

# Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan

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The following is the local educational agency's (LEA's) plan for providing supplemental instruction and support to students, including those identified as needing academic, social-emotional, and other supports, including the provision of meals and snacks. The plan will explain how the LEA will use the funds it receives through the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant to implement a learning recovery program for at least the students included in one or more of the following groups: low-income students, English learners, foster youth, homeless students, students with disabilities, students at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, disengaged students, and students who are below grade level, including, but not limited to, those who did not enroll in kindergarten in the 2020–21 school year, credit-deficient students, high school students at risk of not graduating, and other students identified by certificated staff.

## Plan Descriptions

A description of how parents, teachers, and school staff were involved in the development of the plan.

Throughout the development of the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant plan, NOVA Academy has gathered and evaluated input and feedback from parents, students, teachers, and school staff. As part of NOVA's ongoing efforts to ensure that programs and practices align with the values and priorities of the school community, the supplemental instruction and support strategies conveyed in this ELO Plan have been carefully selected to address the most urgent and prevalent student needs, as identified by these stakeholders.

NOVA Academy personnel, including both teachers and school staff, provided observations and recommendations concerning student supplemental instruction and support strategies during regularly scheduled Professional Development sessions, faculty council and committee meetings, and campus leadership collaborations throughout the 2020-21 school year. Teacher and staff discussions pertaining to the seven strategies and proposed ELO Plan actions took place during Professional Development sessions on 05/03/21 and 05/24/21, Principal/Instructor meetings from 05/10/21 to 05/14/21, and biweekly administrator Core Leadership meetings on 04/14/21, 04/29/21, and 05/12/21. Parent and student feedback concerning NOVA Academy's academic support opportunities was collected as part of annual family and student surveys administered in March of 2021. Additional feedback concerning NOVA's plans for extended and accelerated learning, credit recovery, integrated supports, and additional academic services was gathered during an afterschool Graduation-Track Information Night on 05/20/21.

A description of how students will be identified and the needs of students will be assessed.

NOVA Academy will expand upon existing student performance and progress assessment strategies to better identify pupils requiring additional support, as well as specific individual student needs. These strategies include but are not limited to: continuous academic progress monitoring and socioemotional check-up exercise for all students by their designated “Family” teacher (NOVA’s socio-emotional learning/college and career readiness focused “homeroom” alternative); regularly administered school culture and climate questionnaires pertaining to physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing; instructor and counsellor recommendations for student placements in supplemental subject-specific support classes; additional administrator and instructor review of student progress for pupils belonging to prioritized subgroups (Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, Students with Disabilities, English Learners, etc.); review and monitoring of student participation in free meal distribution; and 1-on-1 meetings between all students and their counsellor, taking place during the Spring 2021 semester.

In addition to these ongoing identification and assessment practices, all incoming students will complete baseline assessments in Math and English-Language Arts (ELA) during the Summer InNOVation orientation event from 07/12/21 – 07/16/21, and beginning in the 2021-22 school year, all students will participate in Math and ELA benchmark testing administered through the Renaissance STAR assessment program at regular intervals. These assessments will provide teachers, counsellors, and administrators with valuable individualized student performance and progress data throughout the year, allowing for the identification of specific content-proficiency deficits and necessary targeted support strategies.

A description of how parents and guardians of students will be informed of the opportunities for supplemental instruction and support.

To facilitate maximum student participation and benefit in these additional supplemental instruction opportunities and support initiatives, NOVA Academy will expand ongoing parent outreach efforts throughout the remainder of the Spring 2021 semester and into the Summer and Fall terms, utilizing bilingual campus personnel to provide verbal and written translations of these announcements to parents and guardians of NOVA students in their primary language when applicable.

Thus far, NOVA staff has informed parents and guardians of the planned supports during several events and meetings throughout the Spring 2021 semester, including Incoming/Continuing Parent and Student Information Nights on 04/14/21, 04/21/21, 04/28/21, 05/12/21, 05/19/21, and 05/26/21.

Additional plans to notify parents and guardians of the expanded student supports include an ongoing email, call, and text message campaign from 05/10/21 – 06/11/21 communicating summer learning opportunities, multi-platform social media announcements through the end of the Spring 2021 semester and start of the Fall 2021 semester, and announcements made during a Back to School Night event in August 2021.

A description of the LEA's plan to provide supplemental instruction and support.

After extensive review of internal student data and stakeholder input, NOVA Academy has determined that one of the greatest contributing factors to student learning gaps and the growing need for expanded learning opportunities over the past year has been the pandemic-related barriers to in-person instructional supports of adequate duration, frequency, and regularity to result in a meaningful impact on the academic progress of struggling students. In order to mitigate this learning loss and accelerate student credit recovery in the coming year, NOVA Academy will launch a significantly expanded Summer Intersession program, integrate additional instructional support personnel within the English, Science, and Math departments, and provide additional targeted students support during and after regular classroom instruction. This initiative will provide extended instructional learning time, accelerate student progress to close learning gaps, support credit recovery, and integrate additional assessment tools and academic services.

NOVA Academy's redesigned Summer Intersession program will provide an unprecedented level of summer support and credit recovery opportunities to its students, increasing both the duration of the summer program and number of teachers assigned to summer classes. By allocating these additional resources to the Summer Intersession program, NOVA Academy will have the means to substantially increase the time allocated to individual student support, provide a much wider array of accelerated credit recovery courses, and accommodate smaller class sizes to allow for targeted small group instruction. This extended learning opportunity will be facilitated by both returning NOVA faculty and new Support Instructor positions. Beginning in the Summer Intersession and continuing into the 2021-22 school year, NOVA Academy's new Support Instructors will provide additional supplemental instruction and support. The Support Instructors for English, Math, and Science will be credentialed teachers in their respective subjects, assigned specifically to supplemental instruction and support opportunities: teaching dedicated support classes in English, Math, and Science during the scheduled school day; offering after-school tutoring to struggling students; and engaging with individual students or small groups for support sessions during regular classes as directed by the primary instructor. In addition to these Support Instructors, a new Paraprofessional position will provide further classroom assistance and student support.

Implementation of these new programs will align with the NOVA's existing tiered student support strategies, wherein: universal supports are implemented by teachers and support staff for all students to provide daily socioemotional wellness support and afterschool supplemental instruction opportunities; targeted supports are provided including review and guidance for personal academic and progress and goals by counsellors and Family teachers, parent calls by teachers and school staff addressing observations and concerns, and Supplemental Instructor/Paraprofessional-led guided sessions for individual and small group instruction during both standard course sections and dedicated support classes; and intensive supports are implemented by teachers and school staff to provide independent study opportunities for students in exceptional circumstances, extended tutoring and support sessions for students with significant content proficiency gaps, required accommodations for students with disabilities, and individual support by qualified personnel for other significant issues pertaining to medical, mental, and socioemotional wellbeing.

Through the combination of these supplemental instruction and support strategies with NOVA Academy's ongoing commitment to the holistic whole child academic model, teachers and staff will facilitate personal and engaging learning experiences for all students, furthering the growth and development of a positive school climate and a campus culture promoting life-long success and excellence.

# Expenditure Plan

The following table provides the LEA's expenditure plan for how it will use ELO Grant funds to support the supplemental instruction and support strategies being implemented by the LEA.

Supplemental Instruction and Support Strategies	Planned Expenditures	Actual Expenditures
Extending instructional learning time	\$ 247,236.00	\$0
Accelerating progress to close learning gaps through the implementation, expansion, or enhancement of learning supports	\$45,644.66	\$140,221
Integrated student supports to address other barriers to learning	\$ 0.00*	\$ 26,633
Community learning hubs that provide students with access to technology, high-speed internet, and other academic supports	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Supports for credit deficient students to complete graduation or grade promotion requirements and to increase or improve students' college eligibility	\$ 0.00*	\$ 0.00
Additional academic services for students	\$ 0.00*	\$ 36,883
Training for school staff on strategies to engage students and families in addressing students' social-emotional health and academic needs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total Funds to implement the Strategies	\$292,880.66	\$203.736

*\*LEA expenditures attributed to "extending instructional learning time" and "accelerating progress" will also address strategies falling under "integrated student supports," "supports for credit deficient students," and "additional academic services."*

A description of how ELO Grant funds are being coordinated with other federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds received by the LEA.

5/29/25 Update: The actual awards came in lower than planned, and were fully expended. In addition, expenditures were used for different strategies than originally planned as the school pivoted and worked to maximize all of the one-time funding that came along with the pandemic, while best serving the students.

NOVA Academy will utilize Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) grant funds for LEA expenditure types differing from those that have been or will be supported by Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. Specifically, NOVA Academy has primarily allocated ESSER funds to costs associated with COVID-related campus operations costs pertaining to safety, health, and

wellness of teachers, school staff, and students. Under this plan, the majority of NOVA Academy's ELO grant funds will be dedicated to the cost of personnel required for the providing of the expanded supplemental instruction and support opportunities.