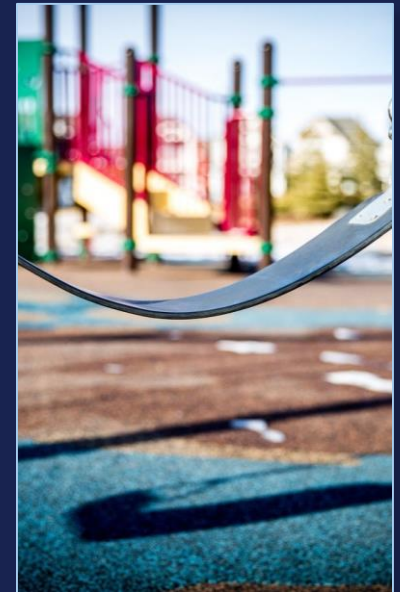
Contract Management Services



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

- Reimbursements may not be used for promotional item purchases
- Reimbursements will be distributed as part of a purchase order (PO)
- Planning for purchases and cost estimates is a requirement of the grant application





Key Dates

Applications

- Open: 09/01/2021
- Close: 11/12/2021

Project Timeframe

September 1, 2022- August 31, 2023

Reporting/Monthly Meetings

- Mid-Year Report- March 10, 2023
- End of Year Report- Sept 15, 2023
- Monthly Meeting with DSHS staff



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Thank you!

Questions?

[Texas School Health Program](#)
Department of State Health Services
schoolhealthwards@dshs.texas.gov
(512) 776-7279