

# **Texas Student Success Collaboration (TSSC) with the National Institute of Student Success (NISS) Grant Program**

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
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### **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

Where can I find the informational recording?	NISS Grant Informational Recording
How many applications can an applicant submit?	An Eligible Applicant may submit a maximum of one (1) Application. Institutions that are separately accredited are limited to submitting one (1) application on behalf of the institution's district or system.
If our campus within a community college district is separately accredited, can we submit an application? Or are we limited to one application per district?	Individual campuses that are part of a district cannot apply. The district may submit an application, and the work can be done at one of the campuses; however, individual campuses are not eligible to apply.
If awarded, are we required to implement the recommendations from the diagnostic or does the scope of the project only commit us to complete the diagnostic?	It is highly encouraged to implement recommendations, though the scope of this grant pertains to the diagnostic analysis and creation of playbook. Campus buy-in and engagement from institutional leadership is considered in the application process.
To what level is the diagnostic analysis?	It is institutional data and it's aggregate. No student level data is used.
Once the diagnostic analysis is complete, what is shared with the institution?	The models are not shared, but all the outputs and all the data slides are shared. An onboarding session is provided for the institutions data team.
Data gathered through the diagnostic analysis is not shared with anyone else or the public?	No data is not shared and is written within the contract between NISS and the institution.
Recommendations provided as a result from the diagnostic analysis are campus wide?	Yes, they are campus wide involving anyone related to student success.
Has NISS worked with community colleges, specifically large systems of community colleges?	Yes, NISS has worked with community colleges and large systems community colleges.

<p>Could you clarify the scope of the assessment that is conducted? Specifically, do you conduct holistic assessments or broad institutional assessments, or can you evaluate a specific student success initiative?</p>	<p>The assessment begins broad and institutional, but is narrowed down by identifying pain points.</p>
<p>Can you provide more information on the time commitment?</p>	<p>We expect a project commitment of at least 20 weeks, which includes a 90-day diagnostic process. The lead will need to dedicate at least 20% of their time to the project throughout its duration. Additionally, staff will need to collaborate closely with NISS and other campus members, regularly reviewing data to inform institutional decisions and practices.</p>
<p>Can we see what other institutions in Texas NISS has worked with?</p>	<p>You can find previous clients of NISS in Texas at the following <a href="#">link</a>.</p>

## APPLICATION PROCESS

<p>How do I submit an application?</p>	<p>The application and budget form must be submitted via the NISS online submission forms: <a href="#">Grant Application Texas Student Success Collaboration (TSSC) with the National Institute of Student Success (NISS)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant Budget Form Texas Student Success Collaboration (TSSC) with the National Institute of Student Success (NISS)</a></p>
<p>Do the online application forms have a way to be saved as in-progress, and applicants can come back to complete later?</p>	<p>No, the online application forms do not allow progress to be saved. PDF versions of both the <a href="#">application</a> and the <a href="#">budget</a> are available for review and to help gather all necessary information to complete the online application forms.</p>
<p>What type of data would be appropriate for the "Workforce/Job Placement" component?</p>	<p>Students found working in Texas within one year after earning a degree or certificate. Similar to our <a href="#">Accountability System</a> identifying working students from the Marketable Skills section, M01A - Working or Enrolled within One Year.</p>
<p>The template includes the following suggestion about the data: "Additionally, if available, include any student demographics that</p>	<p>This is optional and entirely up to your preference. We are interested in learning more about the students you are serving and</p>

<p>might offer further insights into the data, e.g., gender, race/ethnicity, FT/PT status, and age group." Should each item be disaggregated by gender, race, etc.? Could you clarify what level of demographic detail is expected/desired?</p>	<p>those who need the most support. If you find the information exceeds the allowed space, feel free to submit it as an attachment.</p>
<p>Where can we find the Certification of Application Information and Leadership (Form 2) that Section 8.2 of the RFA says is required?</p>	<p>Sections 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3 from the RFA pertaining to the application format and content have been combined and are included in the online application submission form. You can find the portion related to certification of application towards the bottom of the <a href="#">grant application online submission form</a>.</p>
<p>The RFA section, detailed program overview, 5.1.i references longitudinal data extraction through IPEDS. Since the Institute of Education Sciences was recently defunded by the federal government, will that impact data that was housed in IPEDS? Will this impact the grant?</p>	<p>Currently the defunding of the Institute of Education Sciences will not impact the longitudinal data analysis that occurs during the Diagnostic and Playbook process. Currently, access to institutional data through IPEDS is still available and NISS has also downloaded and stored the full data set.</p>
<p>Application Questions 1.b, it states re: the project lead, "Ideally, this person will be a seasoned manager with leadership responsibilities, who is not in an interim role." If the project lead is in an interim position, will this disqualify the grant application?</p>	<p>No, this would not disqualify your application. However, it would be beneficial to provide the reasoning behind this decision and outline any measures you have in place for potential transitions during the grant cycle.</p>

### BUDGET/ ALLOWABLE COSTS

<p>Could you provide an example of the technology that would/could be involved?</p>	<p>Software is a good example of technology costs. If you have a specific technology cost in mind, please let us know and we can provide further guidance.</p>
<p>The RFA indicates the expenses related to contracting services with NISS are included under the "Professional Services" category, but that category is not included on the budget template or the budget form. Which budget category should include the expenses related to contracting services with NISS?</p>	<p>Contracting services with NISS can be included in "Other Direct" category and be identified within the narrative portion.</p>