

INVESTMENT DOCUMENT - GRANT

We appreciate your interest in submitting a proposal to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and we thank you for working with us throughout the proposal process. Your designated foundation contact will continue to work collaboratively with you as you prepare your proposal to help you understand the connection between the foundation's relevant program strategy and the proposed project, as well as to respond to any questions you might have over the course of this process. You are encouraged to communicate with your Investment Owner to make sure that your efforts are aligned with the proposal requirements and that you are not expending unnecessary time or energy in this process. Please note our standard [grant terms and conditions](#). As used herein "You" or "Your" refers to the organization listed in Section A below.

Investment Owners and grantees will complete this document together over time as they make and manage their investments. This is a proposal shaping document and not a commitment by the foundation to fund the work. **Following execution of a grant agreement, however, the final Proposal Narrative and Budget and will become incorporated into that grant agreement by reference.** Due to tax, legal, and reporting requirements, all proposals must be submitted in English. The proposal must be submitted in Word, as PDFs will not be accepted.

SECTION A – INVESTMENT DETAILS

General Information - Gates Foundation Staff to Complete

Investment Name	Texas Education Agency Data System Upgrade		
Grantee	Texas Education Agency	Investment Owner	Michelle Rojas
Investment Record ID	INV_003697	Investment Owner Title	Senior Program Officer, US Program
Investment Coordinator	Ana Lester		

General Information - Grantee to Complete

Investment Duration (months)	24		
Requested Amount (U.S.\$)	1,250,000.00	Total Project Cost (U.S. \$)	5,082,950.00
Organization Legal Name¹	Texas Education Agency		
Organization Doing Business As/Trade Name²	Texas Education Agency		
Mailing Address		Primary Contact Name	Melody Keith
Street Address 1	1701 N. Congress Ave.	Primary Contact Title	Assistant Director, IT PMO
Street Address 2		Primary Contact Email	melody.keith@tea.texas.gov
Street Address 3		Primary Contact Phone	512-463-9563

City	Austin	Additional Contact	
State / Province	Texas	Additional Contact Email	
Zip / Postal Code	78701	Authorized Signer Name	Megan Aghazadian
Country	USA	Authorized Signer Title	Deputy Commissioner of Operations
Website (if applicable)	http://www.tea.texas.gov	Authorized Signer Email	megan.aghazadian@tea.texas.gov

¹Legal Name will be used in the agreement and should match the name on the bank account that receives the grant funds (assuming fully executed agreement).

²Trade Name or d/b/a ("doing business as") only required if different from Legal Name

Tax Status (if known and applicable) Refer to Tax Status Definitions	US Governmental Unit	Organization's Total Revenue for Most Recent Audited Financial Year (U.S.\$)	\$
U.S. Employer Identification Number (EIN) (if applicable)		Proposal Completed/ Date Submitted	9/1/2019

Strategic Fit - Gates Foundation Staff to Complete

The following includes the foundation's 3-5-year strategic goal(s) towards which the investment contributes most directly. Also addressed here:

- How this investment contributes to the strategic goals that are listed.
- How this investment relates to others (current or future) in the Portfolio.

This investment contributes to our goal of school systems in Texas that serve high concentrations of Black, Latino and low-income students hire new teachers from sustainable, scalable, quality programs.

This investment relates to the investment to support Texas Education Agency to upgrade the Texas Student Data System, as well as a grant to Michael & Susan Dell Foundation to coordinate data projects in Texas and California.

Project Overview - Gates Foundation Staff and Grantee to Collaborate

Please provide or expand upon the information provided in the narrative space below:

- What is the primary outcome(s) or result(s) this investment will achieve or significantly contribute to? How will You know when that result(s) has been achieved (how will the result be measured)? If sustainability is a component of proposed outcomes, please describe the vision of long-term sustainability of this Project. Consider the economic/financial, organizational, or behavioral factors to sustain outcomes beyond this project's time frame and funding.
- Describe the approach You will take to achieve the intended results of this Project: a) Overall Scope of Work b) Timing and/or phases, and c) Narrative of resource needs to support the budget (ex: people, capabilities, technical expertise, experience, specific assets, including any external collaborators/contributors to the Project).

- Describe potential risks/challenges to the success of this Project and how You plan to address them. Include any external factors or critical relationships with other partners/projects that may influence the success of this project (including any anticipated agreements to be entered into for purposes of the Project).
- Describe any changes or improvements You plan to make to Your organization's capacity to undertake or achieve the outcomes of the proposed investment.

The foundation requires that funded projects are conducted and managed in a manner that will ensure a positive, sustainable impact on the foundation's intended beneficiaries. Please provide a response to each question in the bullets below, highlighting how Your management of the project described in this Investment Document (the "Project") and the intended outcomes align with the Strategic Fit, Charitable Purpose, and the foundation's Global Access requirements.

Primary Outcome:

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has selected a vendor, Instructure, Inc., to provide a software as a service (SaaS) solution for the Texas Student Data System (TSDS) Operational Data Store (ODS) that will keep pace with the Ed-Fi upgrades and utilizes the Ed-Fi ODS/APIs as the primary data collection mechanism for TSDS. The SaaS solution must create a sustainable way to manage data standard changes, extensions that emerge from legislative mandates and agency policy, and Ed-Fi version releases. The SaaS solution will serve as the primary collection mechanism for accountability data from K-12 local education agencies and Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs). In addition, the SaaS solution must include data validation capability that includes the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) validations and easily accommodate new business rules for TEA required data collections.

Approach:

Scope of Work

- Ed-Fi 3.x ODS
- TEA Administrator User Interface
- External User Interface
- Data Validation
- Conformance to Technical Specifications
- Conformance to Security Requirements
- Conformance to Accessibility Requirements
- Implementation and Support Services (including pilot support)
- Project Management
- Training
- Ongoing Maintenance and Support
- Cybersecurity Training

Phased Timing:

Delivery Timeline

- The Vendor, Instructure, will be completing the development of the ODS in multiple phases, referenced as pilots. The pilots will allow Instructure and TEA to work together to refine the application requirements and confirm needs as we move through the development life cycle. Once the development and testing for the pilot is completed by Instructure, TEA will verify the functionality based on a set of agreed upon acceptance criteria. In addition to TEA verifying the deliverables, Instructure and TEA will be working with SIS & BIS vendors to confirm the functionality of each pilot is functioning. Each of the pilots will build upon each other to complete the final application. Once the application is developed, TEA will deploy the new ODS and run a side-by-side comparison for the following school year. This will allow Instructure, TEA, SIS & BIS vendors, and the LEAs to confirm all critical issues are addressed prior to transitioning fully to the new ODS. The first pilot is expected to begin 07/01/2021. The full solution is expected to be in production by August 2023.

Required Resources:

Vendor Responsibilities

Instructure, Inc. will take primary responsibility for the following activities throughout the duration of the project:

- Conduct feature review with TEA to solidify details of feature enhancements that will be required to meet TEA's needs
- Design and implement feature enhancements to meet agreed upon requirements
- Utilize internal development management software to keep track of feature requirements and progress toward completion
- Develop and agree upon feature release schedule
- Develop and implement test approach for unit, functional, integration and performance testing to be conducted as part of feature releases
- Provide development and test environment where TEA can conduct user acceptance testing for each release
- Conduct feature demos regularly to show progress
- Provide the TEA Technical Directors and Project Manager with a weekly status report.
- Attend weekly status meetings with the TEA project team held in person or over the phone at the discretion of TEA

Agency Staff Responsibilities

Agency staff will take primary responsibility for the following activities throughout the duration of the project:

- Conduct project kickoff meeting held at a location and time selected by the agency where the selected Vendor and its assigned staff will be introduced to the TEA team.
- Update the Texas Education Data Standards (TEDS) to reflect Ed-Fi data standard version 3.x and complete the following related tasks:
 - Work through the TEA governance process to approve the updated TEDS specifications
 - Publish the specification for source system vendors and provide overview training to vendors, as needed
 - Work with the TSDS ODS Vendor to design and implement any data standard extensions required to fulfill TEA data collections
- Integrate TSDS ODS with downstream applications
 - Bring up parallel environment to develop and test integration of existing downstream applications and data marts with new SaaS ODS
 - Execute performance and user acceptance testing of downstream applications
 - Develop and execute user acceptance testing for the SaaS ODS and data validation engine including the core product functionality and Texas specific requirements
- Conduct pilot implementation and parallel testing for TSDS collections, including:
 - Develop pilot timeline and scope
 - Select LEAs to participate in pilot
 - Train and certify ESC champions and pilot LEA data stewards
 - Run data collections in both environments and compare results
- Conduct pilot implementation for Educator Preparation Program dashboards
 - Develop pilot timeline and scope
 - Select EPPs to participate in pilot
 - Work with external contractor to load data for pilot sites and verify accuracy of dashboards
- Statewide rollout, including:
 - Develop and communicate onboarding plan to all LEAs and EPPs

- o Refine training based on pilot
- o Conduct LEA rollout
- Sunset existing eScholar ODS
- Execute license agreement for ongoing maintenance and support after the initial project is complete

Risks/Challenges:

- **Technology Dependencies** – ODS 3.x Technical infrastructure to support the TPDM dashboards will not be available in time for development of the dashboards.
- **Ed-Fi Model Changes** – The finalized Ed-Fi model needed for ODS 3.x and TPDM will not be available for the selected vendors to use for development and maintaining the original project schedule.
- **EPP/SIS/BIS Vendor Submissions** – Not all vendors are familiar with the Ed-Fi model and may struggle to modify systems before the start of the parallel year.
- **COVID-19/Legislative Impacts** – TPDM and ODS 3.x were both stalled for an extended period due to the Agency’s need to prioritize COVID-19 related contracts and development work ahead of other strategic priorities.
- **TSDS scope** – FTE resources may be required to support new data elements and new data collections over the ODS 3.x project based on legislative mandates.

Public Description - Gates Foundation Staff to Complete

The following describes the charitable purpose of this work. It is written in a standard format so that it can be included on tax forms and published to the foundation’s public website.

Investment Results - Gates Foundation Staff and Grantee to Collaborate

Provide specific details on the outcomes this investment will achieve (including those that define what success is for the investment), and the key outputs that signal whether the investment is on track. Add more rows, as needed.

“Outcome” is the ultimate or overall change(s) in-systems, populations, or behaviors the investment seeks to achieve within the context of the investment timeframe; tells us what success looks like for the investment.

Outcome Number	Outcome Description	Target Completion Date	Actual Completion Date	Payment Contingency
1	TSDS ODS 3.x SaaS vendor selected	01/29/2021	07/06/2020 vendor notified 01/27/2021 contract executed	x
2	Pilot 1 SIS & BIS vendors selected	06/01/2021	07/01/2021	
3	Finalize mapping documents	06/15/2021	06/04/2021	
4	Start remediation of TSDS data marts	06/30/2021	06/08/2021	

5	Pilot 1 Start	07/01/2021	07/27/2021	x
6	Pilot 2 Start	11/01/2021		
7	Pilot 3 Start	02/28/2022		
8	Complete Pilots	08/31/2022		
9	Parallel Year Start	09/01/2022		
10	Production Rollout	08/31/2023		

“Output” or “Funded Development” means the products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data, other innovations, and intellectual property resulting from the Project (including modifications, improvements, and further developments to Background Technology). Note: You will be required to disclose and update Intellectual Property (IP) and include any links to applications, filings, or registrations, as applicable, in future progress report(s).

Output/Funded Development Number	Output/Funded Development Description	Target Completion Date	Actual Completion Date	Payment Contingency	Third-Party agreement required? If yes, by when?	Will any IP rights be filed/generated?
	Development & Test Environments - Multiple environments are used for validation, including development, QA and staging environments. The Project Manager, with the help of the Product Managers, will also coordinate and partner with TEA on final acceptance testing of each release (within the QA or staging environment).	07/01/2021	DEV Parallel Environment Setup Complete 08/20/2021 TEST Parallel Environment Setup Complete 10/29/2021			
	Ed-Fi 3.x ODS – a) Supports Ed-Fi Technical Suite 3 b) Offered as software as a service inclusive of hosting and basic maintenance c) Allows each LEA to submit transactional data via Ed-Fi APIs d) Supports multi-year submissions e) Provides performant data loading options for beginning of year and large batch updates f) Maintains historical data in the Ed-Fi ODS or related structures for current year and four prior years with the ability to archive after four years; g) Segregates most data by LEA with the ability for all LEAs to access common data, including state descriptors h) Provides TEA technology staff direct access (i.e. not through Ed-Fi APIs) to extract data for downstream reporting marts and application. Prefer for TEA staff to access a consolidated view of data across districts and not have to interact with individual district ODS schema. i) Allows for queries to obtain data according to an as-of-date. As-of-date query/access is (a) for downstream workloads and not expected to be addressed by source systems (SIS) and (b) is not expected to be accessible via API.	08/31/2023				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> j) Allows the ability for TEA staff to design and implement TEA extensions in the Ed-Fi ODS k) Supports integration of Ed-Fi version updates, as available l) Incorporates a strategy for maintaining TEA-specific enhancements m) Provides data validation capabilities 					
	<p>TEA Administrator User Interface - provide a user interface (UI) which allows TEA staff to manage and monitor the ODS, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Loading centralized data (e.g., education organization information) b) Managing global descriptors c) Viewing connection status by LEA for each LEA vendor (i.e., which vendors have access for a given district and what is the status of their connection) d) Viewing system level errors and data validation counts by organization e) Updating and adding business rules f) Deleting full data set by LEA/school year 	08/31/2023				
	<p>LEA and ESC User Interface - provide a UI which allows LEAs and Education Service Centers (ESC) to manage Ed-Fi ODS/APIs and ODS data. While in many cases, LEAs will directly manage their vendor-to-API connections and be responsible for data management and reporting, there are some cases the LEA delegates some or all this responsibility to their ESC. The User Interface should allow LEAs or ESCs on behalf of an LEA to complete the tasks outlined below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provision key and secret for vendors b) Manage vendor CRUD permissions c) View connection status by vendor d) Manage local descriptors (both state and local descriptors will be utilized by LEAs) e) View and search record content and last update dates f) View, search, and export API and data validation errors (distinguish between business validation errors and API errors) 	08/31/2023				
	<p>Data Validation - As districts move from bulk/collection-based data reporting to transactional reporting, they will require more robust data validation services than currently provided in TSDS. The proposed solution must include a SaaS hosted data validation tool that can provide actionable feedback to the LEAs about their data quality to determine if the data provided from LEAs meets TEA's collection requirements. The data validation product must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Contain a base set of TSDS business rules b) Contain a base set of 'data sanity' rules that detect major failures of LEA systems (e.g., over half of the records in a domain were deleted) c) Allow TEA to define and add new collection specific data validation rules d) Provide LEA ability to execute validations on-demand 	08/31/2023				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) Provide the LEA the ability to schedule the execution of validations f) Surface data validations errors in an intuitive user interface g) Allow LEA to share data validation error reports within their organization 					
	<p>Technical Specifications - The proposed ODS solution must conform to the following technical specifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Scalable as the data load and querying volume increases b) Provide a service level agreement (SLA) of 99%+ availability c) User interfaces must conform to the following technical specifications: d) Include domain and secure socket layer (SSL) certificate; e) Operable on standard internet browsers (Chrome, Safari, Firefox, Edge), including current and one prior version (within the last two years). f) Able to provide content and web page loading times in one second or less, per TEA standards g) Third-party written verification that the website conforms to the WCAG 2.0 level II accessibility standards h) standards i) Built with a responsive design that can be used with mobile devices (desired) 	08/31/2023				
	<p>Security and Data Privacy - Appropriate levels of security shall be implemented to meet federal, state, and local regulations, particularly the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The Texas Education Agency Log-In (TEAL) will be the source of user roles information. The Vendor will collaborate with TEA to define the appropriate user roles and corresponding data and feature access for SaaS ODS and data validation rules engine user interfaces.</p> <p>Security Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) TEA and its business partners are required to comply with Texas HB8 (85R), codified in the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Texas Government Code 2054.516, requiring all data agency websites or applications that ii. process sensitive personal information or confidential information be subjected to vulnerability iii. and penetration testing, and to address any vulnerability identified. b) Websites shall be accessible through a secure connection (HTTP-only, with HTTP Strict <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Transport Security (HSTS)), utilizing Transport Layer Security (TLS) version 1.2 or higher. TEA ii. retains the right to scan websites for vulnerabilities and require remediation of identified issues iii. in a timely manner not to exceed three months, compliant with the Payment Card Industry Data iv. Security Standards (PCI DSS) at a minimum. 	08/31/2023				

	<p>c) Provide secure configuration guidelines that were utilized that fully describe all security relevant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. configuration options and their implications for the overall security of the software. The ii. guidelines shall include a full description of dependencies on the supporting platform, including iii. operating system, web server, and application server, and how they should be configured for iv. security. <p>d) The following sample list of requirements is given to exemplify best application and development practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Usage-limiting techniques and other protective countermeasures wherever a denial-of service or automated attack vulnerability is clearly inherent in the architecture. ii. Sufficiently strong encryption, per industry standards, wherever confidential data is at rest or traverses a network. iii. Effective error handling that does not return unnecessarily verbose message to the user that could be used to gain insight into the application internals or other privileged processes or data. <p>e) The contractor will notify TEA immediately upon learning of any actual or suspected security breach or denial of service attack. A security breach is an incident in which sensitive, protected,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. or confidential data may have been viewed, stolen, altered, or used by an individual ii. unauthorized to do so. A denial-of-service attack is a cyber-attack where the perpetrator seeks iii. to make a machine or network resource unavailable to its intended users by temporarily or iv. indefinitely disrupting services of a host connected to the Internet. <p>f) Additional consideration will be given to Vendors that meet FedRAMP requirements.</p>					
	<p>Accessibility - Any Electronic Information Resources (EIR) produced as part of the resulting contract must follow all Accessibility standards referenced in Appendix C. Electronic Information Resources includes documents, websites, and audio & video presentations. These standards include but are not limited to the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) All images and other non-text objects must contain appropriately descriptive alternative text and null alternative text b) Tables should only be used for tabular data and must include valid row and column header tags c) Header tags (h1, h2, etc.) must be used to convey document structure 	08/31/2023				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Users must be able to navigate the web pages, including all links, features, forms, navigations, and sub-navigation, using the keyboard only e) All scripted features must be able to function using the keyboard only with losing focus f) All form fields must have descriptive form labels g) All information conveyed with color must also be available without color h) Foreground and background color combinations must provide sufficient contrast when viewed by someone with color deficits or when viewed on a black and white screen; Colors used in the design must be WCAG 2.0, Level AA standards for color/contrast ratio i) Video and audio content must follow accessibility guidelines and include closed captioning and audio descriptions; Audio files must include written transcripts; Audio and video controls must be operable using a keyboard only 					
	<p>Implementation Support/Services - In addition to providing SaaS Ed-Fi ODS and data validation products, the Vendor will need to provide services to ensure a successful transition to the new TSDS ODS solution.</p> <p>Integration - The Vendor will be responsible for integrating their solutions with the current TEA systems and applications outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Integration of Ed-Fi ODS with eScholar UID to validate student and staff identities when data is written to the ODS; ● Integration of the solution user interfaces with TEAL to authenticate LEA and state users and obtain user authorization information; ● Integration with TEA central organization data to populate initial education organizations ● Integration to push system outage notification to the TSDS global notification system <p>TEA will be responsible for integration of the existing TSDS downstream applications (e.g. PEIMS, ECDS, and SPPI-14) to the Ed-Fi ODS. However, the selected Vendor should expect to provide knowledge transfer and some basic thought partnership as TEA plans and executes their approach to sourcing data from the Ed-Fi ODS to downstream applications.</p> <p>Implementation Support - The selected Vendor will be expected to work closely with TEA staff to complete the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implement the Ed-Fi Teacher Prep Data Model Extension ● Implement TEA defined data model extensions. TEA will map the Texas Education Data Standard to Ed-Fi data standard version 3.1 and provide documentation outlining specific extensions that will be needed to fulfill TEA required data collections. ● Work closely with TEA staff to implement TEA defined business rules. TEA staff will document the existing PEIMS and required collections business rules, compare to the business rule set currently provided by the Vendor and identify rules that must be added. 	08/31/2023				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy sandboxes for source system vendors to test their API integration as they prepare to support LEAs and Educator Prep Programs in complying with the updated TSDS submission processes and standards. • Deploy sandboxes for select LEAs and Educator Prep Programs to pilot the new TSDS submission processes and standards. This will include supporting pilot LEAs in appropriately configuring API permissions for their source system vendors. 					
	<p>Project Management - complete the following activities related to solution delivery and project management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a project plan that identifies product release dates and key dependencies on TEA deliverables • Produce product roadmap that documents feature scope, delivery timing, and demo schedule • Coordinate regular project update meetings and working sessions with TEA and any other relevant vendors/contractors to ensure feature development, testing, and release meet the agreed upon requirements • Provide input and background for TEA's Change Management Plan. The aim of the change management plan is to identify and communicate the feature and process changes that districts, vendors, and TEA staff should expect as a result of the TSDS upgrade. • Provide input and background to TEA's Pilot Implementation Plan for PEIMS testing and EPP dashboard implementation to ensure the feature releases align with expected functionality for the pilots and the responsibilities of each party to support the pilot is clear. • Collaborate with TEA to determine how the ongoing product release process and cycles will align with the TEA's current Data Governance process. 	08/31/2023				
	<p>Training - By the conclusion of this project, it is expected that ESC staff should be able to provide tier one support to LEAs, EPPs, and LEA/EPP vendors and TEA should be able to provide tier two/three support to ESCs. During the term of this project, the Vendor will be responsible for equipping TEA staff with the information they need to support users of the SaaS Ed-Fi ODS and data validation engine. During this period of knowledge transfer, the Vendor should expect to provide the following services to pilot participants and the TEA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training materials for ESCs and vendors on how to set-up, configure, and troubleshoot (business and technical training) the SaaS products • Customer assistance/support for the solution, including basic help desk support for simple user questions concerning the base commercial solution and for any questions concerning TEA added-value components. • Production support and maintenance of the solution, specifically, support for TEA value-added components of the commercial product. 	08/31/2023				

	<p>Support & Maintenance - The Vendor is providing TEA software as a service and not custom developed implementation of the Ed-Fi ODS and data validation engine. Therefore, the Vendor will be expected to host and maintain the solutions on an on-going basis. The initial contract will be for the first two years of services including any required feature development and ongoing maintenance and support. Assuming successful execution of the initial contract, TEA is responsible for contracting for ongoing maintenance and support. As part of the SaaS contract, the Vendor is expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host solution in Amazon Web Services or other govcloud (US) cloud provider approved by the Texas Department of Information Resources • Maintain the solution including identifying and correcting defects in a timely fashion • Provide tier 4 help desk support for TEA who will escalate issues from TEA internal staff, LEAs, EPPs, and LEA/EPP vendors • Provide TEA administrators access to a ticketing system where issues can be logged, tracked, and resolved • Implement Ed-Fi version upgrades in a timely fashion, generally within 6 to 12 months of public release while preserving TEA-specific enhancements and functionality. • Implement quarterly enhancements designed by TEA in response to regulatory and legal data collection and reporting requirements • Follow TEA release management approval process 	Ongoing				
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Global Access/Impact for Foundation’s Beneficiaries – Grantee to Complete

To ensure a positive impact on the foundation’s intended beneficiaries, the foundation requires that all Projects and outputs be managed to ensure Global Access. You will be requested to update the responses below, as may be applicable, in future progress reports.

“Global Access” is a foundation policy requiring that: (a) the knowledge and information gained from the Project will be promptly and broadly disseminated; and (b) the Funded Developments will be made available and accessible at an affordable price (i) to people most in need within developing countries, or (ii) in support of the U.S. educational system and public libraries, as applicable to the Project.

“Funded Developments” means the products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data, other innovations, and intellectual property resulting from the Project (including modifications, improvements, and further developments to Background Technology).

“Background Technology” means any and all products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data, or other innovations, and intellectual property created by You or a third party prior to or outside of the Project used as part of the Project.

a) How will You disseminate the knowledge and information arising from the Project? (For peer-reviewed publications see our [Open Access policy](#).)

Communication about the upcoming Ed-Fi 3.x TSDS ODS has started at the TEA TSDS Vendor and LEA training sessions. TEA will reach out to the SIS & BIS vendors to engage the vendors early in the process. TEA communicates data standard changes through the Agency’s Texas Education Data Standards. Additionally, the TSDS team holds regular webinars with the field. The Agency will train LEAs and ESCs on the new user interface. The TSDS and TPDM teams work together on a weekly basis to ensure timely communication of progress. The TSDS and TPDM teams meet quarterly with TEA leadership to review progress. The TSDS and TPDM teams meet regularly with the Agency’s Strategic Priority 1 (Recruit, support and retain teachers and principals) with the Commissioner of Education.

- b) How will You ensure affordable and meaningful access to the Funded Developments arising from the Project (and Background Technology, if any)?

The application will be built to align with a more recent and standard version of the Ed-Fi data model. Currently, TEA is using a heavily extended version of the Ed-Fi 1.0 data model. Upgrading to the more recent Ed-Fi data model allows LEAs, ESCs, LMS, SIS, and BIS vendors to develop to one common version of the Ed-Fi data model and move away from the current customized Ed-Fi 1.0 model TEA has implemented today. The data model is CEDS-aligned, and open-sourced, enabling the LEAs and ESCs to utilize the one data set across multiple platforms. This saves time and money for LEAs, ESCs, and educational vendors.

- c) Do You foresee any obstacles to achieving Global Access (e.g., third-party rights, restrictions on Background Technology, time frame, affordability)?

No

Yes (please explain and describe the specific steps that You will take to address them).

- d) Please confirm that You will make available for Global Access purposes the Funded Developments and any Background Technology that is (i) owned, controlled, or developed by You, or in-licensed with the right to sublicense; and (ii) either incorporated into a Funded Development or reasonably required to use the Funded Development. See the Global Access terms located in the foundation's [grant terms and conditions](#).

Confirmed

Not confirmed (please explain)

SECTION B – BUDGET INFORMATION

The purpose of the budget narrative is to supplement the information provided in the Excel-based budget template by justifying how the budget cost elements are necessary to implement Project activities and accomplish target outcomes. The budget information section is used to help foundation staff fully understand the budgetary needs of the Project and is an opportunity to provide descriptive information about the key costs and risks that can't be easily communicated in the budget template. Together, this budget narrative and Excel budget should provide a complete quantitative and qualitative description that supports the proposed budget. The description provided in the budget template should be very brief. Please use this budget narrative to provide a thorough description of Your budget and only complete questions that are relevant to Your proposal.

If your proposal includes any sub-grants that represent 25% or more of the total grant amount OR sub-grants that are greater than \$250,000 USD, please complete a separate budget template and narrative for each organization.

Budget Summary - Grantee to Complete

Please explain the major cost drivers and how costs relate to planned activities and target outcomes. Also explain any potential risks in spending as budgeted and any plans to mitigate those risks.

If budgeting by outcomes, or additional dimension, please explain the major cost drivers per outcome or other relevant dimension.

The major cost driver of the Texas Education Agency Data System Upgrade is the development of the new SaaS solution. TEA will use the grant budget to pay for the development of features to support a state-wide ODS. If the vendor cannot complete the deliverables, TEA would not accept

or pay for the deliverables. To mitigate the risks, the team has regular review sessions to confirm requirements and acceptance criteria. Additionally, the IT leadership team works closely with the Ed-Fi and Instructure executive teams to help remove impediments to the project.

Detailed Budget Information - Grantee to Complete

Personnel and Benefits: Provide a brief explanation of personnel budgeted, including responsibilities as they relate to the grant. Also include assumptions made for any staff budgeted which are to-be-hired, including salary estimates for these personnel. Describe the components of the benefits (column R of the “Budget Details” sheet) included with the salary costs. For example: pension, health insurance, expatriate costs, etc.

Travel: Provide rationale for the travel budgeted and assumptions used to determine appropriate number of trips and personnel required. Also include a brief rationale for how travel costs were estimated.

Consultants: Provide a brief description of the work to be performed by consultants in support of the overall Project and describe any expenses that have been included.

Capital Equipment: Provide a brief justification and description of any items required for the Project with a unit cost of greater than \$5,000 (USD) and a useful life of more than one year.

Other Direct Costs: Provide a brief description and rationale for other direct costs required, including cost assumptions used to develop the budget for these costs.

The grant budget is funding the development of the state-wide Ed-Fi ODS 3.x SaaS solution from Instructure. The grant budget does not support agency personnel, travel, capital equipment, and other direct costs.

Sub-Awards - Grantee to Complete

List all sub-grantees or sub-contractors involved in this investment. Add more rows as needed.

Type of Sub-Award (e.g., grant or contract)	Name	Corporate Entity Name (if applicable)	Mailing Address
Contract	Texas Student Data System (TSDS) Operational Data Store (ODS) 3.x Upgrade	Instructure, Inc. (previously Certica Solutions, Inc)	301 Edgewater Place, Suite 330 Wakefield, MA 01880

If separate budgets are required (see above), please also submit a separate budget template and narrative for each sub-award.

Describe the work each organization is going to perform as well as the rationale for each organization chosen to participate on this project as a sub-grantee. If organizations are TBD, include the assumptions used to estimate cost for the sub-award and the process and timeline you will be using to select these organizations.

Note: You will be required to submit the sub-award budget once final.

Instructure will take primary responsibility for the following activities throughout the duration of the project:

- Conduct feature review with TEA to solidify details of feature enhancements that will be required to meet TEA’s needs
- Design and implement feature enhancements to meet agreed upon requirements
- Utilize internal development management software to keep track of feature requirements and progress toward completion
- Develop and agree upon feature release schedule
- Develop and implement test approach for unit, functional, integration and performance testing to be conducted as part of feature releases
- Provide development and test environment where TEA can conduct user acceptance testing for each release
- Conduct feature demos regularly to show progress
- Provide the Agency with regular updates on project status

- Attend weekly status meetings with the TEA project team

Indirect Cost Rate - Grantee to Complete

Briefly explain the indirect cost rate being charged on this project and the rationale and assumptions behind it.

No IDC will be included

Currency Exchange - Grantee to Complete

Briefly describe any foreign currency exchange exposure with this investment. Which costs included in the budget are exposed to exchange risk? How much do these costs total?

N/A

Other Sources of Support for this Project - Grantee to Complete

If You are requesting funding from the foundation for only a portion of this Project and will depend on funds from other sources, please describe Your contingency plans if full Project funding does not become available. If You have applied for funding from other sources which overlap with the funding requested in this proposal, please indicate the nature and timing of that potential funding. Any expected in-kind contributions (e.g. drug donations, personnel time) should be included in the description.

NOTE: Names of the other sources and their expected dollar (U.S.\$) contributions should be included on the 'Financial Summary & Reporting' sheet of the budget in the Funding Plan table.

BMGF – TPDM: \$900,240.00

Michael and Susan Dell Foundation: TSDS Grant: \$2,932,710

Location of Work - Grantee to Complete

List all countries and sub-regions/states where this work would be performed and associated dollar amounts. If location of work includes the United States, indicate city and state. Add more rows as needed. More information about Geographic Location of Work can be found [here](#).

Location	Foundation Funding (U.S.\$)
Austin, Texas	\$1,250,000

Geography Served - Grantee to Complete

List all countries and sub-regions/states that would benefit from this work and associated dollar amounts. If areas to be served include the United States, indicate city and state. Add more rows as needed. More information about Geographic Areas to Be Served can be found [here](#).

Location	Foundation Funding (U.S.\$)
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Texas	\$1,250,000
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SECTION C – ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Conduct and Control of the Project - Grantee to Complete

In answering the questions in this section, please consider all Project activities, such as those involving: confidential or protected information (including personally identifiable information or protected health information); the inclusion of children or vulnerable populations; research involving human subjects; clinical trials; post-approval studies; field trials; experimental medicine; provision of medical services (diagnostic, prophylactic or treatment); product development; use of genetically modified organisms, human tissue, animals, radioactive isotopes, pathogenic organisms, recombinant nucleic acids, select agents or toxins (www.selectagents.gov), dual-use technology (http://export.gov/regulation/eg_main_018229.asp), or any substance, organism, or material that is toxic or hazardous; use of aircraft, unmanned vehicle systems, drones or satellites; and the import, export, transfer, approvals, consents, records, data, specimens, images, and materials related to any of the foregoing.

1. Please confirm that Your organization:

- a. will maintain the expertise necessary to conduct, control, manage, and monitor all aspects of the Project in compliance with all applicable ethical, legal, regulatory, and safety requirements including applicable international, national, state, local, and institutional, school district or school network standards and policies and is responsible for determining and complying with these requirements and standards;
- b. will not disclose any confidential or protected information to the Foundation without obtaining prior written approval from the foundation and all necessary consents to disclose such information;
- c. acknowledges that any activities by the Foundation in reviewing documents, providing input or funding does not modify Your organization's responsibility for determining and complying with all applicable ethical, legal, regulatory, and safety requirements for the Project in all places;
- d. is a government agency, public institution or multilateral organization or will otherwise maintain insurance coverage sufficient to cover the activities, risks, and potential omissions of the Project in accordance with generally accepted standards and as required by law (for instance, general, professional, clinical trial, product liability, medical malpractice, workers' compensation, or otherwise);
- e. will not transfer any biological materials, chemicals, reagents, hazardous materials, or the like to the Foundation.

Confirmed

Not confirmed (please explain)

2. Does the Project involve regulated human subject research?



No

Yes (If yes, please identify the name of the entity that will be conducting such research and please describe any consents, approvals or waivers needed or obtained to the extent such are necessary for compliance with applicable law.)

Background Technology – Grantee to Complete

Please list any Background Technology that will be used in the Project. The use of commonly available, off-the-shelf products (such as Microsoft Excel, Adobe, etc.) need not be disclosed. [Note: Background Technology previously funded by the foundation will be considered a Funded Development for purposes of Global Access and any [license to the foundation](#).] Add more rows, as needed.

“Background Technology” means any and all products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data, or other innovations, and intellectual property created by You or a third party prior to or outside of the Project used as part of the Project.

List each Background Technology to be used in the Project	Is this Background Technology owned, controlled, or developed by You or sublicensable by You?	Do You need permission/license from any third party to use this Background Technology to achieve Global Access?	If any permission/license is needed, please detail below, and describe Your plan and timeline to obtain such permission/license or submit a copy of the agreement.	If this Background Technology is subject to IP rights, please identify and include any links to applications, filings, or registrations, as applicable.
Ed-Fi TPDM Data Standard and associated API	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	This is open source and available on the Ed-Fi data exchange. Will reach out to the exchange to get access to the data standards.	
Ed-Fi 3.0 ODS with TPDM extension	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Instructure Data Connect	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	 701-20-014 Certica Solutions Response.p	
Instructure Certify	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	 701-20-014 Certica Solutions Response.p	

Advocacy and Lobbying - Grantee to Complete

While the foundation funds a broad range of advocacy activities, US law prohibits foundation funds from being earmarked to support direct or grassroots lobbying communications. Describe how this Project will be conducted in compliance with these rules, as summarized in the [Advocacy Guidelines Handout](#), and any other relevant local, state, or non-US lobbying laws. If foundation grant funds will be earmarked to influence policies, budgets, innovations, frameworks, action plans, etc., that could require a legislative vote, explain how such “legislative” activities will be conducted in accordance with the applicable rules and exceptions. Your explanation should address both direct and grassroots communications. If this investment does not include advocacy activities, indicate in the space below.

This investment does not include advocacy activities.

SECTION D – PROJECT-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- Measurement & Evaluation
- Data Access
- Election Related Activities
- Custom Questions

Measurement and Evaluation - Grantee to Complete

Describe your plan for monitoring and evaluation of the outputs and outcomes identified in the narrative above. Specifically address:

1. The learning/evaluation questions for this investment and how You plan to answer them through monitoring and/or evaluation;
2. The resources (financial, technical, human) You need to ensure high quality monitoring and/or evaluation data; and

3. If You are planning a formal evaluation, describe when it will be conducted during the grant, who will conduct it (external/third party or not), the methodology You will consider, and how the main evaluation audiences will use the findings.

See the foundation's [evaluation policy](#) for reference.

Upgrade Measurements:

The Ed-Fi ODS 3.x allows LEAs to submit transactional data to TSDS vs. bulk data loads. Today the LEA and ESCs spend several days each quarter waiting for data to load to the ODS 1.x application.

TEA will reduce the IT FTE costs by no longer needing to support the ODS 1.x application. The FTE will be free to work on priority Agency work. Additionally, TEA removes the hardware maintenance required to keep the ODS 1.x solution by moving to the SaaS ODS 3.x solution. The customer support and application (software and hardware) support now become managed by the SaaS vendor.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

The project team will work closely with the SaaS vendor, the TSDS business team, the SIS and BIS vendors, and the LEAs and ESCs to confirm the ODS 3.x application meets the needs outlined in the RFO.

The team will ensure requirements are understood before development begins. Additionally, the team will define acceptance criteria for each of the major deliverables. Once development and testing are complete by the SaaS vendor, the project team will conduct user acceptance testing. The user acceptance testing is a gate for accepting the deliverables and completing payment. The SaaS vendor also engages the TEA project team, the SIS and BIS vendors, and the LEAs and ESCs throughout the development and testing cycle to confirm RFO deliverables meet the stakeholder needs. TEA will run both ODS applications (ODS 1.x and ODS 3.x) simultaneously for an entire school year. The parallel year allows TEA to address issues before fully transitioning to the new ODS 3.x application.

The project team has a change management process to verify the project team approves changes to scope, schedule, or budget before implementing.

Data Access - Grantee to Complete

We anticipate this investment, if funded, would generate datasets that may be of interest to the foundation and/or to the field if made publicly available. Please describe any datasets that will be generated as part of this investment. Specifically address when and how the datasets would be made available to the foundation and/or to the public, in what form or format, and any anticipated costs to your organization. Additional information about Data Access can be found [here](#).

All data sets will be made available at the aggregate level or free of restricted, confidential, or sensitive data. Any additional information that is available for release under Texas Government Code Chapter 552 will be made available upon request. No additional cost is estimated, as the generation and posting of these data sets are part of the current scope of work.

Election-Related Activities - Grantee to Complete

Foundation funds may not be used to influence the outcome of any public election, in any country at the national, state, or local level. Please describe how foundation funds will be used to support advocacy activities that coincide with campaigns for elective office (e.g., voter education, polling or surveys, engagement with a candidate or parties), consistent with US and any additional local rules which may apply.

N/A

Custom Question - Grantee to Complete

Custom Question(s)

SECTION E – PROGRESS NARRATIVE

If this grant is approved and activated, complete this section for each progress report and submit to Your foundation Investment Owner and Investment Coordinator on the date indicated in Your grant agreement or latest amendment.

- Use this section to provide updates to Your foundation Investment Owner regarding progress made toward achieving Your Project’s stated outputs and outcomes.
- The Progress and Final Narratives must be submitted in Word, as PDFs will not be accepted.
- Please remember to update the Actual Completion Dates in the [Investment Results Chart at the end of Section A](#). If You’d like to edit any other information in this chart beyond the Actual Completion Dates, please consult with Your foundation Investment Owner.

For multiple narratives, copy and paste the below questions/fields (up to Section F - Final Narrative) for each narrative. DO NOT OVERWRITE EXISTING NARRATIVES.

Scheduled Payment Amount (if applicable)	\$425,000	Reporting Due Date	11/30/2020
Reporting Period Start Date	10/30/2020	Completed By	Melody Keith
Reporting Period End Date	11/30/2020		

By submitting this report, I declare that I am authorized to certify, on behalf of the grantee or vendor identified on page 1, that I have examined the following statements and related attachments, and that to the best of my knowledge, they are true, correct and complete. I hereby also confirm that the grantee or vendor identified on page 1 has complied with all of the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement or Contract for Services, as applicable, including but not limited to the clauses contained therein regarding Use of Funds, Anti-Terrorism, Subgrants and Subcontracts, and Regulated Activities.

Progress Details

Provide information regarding the current period’s progress toward achieving the investment outputs and outcomes as well as the work planned or anticipated for the next period. Please also remember to update the completion dates in the [Investment Results Chart at the end of Section A](#).

Accomplishments
TPDM

Over the Summer, the project team made considerable progress in mapping between foundational data systems at TEA and the TPDM model. This mapping will aid the TPDM vendor in creating APIs to the ODS and has illuminated additional areas for growth for both data collection at the

agency and needs within the model itself. Having communicated those changes with the Ed-Fi community, we have collaborated in giving input on the necessary model changes and updates ahead of the version 1.0 rollout slated for later this year.

TSDS

In terms of data mapping activities, TEA achieved the following:

- Completed 95% of mapping TEA's Ed-Fi 1.0 to Ed-Fi 3.x data model
- Completed 98% of mapping TEA's Ed-Fi 1.0 to Ed-Fi 3.x code tables
- TSDS ODS 3.x requirements 85% complete – pending work with the selected vendor

TEA continues to work with the Ed-Fi business and technical teams to resolve all outstanding mapping activities. The remaining issues are captured below in Current Roadblocks.

Upcoming Milestones and Deliverables

TPDM

TEA is utilizing additional available resources to finalize the mapping and including changes made at Ed-Fi to ensure our mapping artifacts are ready for the hand-off to our vendor next spring. Those steps involve testing a sandbox TPDM ODS to confirm data exchange is possible and early troubleshooting of the creation of data pipelines.

TSDS

TEA plans to present the Ed-Fi 3.x overview and proposals through TEA's data governance process, to include the Information Task Force (ITF), the Policy Committee on Public Education Information (PCPEI), and the Data Governance Board (DGB).

TEA plans to publish the Ed-Fi 3.x Data Standards tentatively in the 2nd quarter. Additionally, TEA will identify changes to the TSDS Web-Enabled Data Standards (TWEDS) and develop the roadmap.

TEA and the selected vendor are currently negotiating the terms and conditions in the Master Services Agreement. As soon as this is final, TEA will schedule the kickoff meeting with the selected vendor and TEA stakeholders.

Early Q2 TEA plans to create the high-level architecture document for a multi-year, state-level ODS implementation.

Current Roadblocks

TPDM

Due to COVID-19 related prioritizations at the agency, the contractual process for selecting a TPDM vendor has taken longer than initially projected. TEA executive leadership and external project champions and stakeholders are aware of the roadblock. The status is finishing the contractual process and finalizing the onboarding steps for the TPDM vendor. We anticipate completing these steps in the next few months, and even with a slightly delayed schedule, we will still be on track to create our data products before the end of 2021.

TSDS

Beyond a 90-day delay due to COVID-19 in signing and onboarding the selected vendor, there are no significant roadblocks to address. The TSDS leadership team continues to collaborate with Ed-Fi on the following outstanding data mapping domains:

- Attendance
- Unique ID data for demographics in MainPRD
- Ability to collect data for unenrolled students

We expect that the continuing collaboration with Ed-Fi will resolve all the outstanding data mapping issues.

Global Access Update

Are there any updates to Your responses to the Global Access/Impact for Foundation's Beneficiaries questions (a – d) in Section A?

No

Yes (If yes, please explain below)

Outputs/Funded Development and Background Technology Updates

Are there any new Outputs/Funded Developments to report which were not described in any documents previously submitted to the foundation?

No

Yes (If yes, please explain below)

Are there any additional Background Technologies to report which were not described in any documents previously submitted to the foundation?

No

Yes (If yes, please explain below)

Project Adjustments

For each outcome or output that is behind schedule or under target, explain what adjustments You are making to get back on track.

Due to the COVID-19 related contractual delays, the TEA and BMGF team agreed to postpone the grant payments since TEA could not utilize the budget in the timeframe expected initially.

Feedback for the Foundation

Provide one to three ways the foundation has successfully enabled Your work so far. Provide one to three ways the foundation can improve.

Foundation Support:

1. Provided time, money, and expertise to help shape the ODS 3.x and TPDM initiative, allowing TEA to achieve more.
2. Enabling TEA to meet its strategic priority of recruiting, supporting, and retaining teachers and principals.

Roles and Responsibilities

Do You represent that the Project activities were conducted in compliance with all applicable ethical, legal, regulatory and safety requirements?

Yes

No (If no, please explain below)

Are any new activities¹ planned which were not described in any documents previously submitted to the foundation?

No

Yes (If yes, please explain below)

¹ In answering this question, please consider all new Project activities, such as those involving: confidential or protected information (including personally identifiable information or protected health information); the inclusion of children or vulnerable populations; research involving human subjects; clinical trials; post-approval studies; field trials; experimental medicine; provision of medical services (diagnostic, prophylactic or treatment); product development; use of genetically modified organisms, human tissue, animals, radioactive isotopes, pathogenic organisms, recombinant nucleic acids, select agents or toxins (www.selectagents.gov), dual-use technology (http://export.gov/regulation/eq_main_018229.asp), or any substance, organism, or material that is toxic or hazardous; use of aircraft, unmanned vehicle systems, drones or satellites; and the import, export, transfer, approvals, consents, records, data, specimens, images, and materials related to any of the foregoing.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The purpose of this section is to help the foundation understand how programmatic performance affects actual and projected expenditures over the life of the investment.

Feel free to reach out to your foundation contact for support with these progress reporting requirements.

Note: Budget template and financial narrative instructions can be found [here](#). If you are using an older version of the budget template, this information could be in a different location in your template.

Latest Period Variance

“Latest period variance” compares expenditures that occurred in the reporting period against the most recent forecast. See “Financial Summary & Reporting” sheet in the foundation budget template for calculated variance (for example, column AD, starting on row 29 for period 1). Note that the allowable variance is defined in your grant agreement.

At this time, BMGF has not distributed the grant payments to TEA, and the budget variance shows as -100%. The TEA and BMGF team agreed to hold the grant payments due to the delays with the contract signatures between TEA and Instructure. The BMGF grant payments would resume pending a signed contract.

Future Period Projections

“Future period projections” includes forecast by expense category and any additional dimensions for the future remaining reporting periods.

When populating your projections, please provide realistic projections that take into account the latest plan of expected activities and up-to-date associated costs. For example, projections usually will not simply carry forward previously unspent budget amounts into the next period or exactly match the original period budget. However, in total, the projections should match the total budget amount.

Updated the actuals and projections based on delays related to the delays with obtaining TEA and Instructure contract signature.

Sub-Awards (if applicable)

This sub-award section provides visibility to an often-critical component of the grant spending where the budget template provides limited insight. The total of actual disbursements for this reporting period should equal the actual sub-award expenses reported on the “Financial Summary & Reporting” sheet in the budget template for this reporting period.

Use the table below to provide detail of all sub-grantee(s) or sub-contractor(s).

Organization Name	Actual Disbursement for this Reporting Period (U.S.\$)	Total Disbursed from Primary Awardee to Sub to Date (U.S.\$)	Total Sub-Awardee Spent to Date (U.S.\$)	Total Contracted Amount (U.S.\$)
Instructure, Inc.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,250,000
Total (ties to budget file(s))	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,250,000

NA

Note: It is the foundation’s discretion to ask for updated sub-award budget files as part of the traditional progress report review process.

Other Sources of Support (if applicable)

Other Sources of Support include interest earned, current foreign exchange impacts, and co-funding (in-kind and other contributions).

TEA has received funding from the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation.

Additionally, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is funding the TPDM ODS portion of the project.

Financial Progress Summary Assessment

This section will help the foundation determine whether changes are needed to the payment schedule.

Note: This assessment does not guarantee that the previously agreed to payment schedule will change.

TEA and BMGF put grant payments on hold until TEA and Instructure signed the contract. Initially, BMGF scheduled the grant payments for August 2020. Both parties signed the TEA and Instructure agreement five months after the planned signature date, January 29, 2021. The delay in a signed contract also delayed submitting the Subcontract Vendor Name and Subaward budget by five months. Following the logic of moving from August 28, 2020, to January 29, 2021, the new investment date periods align with March 31, 2021, to April 30, 2021. The TEA and BMGF team set a new payment date of May 2021.

Checklist - As you review your answers to questions in the financial update section, ensure that your report provides the following:

1. Explanation of how project expenditures differed from plan and the implications on programmatic progress to date.
2. Realistic future period projections based on updated plans, results tracker and future cost expectations.
3. Explanation of how future period projections differ from the original budget and previous forecasts, and the implications.
4. Explanation of other sources of support (funds) from other funders, interest earned or converting to non-USD currencies.
5. Explanation of future financial payment needs based on the project’s anticipated financial needs and cash on hand.

SECTION E – PROGRESS NARRATIVE – Period 2

If this grant is approved and activated, complete this section for each progress report and submit to Your foundation Investment Owner and Investment Coordinator on the date indicated in Your grant agreement or latest amendment.

- Use this section to provide updates to Your foundation Investment Owner regarding progress made toward achieving Your Project’s stated outputs and outcomes.
- The Progress and Final Narratives must be submitted in Word, as PDFs will not be accepted.
- Please remember to update the Actual Completion Dates in the [Investment Results Chart at the end of Section A](#). If You’d like to edit any other information in this chart beyond the Actual Completion Dates, please consult with Your foundation Investment Owner.

For multiple narratives, copy and paste the below questions/fields (up to Section F - Final Narrative) for each narrative.

DO NOT OVERWRITE EXISTING NARRATIVES.

Scheduled Payment Amount (if applicable)	\$825,000	Reporting Due Date	04/30/2021
Reporting Period Start Date	01/30/2021	Completed By	Melody Keith
Reporting Period End Date	04/30/2021	Proposal Completed/ Date Submitted	

By submitting this report, I declare that I am authorized to certify, on behalf of the grantee or vendor identified on page 1, that I have examined the following statements and related attachments, and that to the best of my knowledge, they are true, correct and complete. I hereby also confirm that the grantee or vendor identified on page 1 has complied with all of the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement or Contract for Services, as applicable, including but not limited to the clauses contained therein regarding Use of Funds, Anti-Terrorism, Subgrants and Subcontracts, and Regulated Activities.

Progress Details

Provide information regarding the current period’s progress toward achieving the investment outputs and outcomes as well as the work planned or anticipated for the next period. Please also remember to update the completion dates in the [Investment Results Chart at the end of Section A](#).

Accomplishments

TPDM

The team has completed the data mapping for the Ed-Fi TPDM extension.

TSDS

TEA and Instructure conducted the contract kick-off meeting in February 2021. The team updated the deliverables and pricing schedule to reconfirm understanding of how TEA and Instructure will complete the ODS 3.x development work.

TEA and Instructure completed onboarding procedures in March 2021. Additionally, the team began discussing and documenting the requirements and release dates for Pilot 1 and Pilot 2. TEA began deep-dive discussions with Ed-Fi on MetaEd with the TEA ODS 3.x development team. The TEA project team continued to work through implementation discussions for outstanding mapping issues between ODS 1.x application and the Ed-Fi 3.x ODS application. TEA began meeting with Ed-Fi and Instructure to review each domain.

The TEA team presented the beginning concepts for the Ed-Fi 3.x ODS application to the ESC and Vendors supporting Texas LEAs. TEA engaged SIS vendors to support the initial vendor integration, testing & certification against the TSDS 3.x API and ODS. TEA resubmitted the RFO for the TPDM dashboard for bid.

TEA ordered servers to support the development of the downstream TSDS applications.

Upcoming Milestones and Deliverables

TPDM

The team is focused on engaging stakeholders and building use cases while TEA finalizes the contract for the TPDM Dashboards. Additionally, the team is working to create API and Data Pipeline requirements and testing needs.

TSDS

TEA and Instructure anticipate data mapping documents from Ed-Fi 1.x to Ed-Fi 3.x ODS to complete mid-June 2021. Pilot 1 will release in July 2021 and involve one or two SIS vendors to help confirm integration. Additionally, Instructure will deliver a proof of concept to determine if the best implementation will be for TEA to pull the Ed-Fi 3.x ODS data or for Instructure to push the data from the Ed-Fi 3.x ODS to TEA over a message queue.

Current Roadblocks

TPDM

The TPDM contract process has taken longer than initially projected. TEA executive leadership and external project champions and stakeholders are aware of the roadblock. The status is finishing the contractual process and finalizing the onboarding steps for the TPDM vendor. We anticipate completing these steps in the late part of the 2021 calendar year.

TSDS

There are no significant roadblocks to address at this time.

Global Access Update

Are there any updates to Your responses to the Global Access/Impact for Foundation’s Beneficiaries questions (a – d) in Section A?

No x

Yes (If yes, please explain below)

Outputs/Funded Development and Background Technology Updates

Are there any new Outputs/Funded Developments to report which were not described in any documents previously submitted to the foundation?

No x

Yes ___ (If yes, please explain below)

Are there any additional Background Technologies to report which were not described in any documents previously submitted to the foundation?

No

Yes ___ (If yes, please explain below)

Project Adjustments

For each outcome or output that is behind schedule or under target, explain what adjustments You are making to get back on track.

TPDM

The team is changing its approach and moving forward with pre-work while waiting for the contract to be signed with the TPDM Dashboards vendor. The team has completed the mapping, outline use cases, and outline requirements for the dashboard creation. The team will move forward with working to have the Instructure team set up the TPDM Ed-Fi 3.x ODS. The team is also working on a proof of concept to validate the model can support employment visualization.

TSDS

The team worked with Instructure to identify areas that TEA can complete in parallel while the Instructure team is developing the Ed-Fi ODS 3.x. Additionally, the team has identified ways to engage essential players (LEAs, ESCs, SIS, and BIS vendors) early in the process, enabling critical issues to be recognized more quickly. The new approach will position TEA for a more successful parallel year. The Agency will work with LEAs and ESCs to complete a side-by-side comparison of the data submitted through the bulk load method in ODS 1.x and the data submitted transactionally through ODS 3.x.

Feedback for the Foundation

Provide one to three ways the foundation has successfully enabled Your work so far. Provide one to three ways the foundation can improve.

Foundation Support:

1. Provided flexibility with the grant agreement due to the COVID-19 delays.
2. Provided flexibility with the progress report due date due to a change in the Agency's primary contact.

Opportunities for improvement

Roles and Responsibilities

Do You represent that the Project activities were conducted in compliance with all applicable ethical, legal, regulatory and safety requirements?

Yes

No ___ (If no, please explain below)

Are any new activities¹ planned which were not described in any documents previously submitted to the foundation?

No

Yes (If yes, please explain below)

¹ In answering this question, please consider all new Project activities, such as those involving: confidential or protected information (including personally identifiable information or protected health information); the inclusion of children or vulnerable populations; research involving human subjects; clinical trials; post-approval studies; field trials; experimental medicine; provision of medical services (diagnostic, prophylactic or treatment); product development; use of genetically modified organisms, human tissue, animals, radioactive isotopes, pathogenic organisms, recombinant nucleic acids, select agents or toxins (www.selectagents.gov), dual-use technology (http://export.gov/regulation/eq_main_018229.asp), or any substance, organism, or material that is toxic or hazardous; use of aircraft, unmanned vehicle systems, drones or satellites; and the import, export, transfer, approvals, consents, records, data, specimens, images, and materials related to any of the foregoing.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The purpose of this section is to help the foundation understand how programmatic performance affects actual and projected expenditures over the life of the investment.

Feel free to reach out to your foundation contact for support with these progress reporting requirements.

Note: Budget template and financial narrative instructions can be found [here](#). If you are using an older version of the budget template, this information could be in a different location in your template.

Latest Period Variance

“Latest period variance” compares expenditures that occurred in the reporting period against the most recent forecast. See “Financial Summary & Reporting” sheet in the foundation budget template for calculated variance (for example, column AD, starting on row 29 for period 1). Note that the allowable variance is defined in your grant agreement.

At this time, BMGF has not distributed the grant payments to TEA, and the budget variance shows as -100%. The TEA and BMGF team agreed to hold the grant payments due to the delays with the contract signatures between TEA and Instructure. The BMGF grant payments would resume pending a signed contract.

Future Period Projections

“Future period projections” includes forecast by expense category and any additional dimensions for the future remaining reporting periods.

When populating your projections, please provide realistic projections that take into account the latest plan of expected activities and up-to-date associated costs. For example, projections usually will not simply carry forward previously unspent budget amounts into the next period or exactly match the original period budget. However, in total, the projections should match the total budget amount.

We project all remaining funds will be encumbered in the in May 2021 due to the delays with the TEA and Instructure contract.

Sub-Awards (if applicable)

This sub-award section provides visibility to an often critical component of the grant spending where the budget template provides limited insight. The total of actual disbursements for this reporting period should equal the actual sub-award expenses reported on the “Financial Summary & Reporting” sheet in the budget template for this reporting period.

Use the table below to provide detail of all sub-grantee(s) or sub-contractor(s).

Organization Name	Actual Disbursement for this Reporting Period (U.S.\$)	Total Disbursed from Primary Awardee to Sub to Date (U.S.\$)	Total Sub-Awardee Spent to Date (U.S.\$)	Total Contracted Amount (U.S.\$)
Instructure, Inc.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,250,000
Total (ties to budget file(s))	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,250,000

I. For sub-awards greater than \$1M, please provide explanatory detail as requested in the latest and future period sections above.

Note: It is the foundation’s discretion to ask for updated sub-award budget files as part of the traditional progress report review process.

Other Sources of Support (if applicable)

Other Sources of Support include interest earned, current foreign exchange impacts, and co-funding (in-kind and other contributions).

TEA has received funding from the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation.
Additionally, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is funding the TPDM ODS portion of the project.

Financial Progress Summary Assessment

This section will help the foundation determine whether changes are needed to the payment schedule.

Note: This assessment does not guarantee that the previously agreed to payment schedule will change.

TEA and BMGF put grant payments on hold until TEA and Instructure signed the contract. Initially, BMGF scheduled the grant payments for August 2020. Both parties signed the TEA and Instructure agreement five months after the planned signature date, January 29, 2021. The delay in a signed contract also delayed submitting the Subcontract Vendor Name and Subaward budget by five months. Following the logic of moving from August 28, 2020, to January 29, 2021, the new investment date periods align with March 31, 2021, to April 30, 2021. The TEA and BMGF team set a new payment date of May 2021.

Checklist - As you review your answers to questions in the financial update section, ensure that your report provides the following:

1. Explanation of how project expenditures differed from plan and the implications on programmatic progress to date.
2. Realistic future period projections based on updated plans, results tracker and future cost expectations.
3. Explanation of how future period projections differ from the original budget and previous forecasts, and the implications.
4. Explanation of other sources of support (funds) from other funders, interest earned or converting to non-USD currencies.
5. Explanation of future financial payment needs based on the project’s anticipated financial needs and cash on hand.

SECTION F – FINAL NARRATIVE

If this grant is approved and activated, complete this section at grant’s end and submit to Your foundation Investment Owner and Investment Coordinator on the date indicated in Your grant agreement or latest amendment.

- Use this form to provide Your final update to Your foundation Investment Owner regarding the results achieved for the entire project.
- In addition, please provide Your perspective on key lessons learned or takeaways and input on the foundation’s support of Your work to ensure that we can capture and share learnings as appropriate both internally and externally.
- The Final Narrative must be submitted in Word, as PDFs will not be accepted.

Reporting Period Start Date	05/01/2021	Reporting Due Date	10/31/2021
Reporting Period End Date	10/31/2021	Remaining Funds (If applicable)	\$0

By submitting this report, I declare that I am authorized to certify, on behalf of the grantee or vendor identified on page 1, that I have examined the following statements and related attachments, and that to the best of my knowledge, they are true, correct and complete. I hereby also confirm that the grantee or vendor identified on page 1 has complied with all of the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement or Contract for Services, as applicable, including but not limited to the clauses contained therein regarding Use of Funds, Anti-Terrorism, Subgrants and Subcontracts, and Regulated Activities.

Final Progress Details

Provide information regarding the entire investment's progress towards achieving the investment outputs and outcomes. In addition, submit the [Investment Results tables](#) with actual results as requested. If You’d like to edit any other information in this chart beyond the completion dates, please consult with Your foundation Investment Owner.

Accomplishments

TPDM

The contract for the TPDM project was executed on 10/29/2021.

The TPDM dashboards will be named, “Insight to Impact Dashboards”, and a logo has been created. The TPDM team held a state-wide Educator Preparation Program (EPP) webinar to share the progress and preliminary visualizations for the dashboards on 10/20/2021.

TSDS

TEA, Instructure, and the Ed-Fi Alliance continue to meet twice a week in joint application development (JAD) sessions to find consensus on system requirements for transitioning the TSDS ODS to version 3.X utilizing Ed-Fi standards. Requirements for Pilot 1 and Pilot 2 functionality were agreed upon and the reviews of the low-fidelity wireframes and user roles and user flows were completed by 09/30/2021. The requirements for Pilot 3 functionality and the high-fidelity mockups and user roles and flows are still in review and are slated to be finished by 11/01/2021.

TEA completed the initial datamart mapping and delivered to Instructure the preliminary MetaEd definitions, descriptors, and extensions for the domains being used in Pilot 1 in June 2021. All of these domains were approved in ITF by 07/13/21. After receiving additional feedback from Instructure and the Ed-Fi Alliance, updated MetaEd was delivered to Instructure by 07/19/21, and the first Pilot 1 Docker SDK image was provided to the Pilot 1 source system vendor, PowerSchool, by 07/27/21. After the Instructure roadmap release for Core TSDS Data Connect was completed on 07/12/2021, and the Docker SDK Image was created, the hosted environment for PowerSchool was updated with the MetaEd and was released on 08/02/21. The preliminary MetaEd including TX extensions in the TEDS ODS 3.x Domain Documentation Word .doc was published to TEA’s Texas Student Data System (TSDS) site for field reference on 10/01/21.

TEA, Instructure, and PowerSchool meet weekly to coordinate and collaborate on development and documentation. PowerSchool has received several SDK Docker images since 07/27, with the most recent being provided to them on 10/15/21. They have been developing using the SDK

Docker environment throughout August and September. In September, PowerSchool successfully connected to Instructure's hosted environment. The hosted environment was updated again and ready with the most recent MetaEd on Friday, 10/29/21. PowerSchool has provided TEA with valuable feedback on their experience with Pilot 1 and some best practices for future vendors. They have reviewed the first version of the SDK Installation Guide on 10/20/21 and reviewed the first draft of TEA's TSDS ODS 3.x Vendor Implementation Guide the week beginning 10/25/21.

TEA conducted the fourth ODS 3.x vendor webinar on 9/29/21 covering the preliminary version of the TEDS ODS 3.x Domain Documentation.

The Instructure roadmap release for TEA Central Org Integration was completed on 08/26/21. The Instructure roadmap release for Course Load C022 was completed on 09/24/21. TEA provided Level 2 Validations to Instructure on 09/27/21.

JSON refresh data modeling and development by TEA are progressing, and stored procedures have been created.

Promotion logic for the downstream applications in TSDS is in progress of being defined. Reviews of PEIMS FALL Student Basic Information and Enrollment promotion logic (and the updated datamart mapping with TX extensions added) have been completed. Reviews of Class Roster FALL Student Basic Information and Enrollment promotion logic (and the updated datamart mapping with TX extensions added) have been completed.

For the TEA parallel environment, DEV environment setup on all three servers was completed on 08/20/21, and TEST environment setup on all three servers was completed on 10/29/21.

Upcoming Milestones and Deliverables

TPDM

The TPDM team is collaborating with a stakeholder engagement group and EPP partners to create two proofs of concept.

TSDS

The Instructure roadmap release of Data Out phase 1 (Data Flowing) should be completed by 11/01/21. The phase 2 release for Data Out (Data Filtered) is currently projected to be completed by 11/16/21. The Instructure roadmap release for TEA eScholar Unique ID (UID) Integration phase 1 (cache from file) was slated to be completed by 10/29/21 and phase 2 (cache miss) by 12/16/21, but TEA and Instructure continue to collaborate on the process by which Instructure will receive the UID data to ensure that potential security risks are mitigated proactively. This vital discussion has caused a slight delay and may push out the release into January 2022. However, this delay does not negatively impact the dates nor the goals of Pilot 2 nor Pilot 3.

TEA continues to refine the MetaEd definitions, descriptors, and extensions for the Pilot 1 domains as additional feedback is received by PowerSchool during their development process. TEA is still finalizing one remaining domain, Finance, that will be used in the Pilot Program but has not yet been included in the Docker SDK Image nor in the hosted environment. The Finance domain requires careful collaboration and approval by the state funding department, and Finance is being taken to the ITF meeting for approval on 11/09/21. Three other domains are also still being finalized and require input from other state groups and the Ed-Fi Alliance. However, those three domains are not required for the Pilot Program but will be included in the Pilot once completed.

TEA will publish an updated TEDS Domain Documentation on 11/01/21 which will provide more information on rules and guidelines. After 11/01, TEA will update and publish the TEDS ODS 3.x Domain Documentation, Handbook, and Swagger with each TEDS publication beginning with the 2022-2023 Preliminary TEDS Publication (2023.0.0) on 12/01/21.

The next webinar for source system vendors covering Ed-Fi 3.x Certification is being planned for early to mid- November 2021.

Pilot 2 will commence on 11/01/21 and will involve one or two more source system vendors. The second source system vendor (Ascender) that will participate in the pilot program has been selected and the official project kickoff has been scheduled on 11/10/21. TEA will begin considering third vendor prospects to determine their commitment for a November-December start date. PowerSchool, our first source system vendor, will continue to participate in the pilot program as things progress. Vendors will be selecting their local education agencies' (LEAs) partnerships based on readiness criteria and time commitments; TEA is not responsible for the selection of pilot LEAs and has been referring interested LEAs back to their source system vendor for consideration and final decision. PowerSchool has already engaged two different LEAs. Support of the source system vendors and ease of access to supporting materials during the pilots is being carefully considered and planned. TEA and Instructure Support leads will collaborate by 12/03/21, and Instructure will officially begin training TEA support staff on the admin console and Data Connect beginning in mid-December.

The next Docker SDK Image and updated hosted environment will be ready for the vendors by 11/15/21.

TEA continues to meet twice a month with Instructure on training resources and support planning. The first version of the vendor support packet will be ready by 11/01/21 for Pilot 2 participants. The first version of the packet will include the SDK Installation Guide and the TSDS ODS 3.x Vendor Implementation Guide. Additional working sessions will be conducted to finalize the Tenant/Vendor Management Process documentation previously provided. In addition, Instructure will provide TEA with User Documentation for the Admin Console within the Landing Zone. Although the final version of the Admin Console documentation will not be ready until Pilot 3 at the end of March 2022, Instructure has committed to completing their presentation to TEA of the high-fidelity mockups and user flows for the admin console by 10/29/21, and the first version of the documentation will be reviewed and tried out during Pilot 2.

ChangeEvent development by TEA is primarily done with developer testing projected to be completed by 11/01/21.

Promotion logic definition and reviews of the updated datamart to Ed-Fi mapping with TX extensions are still in progress. To minimize negative impact to downstream applications, ODS 1.0 subcategories being used by the applications' promotions are being reviewed and referenced. A crosswalk between the subcategories and the ODS 3.x domain and entities will be created as the promotion logic is developed. PEIMS FALL and Class Roster FALL are the two collections TEA will definitively be using during the pilot program, and our focus is on these two collections. EducationOrganization subcategories will be reviewed next for both PEIMS FALL and for Class Roster FALL.

TEA environment setup is progressing. The Transition Zone environment setup has been started as of the week of 10/15/21 and continues. While we are in discussions with AWS, we will be converting and using three of our Linux servers as a trial environment. The DEV & TEST Change Event, JSON, and Docker Containers in the Linux server Transition Zone environment are slated to be deployed by early December 2021. DEV & TEST on three AWS servers for the Transition Zone should be deployed by February 2022. PROD for Parallel and Transition Zone environments should be in place in spring 2022.

Current Roadblocks

TPDM

None

TSDS

Discussions between Instructure and TEA are still being held to determine the final solution for the following – ChangeEvent data delivery mechanism, UID data validation process (and maintaining PII data security), and JSON message formatting. The decision on the UID Table Access that is part of the UID data validation process is a vital predecessor to TEA eScholar Unique ID Integration Phase 2 being completed by 12/16/21.

The final decision between Instructure and TEA on the delivery mechanism for ChangeEvent may necessitate additional development by TEA.

JSON development completion is dependent upon the datamart to Ed-Fi mapping being updated with TX extensions as defined in the TEDS ODS 3.x Domain Documentation. Additional development may also be necessary pending the final decision between Instructure and TEA on the JSON Message formatting.

Promotion logic definition completion is also dependent upon the datamart to Ed-Fi mapping being updated with TX extensions as defined in the TEDS ODS 3.x Domain Documentation.

Development of the promotion views is dependent upon the completion of the JSON database design and may be impacted by the decision on the JSON Message formatting.

Global Access

Do You confirm that You have ensured and will continue to ensure Global Access for the Funded Developments of the Project and, as applicable, Background Technology?

Yes

No (If no, please explain below)

Outputs/Funded Developments and Background Technology

As part of Your Final Progress Report You must update your Outputs/Funded Developments disclosure and Background Technology disclosure. Do You confirm that You have provided a full and accurate disclosure of all Outputs/Funded Developments and Background Technology as applicable to the Project?

Yes ____

No ____ (If no, please explain below)

Lessons Learned

Describe the top one to three takeaways or lessons learned from this Project. If You were to do this Project again, how would You approach it differently, if at all?

Feedback for the Foundation

Provide one to three ways the foundation successfully enabled your work during this Project. Provide one to three ways the foundation can improve.

Subgrants

If Your grant agreement (not applicable to contracts) is subject to expenditure responsibility and permits You to make subgrants to organizations that are not U.S. public charities or government agencies/instrumentalities, please complete the [Subgrantee Checklist](#) and attach a copy with this progress narrative for each such subgrantee.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The purpose of this section is to help the foundation understand how programmatic performance affects actual and projected expenditures over the life of the investment.

Feel free to reach out to your foundation contact for support with these progress reporting requirements.

Note: Budget template and financial narrative instructions can be found here. If you are using an older version of the budget template, this information could be in a different location in your template.

Latest Period Variance

“Latest period variance” compares expenditures that occurred in the reporting period against the most recent forecast. See “Financial Summary & Reporting” sheet in the foundation budget template for calculated variance (for example, column AD, starting on row 29 for period 1). Note that the allowable variance is defined in your grant agreement.

At this time, BMGF has not distributed the grant payments to TEA, and the budget variance shows as -100%. The TEA and BMGF team agreed to hold the grant payments due to the delays with the contract signatures between TEA and Instructure. The team agreed the BMGF grant payments would resume pending a signed contract.

Sub-Awards (if applicable)

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Instructure, Inc.		\$	\$	\$ 1,250,000
Total (ties to budget file(s))		\$	\$	\$ 1,250,000

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Additionally, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is funding the TPDM ODS portion of the project.

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