



TEXAS SCHOOL READY™

part of



CHILDREN'S
LEARNING
INSTITUTE™

2023-25 Request for Applications

Pre-Application Webinar
April 19, 2023

Agenda

- Welcome!
- TSR Comprehensive Overview
- Lead Agent Eligibility, Roles, and Responsibilities
- Partner Program and Provider Eligibility and Responsibilities
- Request for Applications 2023-25
 - Application information
- Dates and Deadlines

Housekeeping

- Visit the RFA webpage for more information:
<https://texasschoolready.org/rfa>
- Please type questions in the chat box to be added to the FAQ
- After the webinar, send all questions to
tsr.rfa@uth.tmc.edu
 - Question deadline: Friday, April 28, 2023
- All questions and answers will be posted in the FAQ:
<https://texasschoolready.org/rfa>

TSR Comprehensive Waiting List

- Interested in participation in TSR Comprehensive?
 - Complete the application at <https://texasschoolready.org/apply>

Purpose

Today's webinar is for:

- Prospective lead agents (new)
- Prospective lead agents (returning/current)

Benefits

- TSR Comprehensive supports early education quality for birth to 5
- TSR Comprehensive is proven to increase program quality and improve child outcomes
- TSR Comprehensive complements other quality improvement initiatives in local communities, especially as a high-intensity component for the most at-risk
- Lead agents select communities to serve, and can use the program to positively impact early education quality within school feeder patterns

TSR Comprehensive Overview

**Texas School Ready
Comprehensive**
2021-2022 Lead Agency Map By Region



Mission

The purpose of the Texas School Ready (TSR) Project is to provide an effective, research supported, early childhood classroom model that prepares at-risk children to enter kindergarten at or above grade level.



TSR Funding

- Provided by the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Workforce Commission
- Number of Lead Agents is not pre-determined
- Contingent on final funding authorization from the 88th Texas Legislature

TSR Programs

Stakeholder Contact

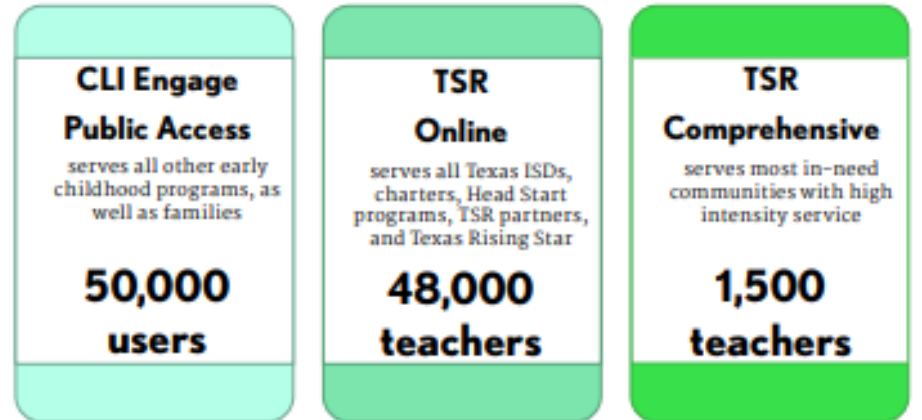
TSR Comprehensive

TSR Online

CLI Engage Public Access

cli.engage

Service intensity increases as stakeholder contact becomes more focused.



TSR's Approach



- Facilitated teacher **professional development**
- Technology-driven child **progress monitoring**
- Ongoing teacher **coaching**
- Research-based **curriculum and materials**
- Lifting quality **across settings**

Child Outcomes Summary

Vocabulary

Children demonstrate larger vocabularies at post test, especially younger children and English language learners

Complex Language

English language learners, younger children who scored higher on the pretest, and older children who scored lower on the pretest especially benefit.

Letter & Print Knowledge

Significant gains result for children with lower skill levels at the beginning of the year.

Phonological Awareness

Older children tested in Spanish, as well as younger children tested in English, show significant improvement.

Teacher Outcomes Summary

- TSR has a **high fidelity of program implementation** among teachers.
- Teachers show **increases in their use of language-building strategies** and emergent literacy instructional practices.
- Effectiveness of TSR was found to be comparable for teachers **despite notable differences in their education levels** and resources.
- TSR teachers are **far more likely than their peers to engage in high quality practices** such as responsive interaction and small-group instruction.

TSR Comprehensive Delivery Model: Birth to 5

Three years of support for early childhood educators:

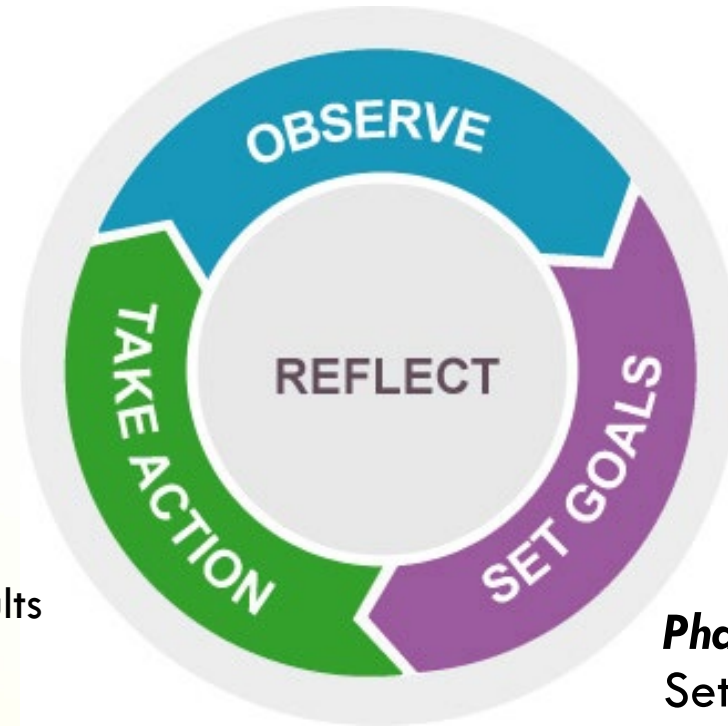
- Professional development
- Coaching
 - Face-to-face
 - Remote
- Child progress monitoring
- Classroom curriculum and materials

- ✓ Infant teachers
- ✓ Toddler teachers
- ✓ Pre-k teachers
- ✓ Home-based providers

TSR Comprehensive

- Coaching
 - Remote coaching
 - Face-to-face coaching
 - TSR coaching tools and resources
- Delivery through individualized sessions

Phase 1
Observe to identify needs



Phase 3
Take action and reflect on the results

Phase 2
Set goals to improve instruction

TSR Coaching Model

- Individualized, data-driven coaching
- Tightly aligned to professional development content
- Help teachers improve their practice using targeted tools and methods to meet specific needs
- Visit <https://texaschoolready.org/rfa> to download more information

TSR Coaching Tools

- TSR Comprehensive ongoing coaching training
 - Peer learning and video demonstration leading towards certification
- Ongoing PLCs
- Available on CLI Engage:
 - CIRCLE Classroom Observation Tool (COT)
 - COT Reports and Short-Term Goal Reports
 - CIRCLE Classroom Environment Checklist (CEC)

Lead Agent Roles, Responsibilities, and Eligibility

TSR Comprehensive Lead Agents

- CLI partners with “Lead Agents” to deliver TSR services
- Lead Agents serve as the hub for TSR service delivery within a community
- Lead Agents partner with early childhood programs to deliver TSR to participating teachers and home-based providers
- Lead Agents must be state, regional, or local organizations and/or have 501 (c)3 status

Lead Agent Eligibility

Eligible Lead Agent applicants include:

- Public school districts
- Open-enrollment charter schools
- Head Start programs
- Local government
- Community-based organizations (CBO)
- Colleges/universities
- Education Service Centers (ESC)
- Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDB)

Application Requirements

Prospective Lead Agents will:

- Complete all required sections of the application
- Collect at least 20 letters of intent from potential partners
- Collect at least 2 letters of intent from potential home-based providers
- Submit information by **May 12, 2023** at **5:00 PM CDT**

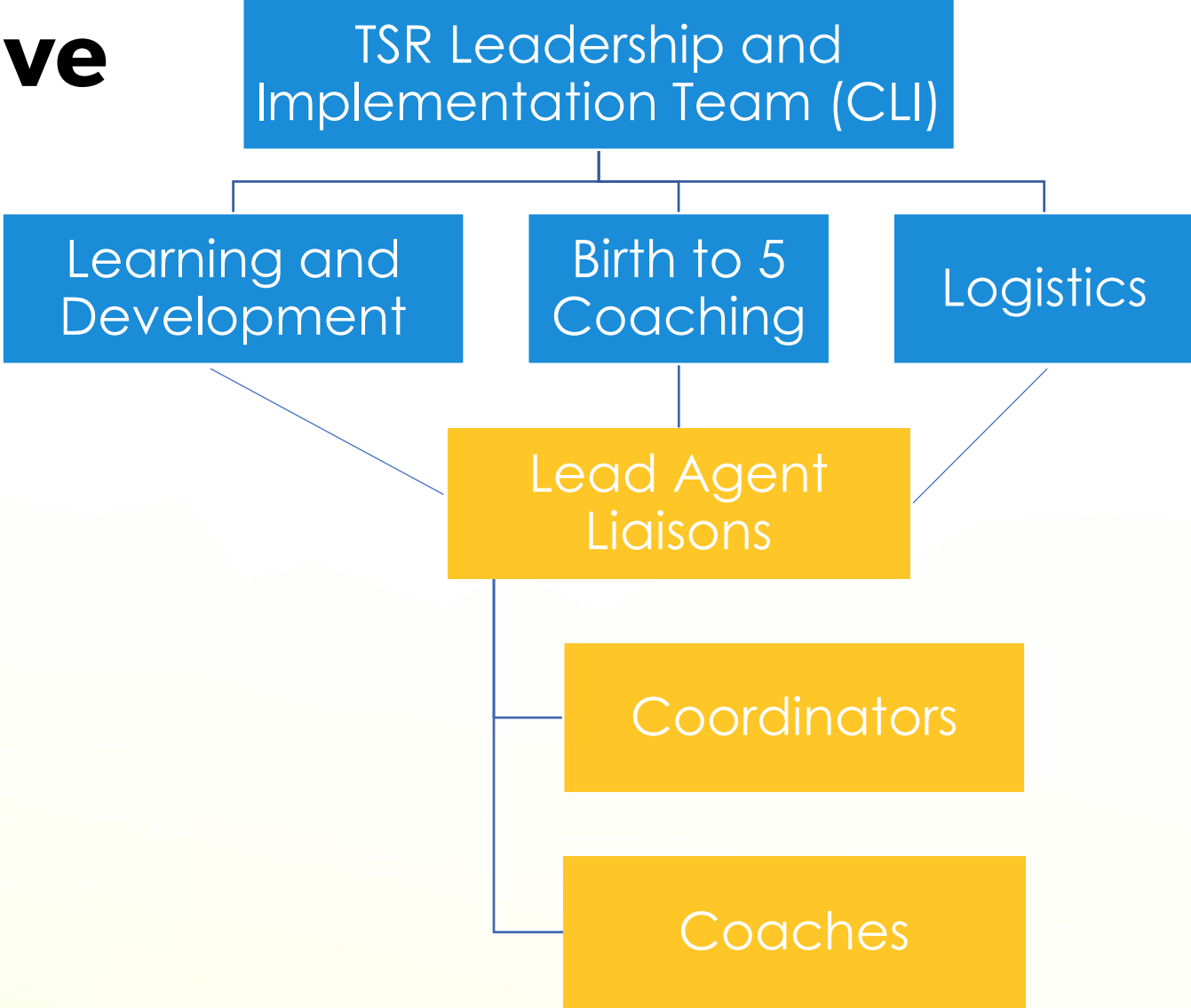
Lead Agent Roles & Responsibilities

- Ensure implementation of TSR Comprehensive model
- Recruit early childhood partners serving at-risk children
 - Center-based and home-based
- Ensure community targets are maintained throughout the year
- Support partner administrators in schoolwide improvement*
- Host meetings and trainings with early childhood partners
- Ensure staff at partner programs use CLI Engage and Texas Workforce Registry accounts
- Recruit and hire qualified personnel
- Ensure staff complete required, ongoing professional learning

Lead Agent Roles & Responsibilities

- Provide office space and project-related amenities
- Designate an organizational liaison
- Participate in statewide TSR Comprehensive waiting list
- Monitor Child Care Regulation status for child care participants
- Participate in potential implementation demonstration projects
- Develop a sustainability plan
- Adhere to financial rules and procedures
- Complete periodic reports

TSR Comprehensive Leadership Structure



Partner Program and Provider Eligibility and Responsibilities

Center-Based Partner Program Eligibility

- **Lead Agents must recruit at least 20 classrooms from:**
 - Child Care Programs (required)
 - Head Start and Early Head Start Programs
 - Charter or Independent School Districts (ISD) Programs
 - Must have integrated partnership with child care or Head Start
- **Lead Agents are responsible for confirming program eligibility**
- Lead Agents are required to recruit and maintain early childhood partners that serve at least 75% low-income children, collectively

Recruitment Considerations

- Partners in high-need communities
 - Multiple communities in a city, region, or county
- Partners and/or communities that have never been served
- Opportunities to build capacity within partner programs
- Coordinated service delivery for infant, toddler, and preschool classrooms to reinforce high quality caregiving

Child Eligibility: State-Funded Pre-K (TEA)

- Be unable to speak and comprehend the English language
- Be educationally disadvantaged (i.e., eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program or Head Start)
- Be homeless
- Be the child of an active-duty member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserved component of the armed forces, who is ordered to active duty by proper authority
- Be the child of a member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserved component of the armed forces, who was injured or killed while serving on active duty
- Have ever been in the conservatorship (foster care) of the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) following an adversary hearing
- Child of a person eligible for the Star of Texas Award as: a peace officer under Texas Government Code §3106.002, a firefighter under Texas Government Code §3106.003, an emergency medical first responder under Texas Government Code §3106.004

Center-Based Child Care Program Eligibility

- For profit, nonprofit, faith-based, community-based
- Serve at least 50% low-income children
- Maintain minimum enrollment in participating classrooms
 - Infant classrooms: 4 infants
 - Toddler classrooms: 6 toddlers
 - Preschool classrooms: 6 children (10 preferred)
- Be in good standing with Child Care Regulation
- Have at least 12 months of licensing history
- *Increased CCS reimbursement rates for infant, toddler, and preschool children*

Partner Program Eligibility

- Head Start and Early Head Start Programs
- Charter or Independent School Districts (ISD) Programs
 - Must have integrated partnership with child care or Head Start

Home-Based Provider Eligibility

- Must be licensed or registered with Child Care Regulation
- Be in good standing with Child Care Regulation
- Have 12 months of licensing history

Partner Program Responsibilities

- Identify eligible classrooms and teachers to participate
- Provide three hours of intentional daily cognitive instruction based on the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines for all enrolled preschool children
- Maintain consistency in staffing for participating classrooms
- Provide access to high speed internet
- Release teachers without penalty for participation in scheduled professional development sessions
- Attend TSR meetings and trainings
- Participate in administrator quality improvement support
- Participate in innovation projects (as identified by CLI)
- Work collaboratively with the Lead Agent and CLI to ensure implementation of the TSR Comprehensive program

Application Information

Application Information

Applications must include:

- Completed application questions
 - New applicants
 - Returning/current applicants
- Letters of intent from all partner programs:
 - Center-/school-based programs
 - Home-based child care providers

Survey Confirmations

- Application surveys
 - Confirmation will be sent to identified email address with a copy of all responses
- LOI survey
 - Confirmation with requested participation will be sent to:
 - Director/provider submitting the LOI
 - Lead Agent contact (provided in the survey)
 - Be sure potential partners have the correct email address, so you receive the confirmation

Application Questions: New Applicants

- Refer to RFA for specific questions and response limits
- Organization information
 - Designated contacts
 - Alignment with your mission and TSR's goals
- TSR Comprehensive delivery/implementation plan
 - Community/population to be served
 - Coaching delivery
 - Service delivery
 - Sustainability plan
 - Ongoing coaching requirements completion
 - Equipment

Application Questions: Returning Applicants

- Refer to RFA for specific questions and response limits
- Organization information
 - Designated contacts
 - Alignment with your mission and TSR's goals
- TSR Comprehensive delivery/implementation plan, including:
 - Community/population
 - Coaching delivery
 - Service delivery and management plan
 - Evaluation of implementation
 - Ongoing coaching requirements completion
 - Sustainability plan

Letter of Intent: Partners

- Prospective Lead Agent
 - Email confirmations to program and Lead Agent
- Program information and eligibility
 - Distance from the prospective Lead Agent (miles)
 - Type of program
 - Director/administrator/provider's contact information
 - Is your program a Texas Rising Star Certified Provider?
 - Does your program have high-speed internet access?
 - Does your program accept CCS (child care subsidies)?
- Number of classrooms to participate in TSR Comprehensive
- Any prior TSR Comprehensive participation
- Director/provider attestations

Application Scoring Criteria

Returning Applicant Scoring Criteria Points

Community need and project fit	10
Proposed implementation plan, including coaching delivery	35
Demonstration of ability to implement based on previous performance	20
Project staff participation in ongoing learning and development	5
Quality of the TSR sustainability plan	5
Adherence to recruitment guidelines	20
Extent to which the application is written in a clear, well-communicated manner, and according to instructions	5
Total points	100

New Applicant Scoring Criteria Points

Community need and project fit	20
Commitment to project staff participation in ongoing learning and development	5
Proposed implementation plan, including coaching delivery	45
Quality of the TSR sustainability plan	5
Adherence to recruitment guidelines	20
Extent to which the application is written in a clear, well-communicated manner, and according to instructions	5
Total points	100

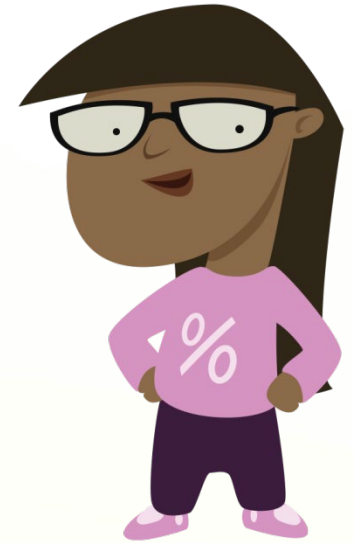
RFA Appendices

- Appendix I: Example Job Descriptions
 - Coordinator
 - Coach
- Appendix II: Draft 2023-25 TSR Project Management Support and Reimbursement to Lead Agents
 - Professional service agreement (PSA)
 - Effective date 8/1/2023 through 7/31/2025
- Appendix III: Letter of Intent Questions

Application Resources

www.texaschoolready.org/RFA:

- TSR coaching paper
- Coaching load calculator
- Recruitment flyers
 - TSR Comprehensive components and eligibility
- Sample letters of commitment
 - Administrator
 - Teacher



Coaching Load Calculator

- Available on the RFA website to download
- Estimate coaching support to request in your application
 - Expected coaching loads

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	TSR Comprehensive Coaching Load Calculator							
2								
3	Name of the Community:							
4								
5								
6	Coodinator FTE		1					
7	Coaches FTE		1					
8	Total FTE		2					
9	Total Coaching Load		129					
10								
11								
12	Teacher Recruitment							
13	Teacher Type	Expected Recruitment	Expected Hours					
14	Year 1 Teacher	5	20					
15	Year 2 Teacher	30	60					
16	Year 3 Teacher	34	51					
17	Total	69	131					
18								

RFA Dates and Deadlines

- Question deadline: Friday, April 28
 - Questions will be posted on the webpage
 - tsr.rfa@uth.tmc.edu
- **Application deadline: Friday, May 12, 2023 at 5:00 PM CDT**
- **Awards announced: Friday, June 2, 2023**



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Questions?

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