

## INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT

This **Interlocal Cooperation Contract** (“**Contract**”) is entered into effective **May 1st, 2026** (“**Effective Date**”), by and between the Contracting Parties (as defined below) pursuant to authority granted in and in compliance with [Chapter 791, Government Code](#).

### CONTRACTING PARTIES:

**Receiving Party:** Ector County Independent School District, a State of Texas independent school district.

Contact: Dr. Keeley Boyer  
Superintendent  
802 N. Sam Houston  
Odessa, Texas 79761  
432-456-0000

**Performing Party:** The University of Texas at Austin (“UT”), an institution of higher education and agency of the State of Texas.

Technical Contact: Leticia Romero Grimaldo, Ph.D.  
Senior Project Manager  
The Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk  
1912 Speedway D4900  
College of Education SZB 5.146  
Austin, Texas 78712  
512-475-6560

Administrative Contact: Jessica C. Fernandez  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Office of Sponsored Projects  
Peter T. Flawn Academic Center (FAC)  
Suite 426  
2304 Whitis Ave  
Austin, TX 78712-1111  
512-471-6424  
[osp@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:osp@austin.utexas.edu)

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this Contract is for the Receiving Party to obtain the research services of the Performing Party to evaluate, support and improve the Receiving Party's Reading and Language Arts Programs for Kindergarten through Second Grade teachers and students. It is agreed and understood by the Parties that said research services will be provided by Performing Party as stipulated herein and funded under separate agreement between Performing Party and Permian Strategic Partnership, Inc. ("PSP").

## **GOALS & OUTCOMES:**

Permian Strategic Partnership, Inc. ("PSP") and the Performing Party propose a focused partnership with the Receiving Party to build educator capacity through a job-embedded professional learning ("JEPL") model that includes Kindergarten through Grade 2 English Language Arts and Reading ("ELAR") as well as Spanish Language Arts and Reading ("SLAR") classroom teachers (the "Initiative") across seven Performing Party campuses, which are as follows: 1) Blackshear Elementary; 2) Buddy West Elementary; 3) Dowling Elementary; 4) Goliad Elementary; 5) Ireland Elementary; 6) Murry Fly Elementary; and 7) Zavala Elementary (the "Campuses").

The goal of the Initiative is to increase the quality of language and literacy instruction for the Receiving Party's K-2 students in through the implementation of the JEPL model. This Initiative is designed to strengthen instructional practice, support effective implementation of high-quality instructional materials ("HQIM"), and create the conditions for sustained improvement within existing district structures such as Professional Learning Communities ("PLC").

Anticipated outcomes across the 7 Campuses include:

- Improved instructional quality in K-2 ELAR/SLAR classrooms through consistent use of evidence-based literacy practices
- Increased teacher capacity to effectively implement HQIM with fidelity and confidence
- Strengthened PLCs as a vehicle for ongoing, job-embedded professional learning and continuous improvement
- Greater alignment across campuses in literacy instruction
- Measurable gains in early literacy outcomes, including foundational reading and language development skills
- Identification of key barriers and enabling conditions to inform scale and sustainability across the district

## STATEMENT OF SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED:

Performing Party will perform the following **services across the Campuses**:

### 1. **One full-day kick-off training**

Audience: K-2 ELAR/SLAR teachers across the 7 Campuses.

Format: In-person, action-oriented professional development sessions focused on building teacher knowledge of effective practice and providing opportunities for practice and application.

Session Topics:

- a. Introduction to and Overview of the Permian Literacy Initiative.
- b. Evidence-based practices for core instruction based on the *science of teaching reading*, emphasizing explicit systematic teaching of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and writing.
- c. Features of Effective, Evidence-based Instruction (i.e., effective modeling, use of scaffolds, and high-quality practice opportunities).
- d. Implementation support for the district's adopted HQIM using explicit and systematic instructional routines for developing essential knowledge and skills.

### 2. **Bi-monthly (2x month) site visits through SY 2026-2027.**

Audience/participants: K-2 ELAR/SLAR teachers across the 7 Campuses.

Providers & Activity: 2-3 members of the Performing Party's project team will engage teacher participants in the following JEPL activities:

- a. Facilitating Professional Learning Community Meetings in Grade-Level Teams (K-2) (1x month)
- b. Providing instructional coaching, observation, and feedback to participating teachers (1x month)

Duration: 2-4 days each visit (across Campuses), depending on type of support activity:

Schedule: Site Visits will be *dependent on campus availability* and scheduled in advance in coordination with campus and district leaders.

### 3. **Monthly leadership check-ins (via zoom)**

4. **One (1) time per month office hours** for teachers or instructional coaches (via zoom or other video conferencing method).

## **WARRANTIES AND REPRESENTATIONS:**

Receiving Party acknowledges the following: (1) the services are necessary and authorized for activities properly within its statutory functions and programs; (2) it has authority to contract for the services under authority granted in [Section 29.0881](#), *Texas Education Code*, and [Chapter 791](#), *Texas Government Code*; (3) it has all necessary power and has received all necessary approvals to execute and deliver this Contract, and (4) the representative signing this Contract on Receiving Party's behalf is authorized by its governing body to do so.

Performing Party represents (1) it has authority to perform the services under authority granted in [Section 29.0881](#), *Texas Education Code*, and [Chapter 791](#), *Texas Government Code*; (2) it has all necessary power and has received all necessary internal approvals to execute and deliver this Contract, and (3) the representative signing this Contract on Performing Party's behalf is duly authorized to do so.

The Parties further agree that each party possesses certain rights and privileges, and is subject to certain limitations and restrictions, and only has the authority as it is granted under the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas.

## **CONTRACT AMOUNT & PAYMENT**

It is agreed and understood by the Parties that funding support for this effort is contingent on the continued receipt of funds under the separate agreement between PSP and the Performing Party. The Parties agree that all anticipated fees would be paid by PSP in accordance with any relevant payment terms set forth under such separate agreement.

## **TERM:**

The term of this Contract begins on the Effective Date and expires on August 31, 2028, unless earlier terminated by the Parties by mutual agreement.

## **TERMINATION:**

In the event of material failure by a Contracting Party to perform its duties and obligations in accordance with this Contract, the other party may terminate this Contract upon sixty (60) days' advance written notice of termination setting forth the nature of the material failure; provided that, the material failure is through no fault of the terminating party. The termination will not be effective if the material failure is fully cured prior to the end of the sixty-day period.

The Performing Party may also, with sixty (60) days prior written notice, terminate this Contract for convenience if conduct of the work hereunder is no longer feasible based on the departure or absence of Performing Party's Principal Investigator or lack of funding.

**OTHER PROVISIONS Payment of Debt or Delinquency to the State.** Pursuant to Sections [2107.008](#) and [2252.903](#), *Government Code*, any payments owing to Performing Party under this Contract may be applied directly toward any debt or delinquency Performing Party owes the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas, regardless of when it arises, until paid in full.

**Governing Law.** Texas will be the agreed and proper place of venue for suit on or in respect of this Agreement. This Agreement, all its terms and conditions, all rights and obligations of the parties, and all claims arising out of or relating to this Agreement, will be construed, interpreted, and applied in accordance with, governed by and enforced under, the laws of the State of Texas.

**Entire Agreement; Modifications.** This Contract supersedes all prior agreements, written or oral, between Performing Party and Receiving Party and will constitute the entire agreement and understanding between the parties with respect to its subject matter. This Contract and each of its provisions will be binding on the parties, and may not be waived, modified, amended, or altered, except by a writing signed by Receiving Party and Performing Party.

**State Auditor's Office.** Contracting Parties understand acceptance of funds under this Contract constitutes acceptance of authority of the Texas State Auditor's Office or any successor agency ("**Auditor**"), to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds (ref. [Sections 51.9335\(c\)](#), [73.115\(c\)](#) and [74.008\(c\)](#), *Education Code*). Contracting Parties agree to cooperate with Auditor in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing access to records as required by applicable law. To the extent applicable, Contracting Parties will include this provision in all contracts with permitted subcontractors.

**Assignment.** This Contract is not transferable or assignable except upon written approval by Contracting Parties.

**Severability.** If any one or more of the provisions of this Contract will for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, that invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability will not affect any other provision, and this Contract will be construed as if the invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provisions had never been included.

**Public Records.** It will be the independent responsibility of Receiving Party and Performing Party to comply with [Chapter 552, Government Code](#) (the "**Public Information Act**"), as it applies to the Contracting Parties' respective information. Receiving Party is not authorized to receive public information requests or take any action under the Public Information Act on behalf of Performing Party. Likewise, Performing Party is not authorized to receive public information requests or take any other action under the Public Information Act on behalf of Receiving Party.

**Private Information.** The Parties agree that they will abide by the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act and the Texas Education Code as it relates to all personally identifiable information or information that is linked to personally identifiable information, in any media or format, that is not publicly available concerning students, staff, administrators, vendors, and other third parties.

**Executed effective on the Effective Date by the following duly authorized representatives of Contracting Parties:**

**RECEIVING PARTY:**  
**Ector County Independent School District**

**PERFORMING PARTY:**  
**The University of Texas at Austin**

Name: Keeley Boyer

Name: Jessica C. Fernandez

Title: Superintendent

Title: Director of Contracting

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by:  
*Jessica C. Fernandez*  
Signature: C996AC2B04464EF \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2026-06-09 | 05:37:55 PDT \_\_\_\_\_

## Certificate Of Completion

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Subject: HOT! Complete with Docusign: UTAUS-ONF00000734 ECISD ICC v4 6.8.26 (AER RL III)_For signature.docx	
Source Envelope:	
Document Pages: 6	Signatures: 1
Certificate Pages: 1	Initials: 0
AutoNav: Enabled	Envelope Originator:
Envelopeld Stamping: Enabled	Robyn Bertholon
Time Zone: (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)	1 University Station
	Austin, TX 78712
	rab6375@eid.utexas.edu
	IP Address: 99.64.186.234

## Record Tracking

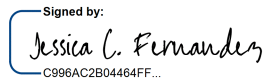
Status: Original	Holder: Robyn Bertholon	Location: DocuSign
6/9/2026 4:18:55 AM	rab6375@eid.utexas.edu	

## Signer Events

Jessica C. Fernandez  
jcf3534@eid.utexas.edu  
Director of Contracting

The University of Texas at Austin  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)

## Signature

Signed by:  
  
C996AC2B04464FF...

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style  
Using IP Address: 136.50.17.34

## Timestamp

Sent: 6/9/2026 4:21:20 AM  
Viewed: 6/9/2026 5:36:16 AM  
Signed: 6/9/2026 5:37:55 AM

**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via Docusign

## In Person Signer Events

## Signature

## Timestamp

## Editor Delivery Events

## Status

## Timestamp

## Agent Delivery Events

## Status

## Timestamp

## Intermediary Delivery Events

## Status

## Timestamp

## Certified Delivery Events

## Status

## Timestamp

## Carbon Copy Events

## Status

## Timestamp

## Witness Events

## Signature

## Timestamp

## Notary Events

## Signature

## Timestamp

## Envelope Summary Events

## Status

## Timestamps

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Certified Delivered	Security Checked	6/9/2026 5:36:16 AM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	6/9/2026 5:37:55 AM
Completed	Security Checked	6/9/2026 5:37:55 AM

## Payment Events

## Status

## Timestamps