California Department of Education

Charter Schools Division

Created 03/2025

accs-apr25item02

Attachment 6

# Nonclassroom-Based Funding Determination Request

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

This document presents the determination of funding request from Tehama eLearning Academy (Charter #0430). Information from the school has been exported from the web-based Funding Determination Form found on the [Nonclassroom-Based Determination of Funding web page](https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ch/nclrbifunddet.asp#form).

Responses from the school have been provided, as is, and have not been edited by the California Department of Education (CDE) for capitalization, punctuation, or spelling.

## Tehama eLearning Academy Determination of Funding Request 2024–25

### Section 1. General Information

Charter School Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Charter School Name | Tehama eLearning Academy |
| Charter School Authorizer | Tehama County Department of Education |
| Charter School Number | 0430 |
| County District School (CDS) Code | 52-10520-6119671 |
| Street Address | 979 Douglass St |
| City | RED BLUFF |
| County | Tehama |
| ZIP Code | 96080 |
| Grade Levels Served | 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Date Charter Expires | 6/30/2025 |
| Contact First Name | Lourie |
| Contact Last Name | Larcade |
| Contact Title | Business Manager |
| Contact Phone Number | 530-528-7335 |
| Contact Email Address | llarcade@tehamaschools.org |

Funding Determination Request Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Is this a reconsideration request? | No, this is not a reconsideration request. |
| Requested Funding Level | 100% |
| Beginning Period Requested | FY 2025–26 |
| Number of Years Requested | 5 |
| Source Data | FY 2023–24 Audit |
| If the source data used was “Other”, provide a description. | [No Response] |

### Section 2. Financial Information

#### A. Total Resources

Revenues and Other Resources

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Federal Revenues[[1]](#footnote-1) | $167,711 |
| Public Charter School Grant Program Funds (separately identified) | $0 |
| State Revenues[[2]](#footnote-2) | $1,983,233 |
| In-Lieu Property Taxes (separately identified) | $246,250 |
| Local Revenues | $265,094 |
| Other Financing Sources | $0 |
| **Total Revenues** | **$2,416,038** |

**If Other Financing Sources were reported, provide a description:**

[No Response]

#### B. Total Expenditures and Other Uses

Instruction and Related Services

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $882,553 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $172,284 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $110,731 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Services | $191,135 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Support | $134,892 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: All Other Instruction-Related Operating Costs | $200 |
| **Total Instruction and Related Services** | **$1,491,795** |

Operations and Facilities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $1,039 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs | $163,834 |
| Facilities Acquisition and Construction | $0 |
| **Total Operations and Facilities** | **$164,873** |

Allowable Facilities Costs

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Total facility square footage occupied by the charter school | 6068 |
| Enter total classroom-based P-2 ADA reported in the prior fiscal year. Do not include nonclassroom-based ADA. | 0 |
| Enter total student hours attended by nonclassroom-based pupils at the school site in the prior fiscal year. | 6117 |
| Calculated Facilities Costs | $7,047 |
| **Allowable Facilities Costs** | **$7,047** |

Administration and All Other Activities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $188,948 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $31,390 |
| Contracts for Other Administrative Services | $61,195 |
| Supervisorial Oversight Fee | $17,778 |
| All Other Administration and Other Activities, Services, and Operating Costs | $11,376 |
| **Total Administration and Other Activities** | **$310,687** |

**Additional information regarding Supervisorial Oversight Fee:**

[No Response]

Other Outgo and Other Financing Uses

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Debt Services | $0 |
| Transfers to Local Educational Agencies | $9,282 |
| All Other Transfers and Outgo | $0 |
| **Total Other Outgoing and Other Financing Uses** | **$9,282** |

**Describe the nature of the transaction(s) for Transfers to Local Educational Agencies and identify the accounts or entities involved in the transfer(s).**

Mental Heath RESR 6546 transferred to the SELPA

**Describe the nature of the transaction(s) for All Other Transfers and Outgo and identify the accounts or entities involved in the transfer(s).**

[No Response]

#### C. Fund Balance

Total Expenditures and Fund Balance

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Total Expenditures | $1,976,637 |
| Revenues Over Expenditures | $439,401 |
| Beginning Fund Balance | $3,307,587 |
| **Ending Fund Balance – June 30** | **$3,746,988** |

#### D. Reserves

Reserves

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | $450,000 |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | $0 |
| Reserves Required by Charter Authorizer | $595,185 |
| Other Reserves | $2,701,802 |
| Unassigned/Unappropriated Fund Balance | $0 |
| **Total Reserves** | **$3,746,987** |

Reserves as a Percentage of Total Expenditures

| **Reserves** | **Percentage of Total Expenditures** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | 22.77% |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | 0.00% |

**Explanation for reserves designated for economic uncertainties if these reserves exceed the greater of $50,000 or 5 percent of total expenditures:**

6 Months payroll

**Explanation of Other Reserves:**

ADA Variance, Lottery and other restricted funds

**Explanation for reserves designated for facilities acquisition or capital projects if these reserves exceed the greater of $50,000 or 5 percent of total expenditures:**

[No Response]

**Explanation of school’s unassigned/unappropriated fund balance and details regarding the school’s plans for these funds: *(Optional)***

[No Response]

### Section 3. Pupil-Teacher Ratio

Pupil-Teacher Ratio

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| FY 2023–24 Average Daily Attendance for independent study pupils pursuant to 5 *CCR* Section 11963.3(b)(2) | 115.88 |
| FY 2023–24 Full-Time Equivalent certificated employees responsible for independent study pursuant to 5 *CCR* Section 11963.3(b)(2) | 5 |
| FY 2023–24 Full-Time Equivalent certificated employees pursuant to 5 CCR Section 11963.3(b)(8) | 5 |

### Section 4. Funding Determination Calculations

Calculated Percentages

| **Criteria** | **Funding Determination Calculations** |
| --- | --- |
| Percentage Spent on Instructional Certificated Salaries and Benefits to Total Public Revenues | 41.03% |
| Percentage Spent on Instruction and Related Services and Allowable Facility Costs | 62.04% |
| FY 2023–24 Pupil-Teacher Ratio | 23.18 to 1 |

### Section 5. Supplemental Information

#### A. Virtual Charter Schools

Virtual Charter Schools

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Is this charter school a virtual or on-line charter school as defined in 5 *CCR* Section 11963.5? | No |
| If yes, can the charter school demonstrate compliance with 5 *CCR* sections 11963.5(b)(2) to (8)? | [No Response] |

#### B. Entity and Contract Information

Entity and Contract Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Did any entity receive or will receive $50,000 or more or 10% or more of total expenditures from the school in FY 2023–24 or FY 2024–25? | No |
| Number of reportable entities | [No Response] |

#### C. Current Governing Board Information

Entity and Contract Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Number of board members | 5 |

##### List of Board Members

Board Member 1

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Betty |
| Last Name of Board Member | Brown |
| Title of Board Member | Chairperson |
| Board Member Type | TCDE Board |
| How was this member selected? | Appointed |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | [No Response] |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 07/2024 to 06/2026 |

Board Member 2

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Elizabeth |
| Last Name of Board Member | Gonzalez |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | TCDE Board |
| How was this member selected? | Appointed |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | [No Response] |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 07/2024 to 06/2026 |

Board Member 3

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Carolyn |
| Last Name of Board Member | Steffan |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | TCDE Board |
| How was this member selected? | Elected |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | [No Response] |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 07/2024 to 06/2026 |

Board Member 4

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Pam |
| Last Name of Board Member | Begrin |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | TCDE Board |
| How was this member selected? | Elected |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | [No Response] |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 07/2024 to 06/2026 |

Board Member 5

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Tracy |
| Last Name of Board Member | Hopper |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | TCDE Board |
| How was this member selected? | Appointed |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | [No Response] |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 07/2024 to 07/2026 |

### Section 6. Mitigating Circumstances

**Explain why the charter school did not meet the criteria for the funding level requested. Include specific measures or actions taken by the charter school to comply. List and explain the mitigating circumstances to be considered by the CDE and Advisory Commission on Charter Schools (ACCS).**

The Tehama eLearning Academy (TeLA)has implemented the following to mitigate our funding determination findings.

Increased the FTE for the site Principal from .80 to 1 FTE

Filled all vacant positions.

Increased our salary schedules by 7.5% and adjusted the MTSS Coordinator on the salary schedule

Hired two additional Paraeducators

Hired a part-time Adult Ed Teacher

Started door-to-door transportation for students in North County.

Purchased a new vehicle.

Updated our CTE curriculum

TeLA added a medical pathway to our CTE offerings. In addition to modules for student engagement that support culinary, business, education, and medical.

A typical lab at either level (middle or high) consists of 15-18 units (modules), which include curriculum, professional development for teacher training, physical instructional components (tools/training devices) for project-based learning, setup/installation, and a 5-year license to the Learning Management System (LMS) where the curriculum is housed. There are no per-student costs.

Purchased new VR equipment for student access to a broader course of study and experiential opportunities.

Provided additional tutoring and expanded student learning opportunities through staff and third-party vendors or contracts. (Summer and Writing Contracts)

Increased on-site and off-site intervention and community engagement opportunities for students

Increased allocation of direct Special Education services through an additional contribution for specialized academic and designated services.

Funded 1 FTE Education Specialist

Funded Nursing and Speech providers

Increased mental health and counseling services by contracting with school-based mental health practitioners.

Although TeLA implemented all of the above actions, our charter has not met the criteria for the funding level requested. Our team has been working together and drilling down why this may be and identified the following that may be impacting our ability to comply with the requirements fully:

Staff Shortages & Turnover: Although fully staffed at this time, TeLA did have periods in which we experienced turnover that allowed for breaks in direct service, this included the unexpected death of an employee.

Unforeseen Delays from Third Parties: Although we purchased our CTE modules they were significantly less than expected. We were not able to obtain and take possession of the mobile CTE unit due to delays in production and delivery. TeLA plans to have this significant expenditure in the 24-25 school year.

TeLA had also planned to purchase a data management system to support the integration of our data through a survey platform to guide instruction and social-emotional support. We had several meetings and demos with the third party administrator however our contract ultimately did not become effective until July 2024.

Mental Health & Well-being Challenges: TeLA has increased our on-site offerings as well as off-site engagement offerings for our students and families. We have however, continued to see low participation which impacts our expenditures. In working through our MTSS team and Improvement Science we have started to drill down some of those factors that contribute to this and have determined that the mental health of our students often impedes their active participation even with those presented opportunities. Many of our students come to TeLA to alleviate the stressors found in a traditional school model. Our students report a high level of anxiety and depression and although our survey feedback is positive in how they feel at our school, on-site barriers exist and heighten some of their mental health challenges. We have also heard from some of our families that our changes in increasing on-site optional and requirements has been received as TeLA creating a model that is very similar to the traditional campus they have left and doesn’t necessarily feel like an alternative option.

Virtual Curriculum and Resources: TeLA has been able to quickly respond to curriculum needs through our online curriculum vendor, Schools PLP. This platform has reduced the expenditures we have ongoing in comparison to traditional deliverables.

Initiative Implementation and Prioritization: TeLA has been working toward a full implementation to be a Trauma Informed School. This training and commitment was critical for our students, families, and staff. In prioritizing trauma-informed practices and professional development, we recognized that this redirected some of our funding as well as energy from other initiatives including increasing PD for instructional practices and outcomes. This meant that some projects were pushed to the next three years to ensure the allocation of resources was as effective as possible. We wanted our team to be able to be intentional in the current work and not spread too thin across initiatives. In doing so, we were also able to reprioritze through our LCAP and goals/metrics for the next three years in a manner that reflects where our needs are as we move forward and toward our Charter reauthorization next year.

### Section 7. Additional Information

**Provide any other pertinent information that may assist the CDE and ACCS in conducting a detailed review or develop a reasonable basis for a recommendation.**

Since our last funding determination, TeLA has been able to implement all actions of our previous plan to reduce our reserves. With that said, we ask that the CDE and the Advisory Commission on Charter Schools consider the following as part of our determination to be funded at a higher level.

TeLA is a non-classroom-based charter, however, we operate a hybrid model with virtual and in-person program offerings. In the year 23-24 we had students on campus for 6117 hours. This was an important addition to our school as we recognized that students with touch points on campus were more successful and more likely to participate in enrichment/intervention.

Action: Increase opportunities for students both on campus and in the community, this includes field trips, college visits, College and Career Education Industry site visits.

Action: Purchase CTE mobile trailer to support our career pathways. In reviewing our data related to student academic achievement, TeLA recognizes that our students continue to struggle with reading and math. Although many students enroll two or three grade levels below in these subject areas, our staff is committed to implementing instruction practices and systems to address these areas.

Action: TeLA will enter into a multi-year contract to support the instructional practices with the unique lens of a non-classroom-based charter.

Action: Increase tutoring and/or intervention during expanded learning times, natural breaks, and summer.

Staying tethered to our LCAP goals in our decision-making process has been very important. We have been intentional in what purchases and professional development we bring to our team. It has also taken some time for us to define the direction we need to take as we’ve onboarded new staff. This work has begun, as we’ve hired our MTSS Coordinator and participated in site-based learning from CSU Chico. We look forward to being focused in years two and three to fully implement.

Action: TeLA will enter into a partnership and contract to support the development of our Multi-Tiered System of Support with the Continuous Improvement Department.

TeLA continues to acknowledge our students report a high rate of anxiety and depression.

Action: Increase our mental health and wellness support by increasing our FTE of school based clinicians and wellness coaches.

We deeply appreciate your consideration and recommendation of funding at a higher rate in this next cycle. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

### Section 8. Certification

**1) The information provided is true and correct to the best of my ability and knowledge.**

**2) This charter school's nonclassroom-based instruction is conducted for and substantially dedicated to the instructional benefit of the school's students.**

**3) This charter school's governing board has adopted and implemented conflict of interest policies.**

**4) All of the charter school's transactions, contracts, and agreements are in the best interest of the school and reflect a reasonable market rate for all goods, services, and considerations rendered for or supplied to the school.**

**Enter your name below which will serve as a signature and certify agreement with all of the above terms.**

Sara Smith

**Indicate whether the certification is from the charter school's director, principal, or governing chairperson:**

Director

1. Includes Public Charter Schools Grant Program funds, if applicable [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Includes In-Lieu of Property Taxes, if applicable [↑](#footnote-ref-2)