

SCHEDULE #3A –Fiscal Capacity

Describe your local fiscal capacity to meet your needs for repair and renovation of public school facilities or charter school building acquisition without these grant funds. List and describe the financial resources (other than funds from this grant) that are available to you to meet the school repair, renovation and/or acquisition needs you identified on Schedule #3B-Needs Assessment. Include a description of your ability to raise funds through the use of local bonding capacity or otherwise.

Texans Can!, the parent nonprofit organization that operates San Antonio Can! Academy Charter School, has a successful sixteen-year history of offering at-risk youth the opportunity to earn a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) certificate. We replicated the Texans Can! public school of choice concept when we opened San Antonio Can! Academy in September 2001 with a first-year projected enrollment of 75 students. Upon completion of all renovation activities by August 2002, we will serve a projected 500 students at our San Antonio charter school which is located in the heart of San Antonio where our services are desperately needed. Dallas Can! Academy, a sister school of San Antonio Can! Academy and a first generation charter school approved by the State Board of Education, has the distinction of graduating the very first high school student from a Texas charter school. Texans Can! currently operates four Texas charter schools (one campus in Houston, two campuses in Dallas, two campuses in Fort Worth, and one campus in San Antonio) for at-risk students ages 16-21. The majority of our students come from low-income, at-risk families and most are at least two grade levels behind their same-age peers. If the students have not already dropped out of traditional high school, they are usually at risk of doing so. Our successful educational model, offering personalized learning programs, structured small classes, vigorous counseling, individual support and positive reinforcement, is costly to run.

As a charter school, we are eligible to receive state funding based on the number of students in attendance each day. We do not, however, have the authority to generate local tax revenue to help support our efforts in assisting at-risk students in grades 9-12 achieve a high school diploma or a GED certificate.

Local general obligation bonds are an important mechanism for financing school repair, renovation, and acquisition costs. Unlike local school districts, charter schools must use a conduit (such as a bank, foundation or university) to issue bonds, as we do not have the authority to issue bonds directly. It is costly and complex to negotiate a bond issuance and finding investors is often difficult. More importantly, charter schools have no taxing authority with which to raise funds to repay the bonds. So, while charter schools are technically capable of issuing bonds to raise funds for building acquisition, repair, and/or renovation, the method is rarely considered a feasible option. Instead, most charters fund these costs through a variety of fundraising efforts.

Independent school districts receive some state funding for which charter schools are ineligible. These funds assist the school districts in running their schools efficiently. For instance, small school districts are eligible to receive the “small school adjustment” that increases their per-student state assistance. Independent school districts also receive an instructional building allotment that helps them keep facilities operating and in good repair. Charter schools must find alternative sources of income to keep their small campuses running.

Texans Can! raises necessary resources through a variety of fundraising activities. Approximately 54% of our revenue comes from donations and contributions. Our long and successful history of helping low-income, at-risk students complete their high school education has earned us considerable community respect and a quality reputation that results in frequent donations of time and money from area citizens and corporations. These donations help us maintain a program that keeps at-risk students in school working toward earning their diplomas.

This schedule is limited to two (2) pages, front side only, and font size no smaller than 10 point. Any submitted pages that exceed specified page limits, font size, or that do not match the SAS content and format will be removed from the application and will not be reviewed. To be eligible for review, information must be placed on the form provided.

SCHEDULE #3A –Fiscal Capacity - Continued

Describe your local fiscal capacity to meet your needs for repair and renovation of public school facilities or charter school building acquisition without these grant funds. List and describe the financial resources (other than funds from this grant) that are available to you to meet the school repair, renovation and/or acquisition needs you identified on Schedule #3B-Needs Assessment. Include a description of your ability to raise funds through the use of local bonding capacity or otherwise. This schedule is limited to two (2) pages, front side only, and font size no smaller than 10 point. Any submitted pages that exceed specified page limits, font size, or that do not match the SAS content and format will be removed from the application and will not be reviewed. To be eligible for review, information must be placed on the form provided.

Texans Can! operates successful Cars for Kids programs in Dallas, Fort Worth and Houston that supplement those schools' income. A similar program is planned for the San Antonio area. Under this program cars, running or not, are donated by the community and are subsequently sold via weekly auctions. This program is one of our major sources of income supplementing that generated from the state based on our weighted average daily attendance.

In addition to the Cars for Kids program, our Dallas school holds an annual golf tournament and a Mother of the Year luncheon. We plan to replicate these worthwhile and successful events in San Antonio. These activities will increase the visibility of our school and encourage vital community investment that helps us meet our goals of providing an excellent education to students, many of whom have been limited by poverty, neglect, family violence, and/or poor decisions.

Texans Can! actively pursues federal, state, grant, and private funding opportunities on behalf of its academies. We have successfully obtained Title X - Public Charter School Start-Up grants for all of our schools. Two of our schools receive funding through Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF) grants. We receive entitlement funds (Titles I, II, IV, and VI) to assist us in providing the best programs possible for our students at our other schools. In addition, Texans Can! applied for and received e-rate discounts to help defray the high costs of providing telecommunications and Internet access for our students. We will apply for similar funding for San Antonio Can! Academy. We will also aggressively seek and apply for other possible grants that will enhance our program.

The activities described above will allow us to meet the needs of our students and to maintain our facilities in good repair. However, they do not provide enough capital to renovate our campus to fully accommodate all of the needs of our students and staff under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Funding through this grant will allow us to make the entire facility accessible. Modifications necessary to render the facility accessible and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act for our staff, students, and visitors include the installation of four handicap accessible restrooms, four ADA-compliant water fountains, necessary graphics and signage, and an elevator. Upon completion, both handicapped and able-bodied students and faculty will have the opportunity to access the entire campus.

This schedule is limited to two (2) pages, front side only, and font size no smaller than 10 point. Any submitted pages that exceed specified page limits, font size, or that do not match the SAS content and format will be removed from the application and will not be reviewed. To be eligible for review, information must be placed on the form provided.

SUPPORT SCHEDULE #3B (Part A)

Project Description

Describe the repairs, renovations, or building purchase you propose to make, including a description of the condition of the existing facilities. In the case of a charter school, applicants must also use this space to describe the term (length) of the lease (if the building is to be leased). With the exception of modifications necessary to meet ADA or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act standards and/or asbestos abatement/removal in eligible private nonprofit schools, School Repair and Renovation grant funds may not be used to repair, renovate, or purchase a building or any part of a building that is, or will be, used for religious worship, religious instruction, or proselytization.

San Antonio Can! Academy is housed in a leased 20,000 square foot two-story building located at 502 East Southcross, San Antonio, Texas. The campus serves the low-income minority population, mainly of Hispanic origin, of the southern portion of Bexar County. Upon completion of all renovation activities slated for August 2002, we will serve a projected 500 students at our school. Receipt of this grant will allow us to modify our facility for full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the cost of which will be \$208,000. The lease on the building commenced on August 1, 2001 and expires on June 30, 2003. Subsequent to the initial terms, the lease can be renewed annually for up to four additional years. Our strategic plan calls for lease renewal negotiations to coincide with the approval of the Academy's charter renewal scheduled for 2004. Given our excellent relationship with the landlord, we are confident that a long-term lease (up to ten years) will be accomplished.

San Antonio Can! Academy opened in September 2001 with a projected enrollment of 75 students. We currently utilize four classrooms and five office areas. Currently all utilized classrooms are on the first floor of the facility. We have an auditorium and cafeteria area where free and reduced-price lunches are available for our students. Our strategic plan calls for the completion of the campus by September 2002 at which time seventeen classrooms, a computer lab, a science lab, and a testing center will be available to students. The building consists of two floors. Each floor will include ADA-compliant restrooms for girls and boys, ADA-compliant water fountains, and appropriate graphics and signage for our disabled students, including those who are sight-impaired and require signs in Braille. In addition, if we are awarded this grant, we will install an elevator so all of our students and staff can easily access both floors of the facility.

The entire structure has glazed concrete block walls which are expensive to demolish and replace. Restrooms in the facility currently have doorways of only 24 inches in width, which is obviously unacceptable. We will enlarge the doorways of all four restrooms (two on each floor) to comply with ADA requirements. In addition to enlarging the doorways, we will install new fixtures, including toilets, handrails, stall divisions, and sinks that are placed at two levels so all students can easily access them. Each restroom will have one stall designed specifically for wheelchair-bound faculty and students and two stalls for all other staff and students. The restrooms will be built in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines Section 4.22. The modifications of the restrooms will cost \$15,000 each for a total cost of \$60,000.

Presently, no drinking fountains in the building are ADA-compliant. We will install new drinking fountains or water coolers that are of two heights and thus accessible to all students, including those in wheelchairs as well as those who have difficulty bending. Again, due to the glazed concrete block construction of the building, costs of installing these drinking fountains will be much greater than if our building had more typical sheetrock walls. The cost to install these drinking fountains, including updating of plumbing, is approximately \$5,000.

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires the placement of appropriate graphics and signage so that all students and faculty, including those who are blind, are able to easily navigate the facility. Using funds from this grant, we will purchase necessary signage for placement on both floors of the building. The necessary signs and graphics will cost \$1,000.

This schedule **MUST** be limited to two (2) pages only font size no smaller than 10 point. Any submitted pages that exceed specified page limits, font size, or that do not match the SAS content and format will be removed from the application and will not be reviewed. **TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR REVIEW, INFORMATION MUST BE PLACED ON THE FORM PROVIDED.**

SUPPORT SCHEDULE #3B (Part A)
Project Description - CONTINUED

Describe the repairs, renovations, or building purchase you propose to make, including a description of the condition of the existing facilities. In the case of a charter school, applicants must also use this space to describe the term (length) of the lease (if the building is to be leased). With the exception of modifications necessary to meet ADA or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act standards and/or asbestos abatement/removal in eligible private nonprofit schools, School Repair and Renovation grant funds may not be used to repair, renovate, or purchase a building or any part of a building that is, or will be, used for religious worship, religious instruction, or proselytization.

As stated above, by September 2002, we hope to utilize both floors of our campus. Currently there is no passenger elevator to allow access to the second floor for our disabled staff and students. We propose the construction of an elevator so that all students and staff can move about the entire school with ease. There is no space available to position an elevator on the inside of the building so we are compelled to construct it on the outside of the building. Entrances to the elevator will involve the demolition and reconstruction of portions of the building's south exterior walls. In addition, the elevator will require the excavation of a twelve-foot deep elevator pit to house its mechanical workings. A fire-rated exterior enclosure for three sides and the roof of the elevator must be built. Appropriate signage must also be installed. Our architect's cost estimate for this structure is \$100,000.

We have included costs for necessary permits, licenses, and fees in our budget request. Our architect also suggests inclusion of a 25% contingency fee on the entire project, bringing the total project cost to \$208,000.

By renovating this facility, San Antonio Can! Academy will be able to serve at-risk and handicapped students for years to come. As stated earlier, charter schools do not have the same benefit that public schools do of receiving state allocations for small schools or allotments for facilities. A greater proportion of our income, as compared to public school districts, must be used for the purchase and maintenance of facilities. Every dollar spent on such costs is money that cannot be used for programs that help our low-income, at-risk students complete their high school education so that they can become productive, responsible, and involved citizens.

As previously stated, Texans Can! has over 16 years experience in operating and maintaining the facilities that house our programs and currently oversees operations at six campuses in four Texas cities: two in Dallas, two in Fort Worth, one in Houston, and one in San Antonio. We have the experience necessary to design and maintain a facility that meets the needs of our students in a functional and economical manner. We are experienced at ensuring that our schools meet all federal, state, and local codes including those mandated by the Occupational Safety and Health Act, ADA and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and TEA's School Facilities Standards.

This schedule **MUST** be limited to two (2) pages only font size no smaller than 10 point. Any submitted pages that exceed specified page limits, font size, or that do not match the SAS content and format will be removed from the application and will not be reviewed. **TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR REVIEW, INFORMATION MUST BE PLACED ON THE FORM PROVIDED.**

SCHEDULE #3B - Project Description (Part B)

With only two exceptions, a local educational agency must use School Repair and Renovation funds only to supplement the amount of funds that would, in the absence of these funds, be made available from other sources for school repair and renovation. Use this schedule to check one of the supplanting exceptions and/or to describing clearly how your proposed project will not violate the non-supplanting requirements.

- This proposed project would use School Repair and Renovation funds to make school facilities modifications necessary to render public school facilities accessible in order to comply with the ADA of 1990.
- This proposed project will use School Repair and Renovation funds to render public school facilities accessible in order to comply with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

If any portion of School Repair and Renovation funds will be used for purposes other than the two described above, you must describe clearly how your proposed project will not violate the non-supplanting requirements. You must also describe how you will ensure that, when the project is completed, sufficient operational funds will be available from other sources for the effective maintenance and operation of the building (or facilities) repaired, renovated, or acquired with these grant funds.

Approximately 54% of the operating revenue for Texans Can! comes from donations, contributions, and private funds. We use these funds to support our programs and to operate our schools and to keep them in good repair. As previously described, our program is expensive in that we provide individualized attention to the whole student. We offer a curriculum designed to meet the needs of each student using state of the art technology, a 15:1 student-teacher ratio, 70:1 student-counselor ratio, and flexible scheduling. We devote tremendous effort to fundraising and have been successful in raising the funds necessary to maintain and operate all of our facilities since Texans Can! began in 1986 as a nonprofit organization serving non-adjudicated youth.

In San Antonio, we will raise funds to supplement that provided by the State through our average daily attendance allotment by actively soliciting contributions and donations and utilizing a variety of other fundraising activities that have been successful for our other schools. (Fundraising efforts are described in more detail on Schedule #3A – Fiscal Capacity.)

We are requesting \$208,000 in grant funds to make modifications necessary to render our school facility accessible and compliant with the ADA of 1990. This grant will allow us to adapt our present facility to meet the needs of our disabled students and faculty by providing restrooms that are designed to allow entrance of wheelchairs, water fountains that can be reached by all students, and an elevator that will permit easy access to the entire facility.

This schedule **MUST** be limited to the space provided, (1 page only) font size no smaller than 10 point. Any submitted pages that exceed specified page limits, font size, or that do not match the SAS content and format will be removed from the application and will not be reviewed. **TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR REVIEW, INFORMATION MUST BE PLACED ON THE FORM PROVIDED.**

SCHEDULE #3C—Timeline of Project Activities

Activities to Accomplish Project	Positions Responsible	Estimated Beginning Date (mm/dd/yy)	Estimated Completion Date (mm/dd/yy)
Review ADA Guidelines and other compliance codes	Director of Special Operations (DSO)	January 2, 2002	January 15, 2002
Interview architects/contractors	DSO	January 15, 2002	January 30, 2002
Bidding / Selection of Contractors for Renovation	DSO	January 30, 2002	February 28, 2002
Planning and Design of Facility	DSO	March 1, 2002	March 31, 2002
Obtain required permits and licenses	DSO	April 1, 2002	April 15, 2002
Construction and completion of renovation activities	DSO	April 15, 2002	July 30, 2002
Punch List (final construction items)	DSO	August 1, 2002	August 15, 2002
New school year begins	Superintendent, Principal, Staff	August 2002	

GRANT FUNDS WILL BE USED TO PAY ONLY FOR ACTIVITIES OCCURRING BETWEEN THE BEGINNING AND ENDING DATES OF THE GRANT AS SPECIFIED ON THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD.

THIS SCHEDULE IS LIMITED TO TWO (2) PAGES, FRONT SIDE ONLY, FONT SIZE NO SMALLER THAN 10 POINT. Any submitted pages that exceed specified page limits, font size, or that do not match the SAS content and format will be removed from the application and will not be reviewed. To be eligible for review, information must be placed on the form provided.

SCHEDULE #3D –Facilities Management Plan

Describe a plan for maintaining, in good condition, any building whose purchase, repair, or renovation is assisted with School Repair and Renovation grant funds. This plan should include both short- and long-term facilities management strategies. Applicants must also include a description of strategies that will be used during the project's implementation to ensure its successful completion on time and within budget.

Texans Can! has been in business for over 16 years. Dallas Can! Academy was one of the first schools to be granted a charter by the State Board of Education in 1996. Since that time, we have successfully opened and maintained six campuses: two in Dallas, two in Fort Worth, one in Houston, and one in San Antonio. We currently hold a charter to open a school in Austin, which we will do when start-up funds have been raised.

We have an experienced Director of Special Operations on our staff who oversees all of our facilities. He has been successfully involved in the opening of two Texans Can! facilities. The Director works closely with school leaders to ensure that all facilities are maintained in accordance with all federal, state, and local requirements, including TEA's School Facilities Standards. We solicit bids to ensure that qualified bidders, including small, minority, and women-owned businesses, have an opportunity to complete necessary repair and renovation work on our schools. We are always mindful of ensuring that all work is done in a functional, non-elaborate way that gives us the best value for our investment.

Written contracts will be required for all work performed that is in excess of \$10,000. Copies of the contracts will be maintained in a safe location and files will include rationale for why the particular contractor was chosen. Contracts in excess of \$10,000 will include a description of how the contract can be terminated, including the basis for settlement. Records will be maintained on services provided, including the date and purpose of the services. No grant funds will be used to make payments to contractors until after services are performed.

Short Term Facilities Management Plan

Short-term plans are developed during the annual budgeting cycle based on needs at each campus. Included in these plans are:

- A full-time maintenance person for routine maintenance and repairs.
- An outsourcing plan for larger projects beyond the scope of the maintenance person.
- Contingency funds for emergency or unexpected repairs.
- Contracted grounds maintenance.
- Security system.
- Annual reviews and evaluations of existing maintenance contracts.

Long Term Facilities Management Plan

Long-term plans are included in our written deferred maintenance plans. These plans include:

- Maintaining adequate insurance on all property and conducting periodic reviews of insurance needs.
- Performing periodic reviews and evaluations of infrastructure and exostructure.
- Conducting a biannual Asbestos Management Plan review.
- Repairing and/or replacing roof, HVAC, and electrical needs when needed.
- Maintaining a fire safety system

This schedule MUST be limited to the space provided (1 page only), font size no smaller than 10 point. Any submitted pages that exceed specified page limits, font size, or that do not match the SAS content and format will be removed from the application and will not be reviewed. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR REVIEW, INFORMATION MUST BE PLACED ON THE FORM PROVIDED.

