



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

September 27, 2010

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for Allocation of Title I School Improvement Funds to Support Regional Assistance to High Priority Schools

The Michigan Department of Education annually receives Title I School Improvement funds to help support regional assistance to Title I schools that have been identified as having the greatest need for assistance in improving student achievement. Department staff makes a portion of these funds available to intermediate school districts (ISDs) in order to increase the support system and accountability for High Priority (HP) Schools.

Grants will be made available to the intermediate school districts with Title I schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring due to not meeting proficiency goals for English/language arts and/or mathematics in the current school year and/or the past two school years. Each intermediate school district grant amount is based on two factors:

1. The number of Title I schools identified for reasons of proficiency within its jurisdiction.
2. The most recent student enrollment data collected in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) for each Title I school identified for reasons of proficiency under the ISD's jurisdiction.

Funding amounts for each qualifying Title I building under the ISD's jurisdiction are as follows:

<u>Student Enrollment</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>
350 or less	\$ 60,000
351 - 650	\$ 75,000
651 - 950	\$100,000
951 - 1250	\$125,000
1250 or greater	\$150,000

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Prior year grant awards were set at a flat \$70,000 annually for each qualifying Title I school.

The change in the allocation method is in response to feedback from ISD staff that support HP Schools. ISD staff statewide indicated this amount was not necessary to provide support to schools with lower enrollment, while at the same time it was not sufficient to provide the necessary services to larger schools with high enrollment.

These funds are used to cover the cost of staff who work collaboratively with MDE staff to provide direct services to high priority schools, data information management, professional learning, and increased accountability.

If an intermediate school district with identified schools determines that it cannot provide the regional services, the grant would be made available to another intermediate school district in the area that demonstrates the capacity and willingness to do so.

For the 2010-11 school year, approximately \$12,500,000 is needed to ensure that all Title I schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring due to proficiency in the current or previous school year are provided with appropriate, coordinated assistance.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the Allocation of Title I School Improvement Funds to Support Regional Assistance to High Priority Schools, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated September 27, 2010.

**MICHIGAN  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Criteria for Allocation of Title I School Improvement Funds to Support  
Regional Assistance to High Priority Schools**

The State Board of Education has adopted as its goal "Significant and meaningful improvement in the academic achievement of all students/children with major emphasis on the persistently lowest achieving schools and students."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal, and the Board's Vision and Principles of Universal Education.

**PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA  
SUPPORT**

The 2010-11 Michigan State Board of Education/Department of Education Goal and Priorities approved September 14, 2010, which state:

"Significant and meaningful improvement in the academic performance of all students/children with major emphasis on the persistently lowest achieving schools and students"

**BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT**

Competitive     Formula     New     Continuation    (*check all that apply*)

The purpose of Title I School Improvement Regional Assistance grants is to support initiatives to improve academic achievement in High Priority Schools. The funds are used to provide professional staff and direct services to improve student achievement by implementing a school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring plan as appropriate for each identified school.

**CRITERIA**

Date criteria were last approved:  
November 14, 2006

Defined in Law                       Defined in Department's Approved  
Grant Application to the Funder                       Proposed by  
Staff

**ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT**

Any Michigan Intermediate School District (ISD) or Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) with Title I schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring for reasons of proficiency in the current or previous school year.

**TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE**

The amount currently available is \$12,500,000.

**LAW**

Title I, Part A, Section 1003 School Improvement

**PROPOSED BY STAFF**

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If a qualifying building chooses to no longer accept Title I funding during the grant period or in the event it is closed, the ISD may use those funds for other qualifying Title I buildings in the following priority:

1. Any other Title I school identified for reasons of proficiency within the same district as the school that changed Title I status or closed.
2. Any other Title I school identified for reasons of proficiency within the ISD’s jurisdiction.
3. Any other Title I school identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring within the ISD’s jurisdiction.

**OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT**

Office of Education Improvement and Innovation

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