



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** December 21, 2017

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent *V. Keesler*  
Division of Educator, Student, and School Support

**SUBJECT:** Application Process for the 2017-18 Competency-Based  
Education Pilot Grant

The competitive grant application for the Competency-Based Education Pilot Grant (as authorized under Section 21j of the State School Aid Act for 2017-2018) is now open.

The legislation guiding this grant includes several implementation components. In an effort to provide maximum supports to districts, it is encouraged that available resources and networks are leveraged. Districts are encouraged to collaborate with partners that will allow for additional supports in implementation by providing technical assistance for planning and implementation.

To assist applicants, technical assistance webinars will be conducted on budgeting and services to be offered under this pilot. Sessions will be comprised of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), KnowledgeWorks, and XQ Superschools presenting on supports for planning and implementation. Three webinars will be held. The first two will be on January 11, 2018, from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3:30-5:00 p.m. The third session will be on January 17, 2018, from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The Competency-Based Education Steering Committee along with the Michigan Association for Intermediate School Administrators (MAISA) will provide additional information to applicants in upcoming correspondence and work with available service providers across the country to assist districts in applying for and planning grant implementation.

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Applications for this grant must be submitted in the Michigan Electronic Grant System Plus (MEGS+) by February 12, 2018. The grant application questions are being provided now so that districts can begin the application process in an effort to allow for maximum time to plan and connect with stakeholders. Finalists for the grant will be required to participate in a follow up interview during the week of March 12, 2018.

Further information about the process for submitting an application in MEGS+ is available on the [Competency-Based Pathways website](#) in the document entitled "Instructions for completing the Competency-Based Pathways Grant in MEGS+". It is imperative that this document is reviewed prior to starting the application process.

Please direct questions related to the MEGS+ aspects of this grant to Eric Lipinski ([Lipinski@michigan.gov](mailto:Lipinski@michigan.gov)). If you have programmatic questions regarding the grant, please contact Gregg Dionne ([Dionneg@michigan.gov](mailto:Dionneg@michigan.gov)) or Mary Head ([Headm1@michigan.gov](mailto:Headm1@michigan.gov)).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance