

Autism Collaborative Network Shared Services Agreement 2026-2027

Whereas the Texas Legislature and Texas Education Agency have determined that school districts may enter into a Shared Services Agreement ("SSA") to jointly operate a specific education program; and

Whereas Deer Park Independent School District ("Deer Park ISD" or the "Fiscal Agent") is the awarded district, thereby fiscal agent of the 2026-2027 Innovative Services for Students with Autism Grant by the Texas Education Agency; and

Whereas the grant period for the 2026-2027 Innovative Services to Students with Autism Grant is May 1, 2026 - August 31, 2027; and

Whereas the independent school districts of Deer Park, Goose Creek Consolidated, and Dayton (collectively "the Autism Collaborative Network" or "Member Districts") hereby agree to cooperatively provide social, behavioral, and academic services ("Services") to eligible students with autism, ages three through twenty-one.

Now Therefore, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, the Parties hereto agree as follows:

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT

The purpose of the Autism Collaborative Network is to seek and implement academic, social and behavioral evidence-based practices to address the increased prevalence of autism in the student population by providing Services to eligible students in Member Districts. Additionally, training will be provided for teachers, administrators, and parents in the use of the Social Communication, Emotional Regulation, and Structured teaching for the purpose of better serving students with autism.

The Autism Collaborative Network shall follow the guidelines developed by the Texas Education Agency ("TEA") regarding implementation of Services and administration of funds received through the Services to Students with Autism Grant.

2.0 TERM

This shared services agreement is effective from May 1, 2026 to August 31, 2027.

3.0 MEMBERSHIP IN THE SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT

The Autism Collaborative Network shall be composed of Deer Park ISD, Goose Creek Consolidated ISD, and Dayton ISD. By entering into the SSA, the Member Districts do not intend to create a separate or additional legal entity. Additional school districts will not be allowed entry into the SSA. Member Districts may not withdraw during the grant period, as this agreement is for the implementation of Services via a state grant program.

4.0 GOVERNANCE OF THE AUTISM COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

The Autism Collaborative Network shall operate under the direction of the Management Board and shall be governed by the administrative guidelines adopted by the Management Board as directly administered by the fiscal agent district. Deer Park ISD shall serve as the fiscal agent and program administrator for the Autism Collaborative Network. Administrative offices shall be located at 2800 Texas Avenue, Deer Park, Texas 77536.

4.1 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT BOARD

The Management Board shall be comprised of at least one representative from each Member District and a representative from the fiscal agent.

Meetings will be held three (3) to five (5) times throughout the grant period. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairperson of the Management Board on an as-needed basis. Management Board members will keep their respective district superintendents advised of the actions of the Autism Collaborative Network.

The Management Board shall provide governance, oversight, and strategic direction for the Autism Collaborative Network. The Management Board shall:

- a) Select a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from among the Member District representatives.
- b) Adopt operating procedures necessary for conducting the business of the Collaborative.
- c) Establish the vision, goals, and strategic priorities of the Collaborative consistent with the approved grant application.
- d) Review and approve the annual budget, significant budget revisions, and implementation plans.
- e) Monitor implementation of grant activities to ensure fidelity to the approved grant application and achievement of grant objectives.
- f) Review financial reports, program updates, evaluation data, and performance outcomes.
- g) Approve recommendations regarding major program initiatives, contracted services, professional learning activities, and allocation of grant-funded resources.
- h) Recommend amendments to this Agreement, subject to approval by the Member Districts.
- i) Promote collaboration and equitable participation among all Member Districts.
- j) Resolve issues related to implementation that affect multiple Member

Districts.

k) Ensure compliance with applicable federal and state laws, grant requirements, and Collaborative policies.

l) Take any additional action necessary for the successful governance of the Autism Collaborative Network.

m) Conduct all business by majority vote of the Member District representatives present unless otherwise provided in this Agreement.

5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES OF FISCAL AGENT

The Fiscal Agent (Deer Park ISD) shall serve as the administrative entity responsible for the financial management and grant administration of the Autism Collaborative Network. The Fiscal Agent shall:

a) Accept and administer all grant funds awarded to the Collaborative.

b) Maintain all financial records in accordance with applicable federal, state, local, and grant requirements.

c) Prepare and submit all required grant applications, amendments, reimbursement requests, financial reports, performance reports, and compliance documentation to the granting agency.

d) Ensure all expenditures comply with the approved grant budget, applicable procurement requirements, and state and federal regulations.

e) Execute contracts, purchase agreements, and other legally required documents on behalf of the Collaborative, as authorized by the Management Board and consistent with applicable law.

f) Employ, assign, or contract for personnel necessary to administer the grant, as approved through the grant budget.

g) Provide regular financial and programmatic reports to the Management Board.

h) Maintain all records necessary for grant monitoring, auditing, and program evaluation.

i) Coordinate grant monitoring activities and respond to requests from the granting agency.

j) Provide administrative support necessary for the effective operation of the Collaborative.

k) Carry out all other duties required of the Fiscal Agent under applicable law,

grant requirements, and this Agreement.

6.0 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBER DISTRICTS

Each Member District shall maintain ultimate responsibility for the education of students who reside with their district. Matters may be referred to a Member District when deemed appropriate by the Management Board.

Member Districts will be responsible for the following:

- a) Designate one representative to serve on the Management Board and participate in governance activities.
- b) Participate in collaborative planning, implementation, and evaluation of grant-funded activities.
- c) Implement grant activities within the district in accordance with the approved grant application and established Collaborative procedures.
- d) Ensure grant-funded personnel, when applicable, fulfill the responsibilities associated with grant implementation.
- e) Collect and submit programmatic, financial, and performance data as requested by the Fiscal Agent.
- f) Cooperate with all grant monitoring, auditing, evaluation, and reporting activities.
- g) Utilize grant-funded materials, equipment, and resources in accordance with grant requirements and established Collaborative procedures.
- h) Support professional learning and implementation activities designed to improve outcomes for students with autism.
- i) Comply with all applicable federal and state laws, grant requirements, and provisions of this Agreement.
- j) Promptly notify the Fiscal Agent of any issues that could materially affect implementation of the grant.
- k) Participate in sustainability planning to support continuation of effective practices beyond the grant period.
- l) Provide accurate expenditure reports for reimbursement to the fiscal agent district quarterly throughout the grant period and submit the final expenditure report for reimbursement by August 1, 2027.

6.1 Confidentiality

To the extent that each Member District will come into possession of student records and information, and to the extent that each Member District will be involved in the survey, analysis, or evaluation of students, incidental to this SSA, each Member District agrees to comply with all applicable requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA").

7.0 Reimbursement Procedures

As the fiscal agent district, Deer Park ISD will collect expenditure reports from each Member District and compile the collective expenditure report for the Autism Collaborative Network. Deer Park ISD will draw down the program funds from TEA. Once the funds are received from TEA, Member Districts will be reimbursed by Deer Park ISD for the expenditures incurred.

Expenditure reports are due from Member Districts on a quarterly basis throughout the grant period. The due dates for submission to Deer Park ISD are as follows:

- Quarter 1 (July, August, September) – Due October 12, 2026
- Quarter 2 (October, November, December) – Due January 18, 2027
- Quarter 3 (January, February, March) – Due April 12, 2027
- Quarter 4 (April, May, June) – Due July 12, 2027

The following documentation will be submitted by each Member District to Deer Park ISD to receive reimbursement:

- A signed Expenditure Report (template will be provided to Member Districts by Deer Park ISD)
- Detailed General Ledger Report (6100-6400s) from accounting system
- Expenditure reports and documentation should be submitted to:

Deer Park Independent School District
ATTN: Misti Mead/Megan Thompson
Special Education Department
2800 Texas Avenue
Deer Park, TX 77536

Contact Information for:

Misti Mead, Director of Special Services
mmead@dpisd.org | 832-668-7170

Megan Thompson, Director of Finance
mcthompson@dpisd.org | 832-668-7009

8.0 Liability, Governmental Immunity, and Legal Responsibility

Governmental Immunity

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of any immunity, defense, or limitation of liability available to any party under the Constitution or laws of the State of Texas. Each party expressly reserves all governmental immunity and other legal

protections available under applicable law.

Legal Costs and Attorney Fees

Each Member District shall be responsible for the acts and omissions of its own officers, employees, agents, and contractors. Each party shall bear its own costs of legal representation, litigation, settlements, judgments, and related expenses arising from claims attributable to its own conduct, except as otherwise required by applicable law.

The Fiscal Agent shall not be responsible for the acts or omissions of any Member District. Likewise, no Member District shall be responsible for the acts or omissions of the Fiscal Agent or another Member District. Each party shall remain solely responsible for the actions of its own officers, employees, agents, and contractors.

Unless otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction or required by law, each party shall bear its own attorney's fees, court costs, and litigation expenses arising from any dispute related to this Agreement.

Insurance

Each Member District shall maintain insurance coverage or participate in an approved governmental risk pool consistent with applicable law.

9.0 GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE

This SSA shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. The mandatory and exclusive venue for the SSA shall be a court of competent jurisdiction in Harris County, Texas.

10.0 APPROVAL BY MEMBER DISTRICTS

This agreement has been approved by the Board of Trustees of each Member District.

Superintendent/Designee
Deer Park Independent School
District

Date

Superintendent/Designee
Goose Creek Consolidated
Independent School District

Date

Superintendent/Designee
Dayton Independent School District

Date

Texas Education Agency

NOGA ID: 260330017110003

Organization: DEER PARK ISD

County-District: 101908

Vendor ID: 1- 746000661

Campus/School: Not Applicable

ESC Region: 4

School Year: 2026

Notice of Grant Award

SAS # A186-26

Amendment Number:

Name of Grant Program	Far Fund Code	Far Rev Code	Fed Awd # /CFDA #	Federal Aid Agency	TEA USE only	Begin Date	End Date	Increase (Decrease)	Amount
INNOVATIVE SERVICES STUDENTS W/AUTISM, C3Y1	459	5849			03302601	05/01/2026	08/31/2027	\$0.00	\$877,312.00
NOGA Total:									\$877,312.00

An amount of (\$0.00) has been reserved for the Notice of Grant Award. For more information, please contact the funding contact listed on the TEA Grant Opportunities page.

Application and any amendment thereto identified above, Received Date/ Document Control Number/ Application ID(04/20/2026)as revised or negotiated by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), is hereby incorporated by reference and, therefore, made a part of this grant award. Also incorporated by reference into this grant award are the Provisions and Assurances contained in the incorporated application, the Request for Application (if applicable), the instructions to completing the Standard Application System (SAS), any guidelines which accompany the application, including program and fiscal guidelines, and any and all attachments or appendices submitted by the applicant or included by TEA. This grant is made contingent upon the availability of funds from the funding entity to the Texas Education Agency for distribution to the sub grantee named above. If funding is not received, TEA assumes no liability for costs incurred by the grant recipient.

Offer Accepted by Grantee	Approval ID of the Commissioner of Education or Designee Texas Education Agency	Date
The signature of the applicant's authorized officer contained on the applicant's application or amended application referred to above, is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this grant/award.		05/15/2026

Texas Education Agency
Supplement to Notice of Grand Award (NOGA)

1	Subrecipient Name: DEER PARK ISD 2800 TEXAS AVE DEER PARK TX 77536-4797	2	Subrecipient Unique Entity Identifier: UEI: K3P8PH666TY9 Vendor ID: 1- 746000661 County District (CDN): 101-908														
3	Subrecipient Information <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Grant Name:</td> <td>INNOVATIVE SERVICES STUDENTS W/AUTISM, C3Y1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subaward period of performance start and end date:</td> <td>See NOGA certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount of federal funds obligated by this action:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total amount of federal funds awarded:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indirect cost rate:</td> <td>4.06%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>De minimis indirect cost rate:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Research and development grant:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Grant Name:	INNOVATIVE SERVICES STUDENTS W/AUTISM, C3Y1	Subaward period of performance start and end date:	See NOGA certificate	Amount of federal funds obligated by this action:	Not Applicable	Total amount of federal funds awarded:	Not Applicable	Indirect cost rate:	4.06%	De minimis indirect cost rate:	Not Applicable	Research and development grant:	Not Applicable
Grant Name:	INNOVATIVE SERVICES STUDENTS W/AUTISM, C3Y1																
Subaward period of performance start and end date:	See NOGA certificate																
Amount of federal funds obligated by this action:	Not Applicable																
Total amount of federal funds awarded:	Not Applicable																
Indirect cost rate:	4.06%																
De minimis indirect cost rate:	Not Applicable																
Research and development grant:	Not Applicable																
4	Subrecipient Terms and Conditions (1) New EDGAR including 2 C.F.R. Part 200 does not apply. (2) Grant program requirements (a) Incorporated by reference in General and Fiscal Guidelines (b) Incorporated by reference in Program Guidelines (c) Incorporated by reference in General Provisions and Assurances (d) Incorporated by reference in Program-Specific Provisions and Assurances (if applicable) (3) Additional requirements Incorporated by reference in the To The Administrator Addressed correspondence sent to grantee as applicable (4) Access to subrecipient records The subrecipient must permit TEA as the pass-through entity and auditors to have access to the subrecipient's records and financial statements as necessary for TEA to meet the requirements of this section. (5) Closeout of subaward (a) Incorporated by reference in General and Fiscal Guidelines (b) Incorporated by reference in NOGA transmittal letter																
5	Name of Pass-Through Entity Texas Education Agency	6	Contact Information for TEA Awarding Official See NOGA certificate														
7	Federal Award Information <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Federal awarding agency:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Federal award identification number:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CFDA number:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CFDA name:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Federal award date:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total amount of federal award:</td> <td>Not Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Federal awarding agency:	Not Applicable	Federal award identification number:	Not Applicable	CFDA number:	Not Applicable	CFDA name:	Not Applicable	Federal award date:	Not Applicable	Total amount of federal award:	Not Applicable		
Federal awarding agency:	Not Applicable																
Federal award identification number:	Not Applicable																
CFDA number:	Not Applicable																
CFDA name:	Not Applicable																
Federal award date:	Not Applicable																
Total amount of federal award:	Not Applicable																
8	Federal Award Project Description Not Applicable																