

New Instructional Facility Allotment (NIFA)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- 1) What is the New Instructional Facility Allotment (NIFA) program? 1
- 2) What is the difference between the NIFA & IFA programs ?..... 1
- 3) When can a district apply for NIFA assistance ? 2
- 4) What are the application requirements ?..... 2
- 5) What constitutes an acceptable legal document?3
- 6) Where can I receive NIFA training?.....3
- 7) The pre-populated fields in my application are incorrect; can I change them?3
- 8) An error message says my County District Number (CDN) is not recognized; what should I do?.....3
- 9) When trying-40.5.001 Tc 0.001 Tw -40.055 -1.15 Td (9))Tj 0 Tc -0.001 Tw 1.26 0 Td [(W)-1 (h)-2 (er

district with a minimum lease term of not less than 10 years. The lease must not be a continuation of or renegotiation of an existing lease for an instructional facility

It cannot be used for additions to, or renovations of, an existing campus.

The Instructional Facilities Allotment (IFA) program provides assistance with the payment of debt for the purchase, construction, renovation, and expansion of instructional facilities. A district us4.5 (f)5.v 1t7 (.

of the old campus.

5) What constitutes an acceptable legal document?

Examples of acceptable legal documents include a signed contract with the construction company or architect, a certificate of substantial completion, or a certificate of project compliance.

For leased facilities, please include an executed copy of the applicable lease.

Certificates of Occupancy, building permits, and fire inspection reports are NOT considered acceptable legal documents.

6) Where can I receive NIFA training?

For NIFA training, please visit the four-part NIFA Training Module online at:

https://tea.texas.gov/Finance_and_Grants/State_Funding/Foundation_School_Program/Foundation_School_Program_System_Online_Training .

7) The pre -

- x Returned Saved – the NIFA User has re-submitted the application to the District Approver for approval (Please note that the District Approver still has to re-approve the application for it to be Submitted to TEA)
- x In Review – the application is currently pending review by the NIFA Program Administrator
- x Approved – the application has been approved for NIFA
- x Rejected – the application has been rejected due to not meeting program requirements and should include comments explaining the reasons for rejection

10) How much assistance does a campus qualify for under the NIFA program ?

For the first school year in which students occupy a new instructional facility, a district is entitled to an allotment of \$1,000 for each student in average daily attendance (ADA) at the facility. For the second school year in which students occupy that instructional facility, a district is entitled to an allotment of \$1,000 for each additional student in average daily attendance at the facility.

For purposes of this program, the number of additional students in average daily attendance at a facility is the difference between the number of students in average daily attendance in the current year at that facility and the number of students in average daily attendance at that facility in the preceding year.

11) How long can a campus receive NIFA assistance ? Can a campus apply if it missed the first year's deadline ?

A campus is eligible for NIFA for the first two school years it is operational. Unfortunately, there is no retroactive funding. If the deadline has passed for a campus opening this school year, it is still eligible to apply for the next year using a One-Year application type. A One-Year application allows the campus to receive funding for all the students in ADA during the second year of operation at that campus.

12) Does a district have to reapply for NIFA for an approved campus's second year ?

Yes, to be considered for a second year of funding, the district must re-apply for NIFA for the campus. There is no requirement that the district must re-apply if there is no desire for further funding. However, it is strongly encouraged that districts for which initial applications are approved also re-apply before the second year of occupation, even if they are not expecting increased enrollment. The reason for this is twofold: the Follow-up application is simpler and submitting a Follow-up preserves a campus's ability to receive NIFA.

If an unforeseen event brings increased enrollment to a new campus, that campus will only be considered for NIFA if the district submitted a Follow-up application. Many campuses receive a \$0 initial estimate for their second year of operation due to a forecast of little to no enrollment growth. However, many of these same campuses also end up receiving some funding based on an increase in ADA during the second year of operation.

13) What should I do if I need to update my campus number or enrollment information ?

If your application has already been processed, you should wait to update this information on the Days of Instruction Survey. If the application has not been processed yet, please reach out to the program administrator to ask if the application can still be returned to the district so that

