



Our vision is to implement a demonstration initiative that showcases strategies for using blended learning to personalize instruction, thereby improving student achievement, particularly among schools and districts with persistent achievement gaps.



### **Table of Contents**

Key Dates	1
Overview of the Initiative	2
Goals of Raising Blended Learners	3
What is Blended Learning?	4
Why Blended Learning?	5
Expectations for Participation	6
Eligibility Requirements	8
Developing Blended Learning Plans	9
Case Studies	11
Sample Terms and Conditions	12
Questions	17

### **Key Dates**



Raise Your Hand Texas® has tried to anticipate every detail of this initiative from the start.

Note, however, it may be necessary to update this information and the information on the <a href="https://www.raiseyourhandtexas.org">www.raiseyourhandtexas.org</a> website to clarify and adjust as this new initiative moves forward.

#### **JUNE 9, 2015**

Apply to Participate is open and call for applications begins. Schools and districts across Texas are invited to apply to be among the 80 teams to attend an expense-paid training workshop in the fall, where they will receive expert coaching to develop a blended learning plan for possible grant funding of up to \$500,000.

#### MID-AUGUST, 2015

End of the team selection process. Raise Your Hand® will notify the 80 semi-finalist teams of their invitations to move on to the next round and participate in the blended learning workshops.

#### **SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

Pre-work for the workshops is available online (2-3 hours required).

#### **OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 2015**

Optional conference calls are available for technical assistance.

#### **EARLY JANUARY, 2016**

Raise Your Hand will announce 10 finalists.

#### **APRIL, 2016**

Raise Your Hand will announce winners.

#### **JULY 10, 2015**

Priority deadline for applications are due. Raise Your Hand will select teams on a rolling basis. Those who apply first will get first consideration.

#### **AUGUST 21, 2015**

RSVPs due from teams for the blended learning workshops.

#### **SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2015**

#### **Blended learning workshops:**

- September 22-23 Group 1, Fort Worth
- September 29-30 Group 2, San Antonio
- October 1-2 Group 3, San Antonio
- October 6-7 Group 4, South Padre Island

#### **NOVEMBER 20, 2015**

Blended learning plans are due.

#### **MARCH 1, 2016**

Finalists' revised drafts of blended learning plans are due.

#### 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

Demonstration implementations begin.



### Overview of Raising Blended Learners

elcome to Raising Blended Learners, Raise Your Hand's blended learning initiative. The purpose of this project is to showcase strategies for using blended learning to improve student achievement across diverse student demographics and geographic regions in the state, particularly among schools and districts with persistent achievement gaps.

To kick off the initiative, we are choosing five-person teams from 80 schools or districts across Texas to attend a two-day, expense paid blended learning workshop in fall 2015. From there, our panel of expert judges will select approximately five teams

for at least one year of intensive technical assistance and up to \$500,000 over three years to implement their blended learning plans.

For applicants who are not named among the final grantees, Raise Your Hand will help coordinate support to encourage these teams to continue to refine their plans and prepare for implementation when ready. We will also support statewide adoption of successful blended learning demonstration projects by evaluating and publicly reporting on the grantees' implementations on an annual basis, with a three-year cumulative report.



### **Goals of Raising Blended Learners**

Raise Your Hand's blended learning initiative is a success if it accomplishes these three goals:

Student achievement. Our primary goal is to showcase strategies for using blended learning to improve K–12 student achievement across diverse student demographics and geographic regions in the state, particularly among schools and districts with persistent achievement gaps.

We invite applicants to define student achievement according to the goals and priorities most important to their students. For example, one team might set the goal of raising overall scores on the STAAR test by a specific percentage within three years. Another might focus on lowering high school dropout rates or accelerating literacy among English language learners. Yet another might target college readiness, as measured by composite ACT test scores or pass rates on Advanced Placement exams.

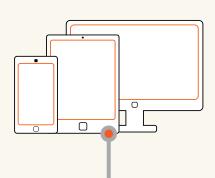
Sustainability. Raise Your Hand seeks to showcase delivery models that demonstrate long-term sustainability. Recipients of the grant must be able to maintain their projects financially, either through program cost efficiency or by eliminating other unneeded or unsuccessful programs or processes. In some cases Raise Your Hand may provide fourth and fifth year matching funds to promote expansion of effective programs across the district or network.

Scalability. If an individual school applies for the grant, it must articulate how it is addressing a problem that also troubles other schools in the area and how its successful efforts will lift other schools beyond its campus. Districts and charter school networks must present a credible plan to expand early successes across their entire systems.

### What is Blended Learning?

Any fair look at education technology in U.S. K–12 schools must acknowledge that the nation has spent over \$100 billion on computers in the past few decades with very little to show for it in the way of results. Blended learning is critically different from—but easily confused with—the much broader trend of equipping classrooms with devices and software. We believe that for Texas to lead the world in student achievement, our schools must be wise enough to look beyond the technology trap and, instead, pursue a more strategic and focused blended learning strategy. Blended learning has three components:

classroom teacher's perspective.



Blended learning is a formal education program in which a student learns at least in part through online learning, with some element of student control over time, place, path, and/or pace. Some element of student control is critical. The technology used for the online learning must shift content and instruction to the control of the student in at least some way for it to qualify as blended learning from the student's perspective, rather than just the use of digital tools from the

The student learns at least in part in a supervised brick-and-mortar location away from home. In other words, the student attends a physical school with teachers or guides and benefits from the important social, educational, and extracurricular experiences and mentorships that physical campuses can provide.





Modalities along each student's learning path are connected to provide an integrated learning experience. Most blended learning programs use a computer-based data system to provide continual formative assessments, track each student's progress, and help to match the modality—whether it is online, one-on-one, or small group—to the appropriate level and topic.

For more on blended learning, see <u>Blended: Using Disruptive Innovation to Improve Schools</u>, by Michael Horn and Heather Staker, whose research for the <u>Christensen Institute</u> provides the framework for this initiative.

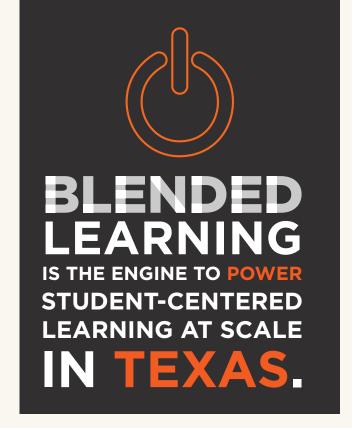
# Why Blended Learning?

Schools are confronting a design problem. Educators are tasked with helping young learners become college-and-career-ready for the 21st century, but have inherited a classroom model built to prepare the previous generation mainly for factory work in the 20th century. They are told to close the achievement gap, but students who enter their doors represent an increasingly diverse mix with a wide range of learning issues and complicated individual needs. They try painstakingly to differentiate instruction, but tailoring lessons to each child is nearly impossible in a typical classroom with 20 to 35 students and only one teacher.

Today's conventional model of education, in which we batch students in classes and teach the same thing in the same way, is an ineffective way for many children to succeed. Today's students are entering a world in which they need a personalized schooling system.

Personalized learning is learning tailored to an individual student's needs and abilities. All students are held to high expectations, but each student follows a customized path that adapts based on the student's individual progress and goals. Personalized learning is competency-focused. Each student's progress toward clearly defined goals is continually assessed. Students advance and earn credit as soon as they demonstrate mastery.

For decades, the idea of a system that can deliver personalized, competency-based learning to every student has been help up as the gold standard. It's what educators mean when they talk about "student-centered" schools. Today, with the innovation of blended learning, that vision is within reach.



Blended learning has emerged as the engine to power student-centered learning at scale—that is, across the entire system, not only for the privileged few who can afford a personal tutor. Just as technology enables mass customization in so many parts of our lives, the blend of online learning into school will allow students to learn anytime, any place, any path, and at any pace. It also frees up teachers to become learning designers, mentors, facilitators, tutors, evaluators, and counselors to reach each student in ways never before possible.

Raise Your Hand is determined to develop the capacity of school leaders to bring the power of blended learning to their campuses. Together we will harness the best of today's technologies and innovations to raise Texas students to their highest potential and prepare them for the sophisticated demands of the 21st century.



### **Expectations for Participation**

This is not an initiative for schools with a passing interest in blended learning. Our intent is to select teams that are committed to developing and implementing a multi-year strategy to support blended learning in their schools and expand successful programs system-wide.

#### **Full commitment**

To achieve this vision, we are asking that each participant commit to the following:

- Join together as a five-person team to enter the contest. The team must include:
  - 1. The superintendent or his/her designee
  - 2. A principal from an applying campus

Other recommended skillsets include:

- 1. Instruction (teaching and learning)
- 2. Technology (infrastructure, hardware, and software at the school and system level)
- Finance (procurement policies and budgets)
- Apply to participate by completing the application, which takes roughly two hours and requires input from each team member. This application is available at <u>RaiseYourHandTexas</u>. <u>org/programs/blended/application</u>.

- If Raise Your Hand invites the team to continue
  to the next round, all five participants from each
  team together must attend a two-day blended
  learning workshop. The in-person training
  will be held on four dates in September and
  October 2015. Team members are expected
  to complete the pre-work challenge and other
  personalized challenges presented during the
  two-day experience.
- Following the workshop, teams are invited to submit a blended learning plan. Developing a high-quality plan will require substantial effort.
   Teams must signify that they have the support of the school board, superintendent, and district leadership team, as well as the principals, administrative team, and 80 percent of staff in schools of implementation.
- Ten finalists (chosen in January 2016) are required to commit to two months of intensive technical assistance to fine-tune their plans.
   Finalists must commit to full participation in these critical planning months, including taking advantage of school-design support and attending an in-person convening. Final drafts are due March 1, 2016.
- Approximately five winning teams will begin to implement their plans during the 2016-17 school year, with one year of ongoing technical assistance provided by Raise Your Hand. Winning teams will receive funding over three years as

they fulfill mutually agreed-upon milestones. Teams are expected to identify resources and build capacity to expand their efforts systemwide without our financial support after the third year. In some cases Raise Your Hand will consider providing matching funds beyond the third year to facilitate program expansion.

- Winners must designate and provide for a project manager who will be available to dedicate at least 50 percent of his/her time to implementing the plan, beginning the summer of 2016.
- Winning teams also must commit to participate in and contribute to the cohort of blended demonstration sites, working together as a community to support each other's blended programs.
- All teams, at every stage of the process, must be willing to share data with a third-party

evaluation firm to allow other schools in the state to learn from the collective effort. They must also be willing to allow Raise Your Hand staff to visit their school(s), observe classes, and speak with principals, teachers, and students about their vision and challenges with blended learning.

#### A big-picture, system-wide shift

Our vision for transformation is not merely a few more flipped classrooms. We are seeking a new system-wide vision for teaching and learning that centers on meeting the individual needs and abilities of each student. We are looking for Texas schools that are willing to lead the way in transforming their model into a truly student-centered design. **Table 1** summarizes the three key elements that are essential to a student-centered school system.

Table 1: Key elements of a student-centered school system

Key Element	Description
Personalized	Personalized learning seeks to accelerate student learning by tailoring the instructional environment—what, when, how, and where students learn—to address the individual needs, skills, and interests of each student. Students have the opportunity to take ownership of their learning. Student needs drive the design of flexible learning environments. All operational elements—staffing plans, space utilization, and time allotment—respond and adapt to students in achieving their goals.
Competency- based	Students advance upon mastery. Competencies include explicit, measurable, transferable learning objectives that empower students. Assessment is meaningful and a positive learning experience for students. Students receive rapid, differentiated support based on their individual learning needs. Learning outcomes emphasize competencies that include application and creation of knowledge along with the development of important skills and dispositions. (iNACOL)
Blended	Students learn at least in part through online learning with some element of student control over time, place, path, and/or pace and at least in part at a supervised brick-and-mortar location away from home. The modalities along each student's learning path within a course or subject are connected to provide an integrated learning experience (Christensen Institute).

### Eligibility Requirements

We are seeking applications from high-functioning, visionary design and implementation teams that share our vision for blended learning as a vehicle toward student-centered learning and student achievement.

To be eligible for the grant, teams must satisfy all of the following conditions:

- Applicants may represent a public school, school district, a charter school, or charter management organization (CMO) serving grades K-12 in the state of Texas.
- At least 40 percent of students served by the campuses applying must qualify for free and reduced lunch. If a district or CMO is applying, at least 40 percent of students must be free and reduced lunch as an average across the participating campuses; that is, not across the entire district, but rather, only across those campuses participating in the Raising Blended Learners initiative.
- Multiple schools from a single district may apply; however, all schools must obtain district approval to apply. If the district applies, a school within the district cannot; the district must be the sole applicant.
- An individual school must demonstrate it is addressing a problem that also troubles other schools in the area and show how its successful efforts will lift schools beyond its campus. It must also demonstrate it has sufficient operating latitude and autonomy to allow its team to proceed with fidelity to the planned model.



Raise Your Hand will ensure the Raising Blended Learners initiative cohort reflects Texas's demographic and geographic diversity to generate the proof points necessary to ignite a statewide mind shift; accordingly, rural, urban, city and suburban schools will be represented to the extent possible, and more affluent school/district and charter awardees will be limited to one respectively.



# **Developing Blended Learning Plans**

Following the blended learning workshops, the 80 participants teams will be invited to develop and submit their complete blended learning plans. During the workshop, teams will receive specific information about the deliverables and timelines associated with submitting their plans and they will begin to draft their plans. They will also learn how to upload their plans electronically. The following list represents the types of materials Raise Your Hand will ask teams to submit as the core components of their plans:

#### **Goals and Vision**

- A three-minute, zero-budget video introducing the leadership team and pitching the team's SMART (Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Realistic, and Time-related) goals or "rallying cry."
- A written narrative (one page max) detailing the SMART goals and the metrics used to evidence success.

#### **Team**

- A written narrative (one page max) that explains the various teams required and listing the people who will serve on those teams.
- Verification that a qualified project manager can devote 50 percent of his or her time, beginning in the summer of 2016, to implementing the blended learning plan, in the event that the team's plan is selected for funding.
- The team narrative will include verification teams have support from the school board, superintendent, and district leadership team, as well as the principals, administrative team, and 80 percent of staff in schools of implementation.

#### **Student Experience**

- A written narrative (one page max) that describes the key experiences the program will provide for students and the plan for re-integrating operations to deliver those experiences.
- The student experience must include the key elements of a student-centered school system, as described in Table 1 (page 7).

#### **Teachers and Leadership**

- Completion of a Leadership Competency Survey to assess the leadership team's readiness to implement a student-centered system.
- A written narrative (one page max) prioritizing the competencies in rank order and explaining the team's plan for mastering those that are highest priority.

#### **Physical and Virtual Environment**

• An audit of the devices, Wi-Fi access, software licenses, and facilities already available.

 A written narrative (one page max) that describes the plan for improving the physical and virtual infrastructure and space.

#### **Blended Models**

- A written narrative (one page max) that describes the blended models to be used and why.
- What is the rollout plan and timing to expand these models across the system?

#### **Culture**

- A written narrative (one page max) specifying the processes and priorities the team intends to implement to create the right culture to buttress their plans.
- How will the team instill this culture?

#### **Discovery-Driven Planning**

 A list of the most critical assumptions inherent to the plan and a description of how the team plans to test and learn to avoid costly failure.

#### **Budgets**

- A short-term resource allocation plan identifying available and needed sources of funding to implement the blended learning plan for three years at the school and district/system level.
- Also a longer-term resource allocation plan identifying available and needed sources of funding to expand blended learning efforts for at least two years after Raise Your Hand's support ends.

#### **Scalability**

- A written narrative (one page max) explaining how the plan will expand over time.
- An individual school applying on its own must also explain how it is addressing a problem troubling other schools in the area and how its successful efforts will lift schools beyond its campus.



#### **Terms and conditions**

All grant awards will be contingent on execution of a definitive grant agreement, which will include a set of standard Terms and Conditions, a preliminary draft of which can be found on page 12. Raise Your Hand reserves the right to revise and/or add to these terms and conditions before execution of the final grant agreement. These Terms and Conditions will be the same for each grantee and are not negotiable. You are advised to ensure your leadership team can accept these Terms and Conditions at the time of proposal submission. Grantees subject to expenditure responsibility (ER) may be subject to additional terms and conditions.

If your proposal is selected, you will have a very limited amount of time after the notification of award to accept the grant and return the award letter with an appropriate institutional signature. You must return a fully executed Grant Agreement to Raise Your Hand post-marked no later than the date we indicate to receive a grant award.

### **Case Studies**

Need inspiration to join us on the quest to improve Texas schools with blended learning? The <u>Clayton</u> <u>Christensen Institute</u> and <u>Evergreen Education Group</u> published six cases studies of how traditional district schools improved learning outcomes after implementing blended learning. Read through these short profiles to learn about their strategies and the promising results they achieved.

- Innovations Early College High School, Salt Lake City, UT, was created to address concerns about the number of students who were becoming disengaged and dropping out of their schools. For the 2013–14 school year, its graduation rate was substantially higher than the average graduation rate of the district, state, and nation.
- Poudre School District Global Academy, Fort Collins, CO, opened in the fall of 2009 to provide a flexible school option for students in grades K–12. Based on student growth measures in several different grade levels and subject areas, the PSD Global Academy is ranked as the first or second best school in the district and is in the top 5 percent of all schools in the state.
- The Virtual Instruction to Accentuate Learning (VITAL) program of the Putnam County School System, in Cookeville, TN, provides a wide range of blended learning options to students across the district. It has improved the district's graduation rate and allowed hundreds of students to gain college credits while in high school.
- Randolph Central School District, Randolph, NY, created a blended learning program at the elementary school that focused on differentiated instruction. Since implementing the blended program, math scores on state assessments have improved significantly across the board.
- Spokane Public Schools, Spokane WA, has developed and implemented blended learning in numerous programs across the district with a goal of increasing graduation rates and college-and-career-readiness. The district has increased its graduation rate from 60 percent in 2007 to 83 percent in 2014.
- Spring City Elementary Hybrid Learning School, Spring City, PA, uses a three-station Station Rotation model of blended learning. It has seen improved test scores in math, reading, and science since implementing its blended learning program.

Also, <u>Education Cities</u> and <u>Next Generation Learning Challenges</u> supported 10 medium to large public school systems to develop a system-wide personalized learning strategy. To reach this goal, systems were challenged to design, launch, and replicate schools that implement personalized learning in a holistic manner and to overhaul district and city supporting functions (e.g., human capital and facilities) so that they fully support the redesigned schools. Download the <u>PDF of case studies</u> that profile these leading cities.

### **Sample Terms and Conditions**

#### **Purpose of the Grant**

The grant funds will be used for the public, educational purpose described in your proposal and budget (together the "Approved Plan").

#### **Tax Status**

Raise Your Hand will make grants in reliance on the correct representation in your grant application as to the tax status of the Grantee. Your application must indicate which of the following descriptions apply to your organization.

#### The organization is:

- An independent school district that is a political subdivision of the State of Texas and therefore meets the definition of a United States government unit described in section 170(c)(1) of the Code or an individual campus within such an independent school district.
- An open-enrollment charter school authorized under Subchapter D, Chapter 12 of the Texas Education Code or a network of such charters, each of whose charter holder is:
  - Exempt from United States Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code") and not a private foundation; OR
  - A public institution of higher education in the state of Texas that meets the definition of a United States government unit described in section 170(c)(1) of the Code.

You must provide Raise Your Hand with a certificate of the tax-exempt status of your organization within 10 days of the execution of the final grant agreement.

#### **Use of Grant Funds**

Grant funds may only be used for reasonable and necessary costs<sup>1</sup> of the approved blended learning initiative Project (the "Project") as described in your Approved Plan. Your application must include a detailed budget. No more than five percent of grant funds distributed in any year may be budgeted or used for indirect costs.<sup>2</sup> Any budget cost category change of more than 10 percent must be approved in writing by Raise Your Hand in advance. You may not use the grant funds to reimburse any expenses you chose to incur prior to the Start Date. Any grant funds unexpended or uncommitted at the end of the Grant Period must be promptly returned to Raise Your Hand.

<sup>1 &</sup>quot;Reasonable" costs are those costs that are consistent with prudent business practice and comparable to current market value. "Necessary" costs are those costs that are essential to accomplish the objectives of the grant project.

<sup>2 &</sup>quot;Indirect costs" are those for a common or joint purpose benefiting more than one program or project (including the Project).

#### **Political Campaign/Lobbying Activity**

Grant funds may not be used to influence the outcome of any election for public office or to carry on any voter registration drive. Grant funds may not be directed to, earmarked for or expended on lobbying activity or other attempts to influence local, state, federal, or foreign legislation or administrative regulations. Your strategies and activities, and any materials produced with grant funds, will comply with applicable local, state, federal, or foreign lobbying law. You agree to comply with lobbying, gift and ethics rules applicable to the Project under local, state, federal or foreign law.

#### **Investment of Grant Funds**

Grant funds must be invested in highly liquid investments (such as interest bearing bank accounts) with the primary objective of preservation of principal so that they are available for the Project. Raise Your Hand requires you to report the amount of any interest or other income generated by the grant funds, including currency conversion gains (collectively "Interest"). Any Interest must be used for the Project. At the end of the Grant Period, any remaining Interest must be applied to the continuation of the Project.

#### **Anti-Terrorism**

You confirm that you are familiar with the U.S. Executive Orders and laws prohibiting the provision of resources and support to individuals and organizations associated with terrorism and the terrorist related lists promulgated by the U.S. Government. You will use reasonable efforts to ensure that you do not support or promote terrorist activity or related training, or money laundering.

#### **Contracts**

You have the exclusive right to select contractors for the Project. Raise Your Hand has not earmarked the use of the grant funds for any specific contractor. Raise Your Hand is not responsible for any payments due under any such contracts and will not indemnify you or your contractor(s) against any payments, damages, or other liabilities owed under the contracts. You, and not Raise Your Hand, are responsible for ensuring that all contracts comply with applicable state and federal laws and that all contractors use grant funds consistent with this Grant Agreement and the Approved Plan. Neither you nor your contractors may make any statement or otherwise imply to donors, investors, media or the general public that Raise Your Hand directly funds the activities of any contractor. Any agreements with contractors you engage to assist with the Project must include the following language: "Your organization has been selected to participate in this Project at our discretion. You may not make any statement or otherwise imply to donors, investors, media, legislators, regulators, or the general public that you are a direct grantee of the Raise Your Hand. You may state that [Your Organization Legal Name] is Raise Your Hand's grantee and that you are a contractor of [Your Organization Legal Name] for the Project."

### **Payments and Reports**

This table shows the deliverables (including reports) and milestones for this grant. Where indicated, Raise Your Hand's payment is contingent on satisfaction of the listed deliverable and/or milestone. Raise Your Hand may authorize changes to the payment and reporting schedules from time to time where appropriate. Raise Your Hand will confirm any such changes in writing.

Payment Date	Payment Amount	Milestone or Deliverable	Due by
June 1, 2016	Up to one-half of the grant amount	<ul> <li>Report on expenditure of Yr1 grant funds</li> <li>Budget forecast showing financial sustainability of the project for four more years</li> <li>Report on progress toward SMART goals as agreed upon in the blended-learning plan</li> <li>Sharing of qualitative and quantitative pre- and post-implementation data for Yr1, as specified by third-party research firm</li> </ul>	June 30, 2017
July 31, 2017	Up to one-half of the grant amount	<ul> <li>Report on expenditure of Yr2 grant funds</li> <li>Budget forecast showing financial sustainability of the project for three more years</li> <li>Report on progress toward SMART goals as agreed upon in the blended-learning plan</li> <li>Sharing of qualitative and quantitative pre- and post-implementation data for Yr2, as specified by third-party research firm</li> </ul>	June 30, 2018
July 31, 2018	Any remaining amount up to a total of \$500,000 for the grant period	<ul> <li>Report on expenditure of Yr3 grant funds</li> <li>Budget forecast showing financial sustainability of the project for two more years</li> <li>Report on progress toward SMART goals as agreed upon in the blended-learning plan</li> <li>Sharing of qualitative and quantitative pre- and post-implementation data for Yr3, as specified by third-party research firm</li> </ul>	June 30, 2019

#### **Deliverables and Milestones**

Grant funding for the second and third years of the project is dependent upon your timely delivery of the above listed reports and other deliverables and your demonstration of meaningful progress against the milestones contained in this Grant Agreement and your Approved Plan. Milestones may be added or modified during the Grant Period. Raise Your Hand will confirm any agreed changes to the milestones in writing.

#### **Report Templates**

You are required to submit an annual report regarding the expenditure of grant funds, your budget forecasts to evidence financially sustainability, and your progress toward achieving the SMART goals detailed in your Approved Plan. Raise Your Hand's report templates and submission guidelines will be made available to you. These templates and guidelines are subject to change. Please submit reports electronically to the Raise Your Hand contact listed in the Notices section of this Agreement. You also agree to submit other reports that Raise Your Hand may reasonably request.

#### **Record Maintenance and Inspection**

Raise Your Hand requires that you maintain adequate records for the Project to enable Raise Your Hand to easily determine how the grant funds were expended. Fiscal control and accounting procedures must permit the tracing of funds to a level of expenditure adequate to establish that funds have been used in accordance with the Approved Plan. Your books and records must be made available for inspection by Raise Your Hand or its designee at reasonable times to permit us to monitor and conduct an evaluation of operations under this grant.

#### **Termination or Suspension for Noncompliance**

Raise Your Hand has the right at its discretion to terminate or suspend the grant or withhold payment for:

- a. Failure to implement the Project or to use grant funds in accordance with the Approved Plan;
- b. Failure to provide the required deliverables;
- c. Failure to make reasonable progress toward the Milestones;
- d. Failure to provide accurate, timely, and complete information in the required reports;
- e. Failure to account for grant funds in accordance with standards for financial management, to retain proper documentation for grant expenditures, or to provide information to Raise Your Hand's designated inspectors or evaluation partners;
- f. Significant leadership or other changes occur that Raise Your Hand believes may threaten the Project; OR
- g. Failure to comply with any term or condition of this Grant Agreement.

On termination, if requested by Raise Your Hand, you agree to promptly return to Raise Your Hand any unspent and uncommitted grant funds (as of the date of termination) previously distributed to you by Raise Your Hand for the Project.

#### **Evaluation**

Raise Your Hand values research and evaluation of the projects it funds. You agree to inform Raise Your Hand of any research or evaluation you conduct or commission regarding the Project and to provide to Raise Your Hand a copy of any report or findings from the research or evaluation. In addition, Raise Your Hand's third-party evaluation partner will produce annual reports for each of the three years of the grant, including a cumulative report at the end of the third year. You agree to (a) allow and facilitate Raise Your Hand's evaluation partner to implement an evaluation plan; (b) identify an on-site evaluation coordinator who will serve as a contact; (c) facilitate the collection of data; and (d) permit Raise Your Hand to disseminate the results of the research or evaluation. Raise Your Hand's evaluation partner will provide appropriate privacy and other protections to participants.

#### **Data Collection and Release to Foundation**

From time to time, Raise Your Hand may request that you or an appropriate entity: (i) participate in surveys, (ii) respond to requests for information; and (iii) provide certain data to Raise Your Hand for additional research and evaluation, during the Grant Period and for a period of five (5) years following the Grant Period. You agree to reasonably comply with such requests. You further agree that Raise Your Hand may disseminate such data and research results. Unless otherwise specified in writing, Raise Your Hand will only request data related to individuals that is de-identified or aggregated at a level where such data will not be considered "personally identifiable."

#### **Global Access**

You will conduct and manage the Project and the resulting products, services, processes, technologies, materials, software, data or other innovations (collectively, "Funded Developments") in a manner that ensures "Global Access." Global Access requires that (a) the knowledge and information gained from the Project be promptly and broadly disseminated and (b) the Funded Developments 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 your proposed Project. Raise Your Hand is making this grant in reliance on the descriptions and answers provided to Raise Your Hand in your Blended Learning Plan and during the course of any pre-award and post-award due diligence. Your Global Access obligations will survive the Grant Period.

## **Grant Announcements, Public Reports and Use of Foundation Name and Logo**

Raise Your Hand will include information on this grant in our periodic public reports and may make grant information public at any time on its web page and as part of press releases, public reports, speeches, newsletters, and other public documents. If you wish to issue a press release or announcement regarding the award of this grant, you must obtain advance approval from Raise Your Hand of the press release and the date of release. You also agree to obtain advance approval from Raise Your Hand for any other use of Raise Your Hand's name or logo. Raise Your Hand requests an opportunity to review and comment on subsequent press releases or reports that are directly related to the grant. Please contact Raise Your Hand via electronic mail through the designated contact for Notice at least two weeks before any press release, announcement or other publication date.

#### **Assignment**

This Grant Agreement or any of the rights or obligations under this Grant Agreement may not be assigned without Raise Your Hand's prior written consent. An assignment includes (a) any transfer of the Project; (b) an assignment by operation of law, including a merger or consolidation, or (c) the sale or transfer of all or substantially all of your organization's assets.

### **Entire Agreement, Severability and Amendment**

This Grant Agreement is our entire agreement and supersedes any prior oral or written agreements or communications between us regarding its subject matter. The provisions of this Grant Agreement are severable so that if any provision is found to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, such finding shall not affect the validity, construction, or enforceability of any remaining provision. This Grant Agreement may be amended only by a mutual written agreement of the parties.

#### **Notices**

Any notice or other communication referred to in the Grant Agreement is to be served by delivering it personally or via certified mail, fax, or electronic mail to the address and for the attention of the person set out below. Notice shall be deemed to have been duly given or made when delivered in person or via electronic mail or fax or three (3) business days after deposit if sent via certified mail. Changes in the individual designated for notice/contact must be provided at least two weeks in advance.

For Raise Your Hand: David Anthony

CEO

Raise Your Hand Texas

1005 Congress Ave, Suite 400

Austin, TX 78701

danthony@ryht.org

For the Grantee:

#### **Questions**

Please direct any questions to Raise Your Hand's Director of Blended Learning, Cat Alexander, at <a href="mailto:calexander@ryht.org">calexander@ryht.org</a>.

To learn more about blended learning from the co-designer of this initiative and facilitator of the blended learning workshops, meet Heather Staker at Ready to Blend.



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