



TRANSFORMATIONAL LEARNING GRANT

Phase II Application
Fall 2025



BACKGROUND

The Transformational Learning Grant was initially an 8-year grant, where qualified districts were funded for 4 consecutive years, incentivizing innovative learning practices and not using seat time to measure student proficiency. District funding was based on the identified FTE to carry out the district's Transformational Learning strategic plan, multiplied by half the previous year's quality educator payment. Approved districts qualified for funding by successfully completing an annual report and approved by the Board of Public Education.

HB 573

During the 2025 legislative session, Phase II of the Transformational Learning Grant was approved.

Goals for Grant:

1. further develop the efforts of the most innovative transformational learning grantees toward district-wide implementation of transformational and proficiency-based learning.
2. use the knowledge gained by Phase II grantees to develop recommendations and guidance for other districts interested in innovating in a similar manner.

COHORT REQUIREMENTS

Deposit money in the district's flexibly fund by July 15, 2026 and use money prior to June 30, 2028

- **Participate in collaborative activities organized by OPI that may include:**
 - hosting convenings of the grantees
 - provide PD for grantees
 - enlist in assistance of organizations with expertise in supporting districts in moving to proficiency-based learning
 - other supports as needed by grantees
- **Participate in a joint report to the EIC by Sept. 1, 2028 highlighting:**
 - how grantees furthered proficiency-based learning
 - guidance documents for other schools looking to implement similar system
 - recommendations for legislative action to support districts implementation

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Submit the completed application by October 31st, 2025 including:

- providing evidence of progress made in proficiency-based learning as defined in MCA 20-7-1601
- detailing descriptions of how the district plans to continue its progress toward district-wide implementation, including cost estimates

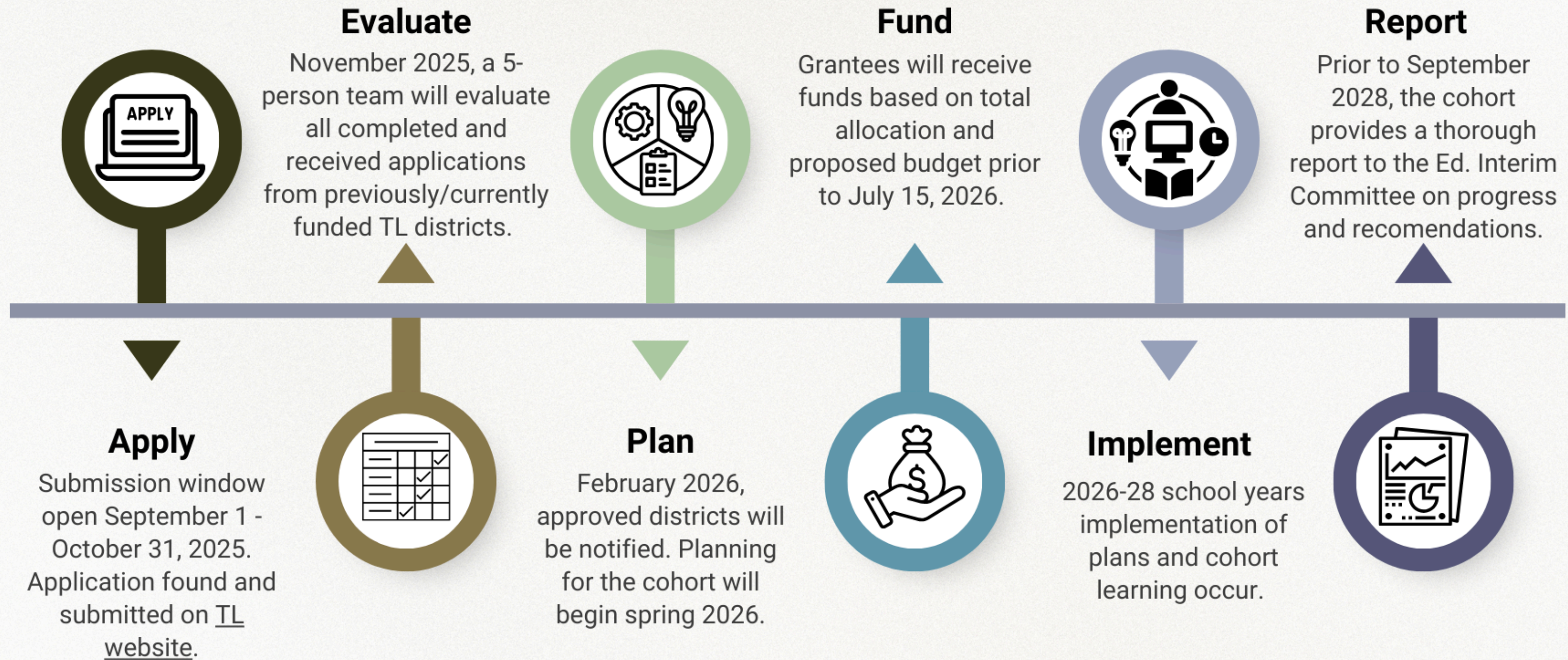
5 selected districts will share approx. \$2.4 million in allocated funds.

Application

EVALUATION PROCESS

During November, a 5-person team comprised of a district leader, OPI, higher-education, non-profit specializing in proficiency-based learning, will evaluate applications received by October 31, 2025. The rubric for evaluation is attached to the application. Selected districts will be presented to the State Superintendent for recommendation to the Board of Public Education for approval.

GRANT TIMELINE



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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Transformational Learning Website

Personalized, proficiency-based Learning Website