

Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone
River Charter Schools Lighthouse Charter (LCS)	Matt Taylor, Superintendent	mtaylor@rivercharterschools.org 916-744-1212

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.

Pending responses to surveys of parents and staff regarding the plan.

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

Students will be identified in a variety of ways, including:

- a) Classroom teachers will recommend students for intervention based upon their need for academic support or enrichment based on class work or assessment data
- b) Student Support Teams will review student progress and make recommendations for additional academic support
- c) Classroom Teachers and Site Administrators will make referrals for mental health support and provide access to counseling or other mental health services

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

Communication with families has been quite extensive during the pandemic and we expect to continue providing high quality communication with our families for the 21-22 school year. Staff and administration will continue to use ParentSquare as our primary tool to provide text or email communication with families. For those families that we are unable to reach using ParentSquare, office staff will follow up with phone calls to ensure parents and guardians are communicated around all opportunities for supplemental instruction and support.

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

LCS has significant plans to provide supplemental instruction and support beginning with immediate interventions this summer as well as program changes into the next school year.

For starters, LCS has been committed to providing high quality, in-person instruction for students who wanted to return since February 2021. This has allowed our students to get back into the classroom as soon as was safely possible, which provided them with the opportunity to learn in person.

For summer, teachers have invited those students to participate in a summer school program that will take place in June of 2021. The students that were invited were those who need the most support in their learning to be prepared for the 21-22 school year. This program will focus on addressing the core standards that the students were unable to master during distance learning and prepare the students for next year.

In Fall 21-22, the Leadership team is preparing for some changes in the school day that will provide exceptional learning opportunities for the students

a) LCS leadership anticipates that all students that feel comfortable will return to school 5 days per week for in-person instruction. LCS Leadership feel that putting our students in front of our exceptional staff will provide them with high quality learning opportunities. All other interventions hinge off of the work of our teachers and para-educators

b) LCS Leadership believe that self-reflection and continuous improvement are important approaches to closing learning gaps. To that end, LCS will be hiring a Master Teacher that will be a coach for our teachers, observing them in their classrooms, providing feedback and suggestions and being a thought partner towards improving teacher practice.

c) LCS will be staffing a full time educational psychologist who will continue to service the mental health needs of the students.

d) LCS found great success in the 20-21 school year with para-educators providing support to students in the classroom. For the 21-22 school year, LCS will be hiring numerous para-educators that will support the teaching and learning during WINN (What I NEED NOW) Time. The WINN groups will allow teachers and numerous para-educators to work side by side each day to address specific learning needs of each student. The students will be broken up into small groups for a set number of minutes each day where the teachers and

para-educators can work with very small groups of students. These groups will be flexible to allow students who are struggling to work on mastering earlier standards, while the students that have already mastered standards can continue to accelerate their learning.

e) LCS will be hiring an additional education specialist to be able to serve the needs of our special education students more effectively.

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	[\$ 0.00]	[Actual expenditures will be provided when available]
Accelerating progress to close learning gaps through the implementation, expansion, or enhancement of learning supports	\$210,808	[Actual expenditures will be provided when available]
Integrated student supports to address other barriers to learning	\$19,151	[Actual expenditures will be provided when available]
Community learning hubs that provide students with access to technology, high-speed internet, and other academic supports	[\$ 0.00]	[Actual expenditures will be provided when available]
Supports for credit deficient students to complete graduation or grade promotion requirements and to increase or improve students' college eligibility	[\$ 0.00]	[Actual expenditures will be provided when available]
Additional academic services for students	\$52,816	[Actual expenditures will be provided when available]
Training for school staff on strategies to engage students and families in addressing students' social-emotional health and academic needs	\$19,151	[Actual expenditures will be provided when available]
Total Funds to implement the Strategies	\$301,926	[Actual expenditures will be provided when available]

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

This comprehensive approach to planning for this grant has taken into account the multiple one-time grant funding sources that will be available over the next three years. The funding for these actions along with many others to support student learning through the In-Person-Instruction and Expanded Learning Opportunity (ELO) grants. There are also significant investments in student learning through ESSER II and ESSER III funding in the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years.

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 ELOGrants@cde.ca.gov.

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, credit-deficient 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’ social-emotional 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