



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 8, 2015
TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Brian J. Whiston, Chairman 
SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for Section 35a(5) Intermediate School District Early Literacy Coaches

From the appropriation made under Section 35a(5) of the FY 2015 State Aid Act, \$3,000,000 has been appropriated to Intermediate School Districts for early literacy coaches to assist teachers in developing and implementing instructional strategies for pupils in grades K-3 so that pupils are reading at grade level by the end of grade 3.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Criteria for Section 35a(5) Intermediate School District Early Literacy Coaches as attached to the State Superintendent's memorandum dated October 8, 2015.

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MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Criteria for Section 35a(5) Intermediate School District Early Literacy Coaches

The State Board of Education has adopted as its mission "All students graduate ready for careers, college, and community."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal.

SBE MISSION, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

This grant supports Priority 3 of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) by increasing the number of children who are reading at grade level by the end of third grade by providing Early Literacy Coaches at Intermediate School Districts (ISDs).

PURPOSE / BACKGROUND OF GRANT

Type of Grant Program:

- New Continuing Formula
 Competitive Designated in Legislation or MDE Proposal

Section 35a(5) of the FY 2015 State School Aid Act provides \$3,000,000 for early literacy coaches at ISDs to assist teachers in developing and implementing instructional strategies for pupils in grades K-3 so that pupils are reading at grade level by the end of grade 3.

CRITERIA

Date criteria were last approved: _____ N/A _____

Source of Criteria:

- A. Federal Law, Rules or Regulation C. Proposed by Staff
 B. State Law or Rules D. Defined in MDE's Approved Grant Proposal to the Funder

Grant funding will be based on the following requirements:

Defined in Statute:

- Literacy coaches funded under this subsection are knowledgeable about at least the following:

- Current state literacy standards for pupils in grades K-3.
- Implementing an instructional delivery model based on frequent use of formative, screening, and diagnostic tools, known as a multi-tiered system of support, to determine individual progress for pupils in grades K-3 so that pupils are reading at grade level by the end of grade 3.
- The use of data from diagnostic tools to determine the necessary additional supports and interventions needed by individual pupils in grades K-3 in order to be reading at grade level.
- An intermediate district must provide matching funds for at least 50 percent of the cost of the literacy coach.
- Grants are used to fund half the cost of an early literacy coach, and are limited to a maximum of \$37,500.
- After an initial distribution of funds to all eligible ISDs, the MDE will distribute remaining grant funding for additional early literacy coaches, based on the percentage of the total statewide number of pupils in grades K-3 who meet the income eligibility standards for the federal free and reduced-price lunch programs who are enrolled in districts in the ISD. For each additional award, the MDE will award not more than \$37,500 per literacy coach and will not award a grant that will fund less than the amount necessary to pay half of the total cost of an additional early literacy coach.

Proposed by Staff:

- Literacy coaches funded under this subsection must be knowledgeable about:
 - The administration of and the use of data from the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA).
 - The use of observational data and other formative assessment processes.
 - The use of technology as an instructional tool.
 - Developmentally appropriate practices for K-3.
- Literacy coaches funded under this section must provide 100 percent of their time to providing literacy coaching support for teachers in grades K-3 in order for students to be reading at grade level at the end of grade 3.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND TARGET POPULATION SERVED

Eligible applicants are ISDs.

The target population to be served is students from all districts, especially those who have a high number of students not reading at grade level by the end of third grade.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

\$3,000,000 for 2 fiscal years

STATUTE

Section 35a(5) of P.A. 85 of 2015, School Aid

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT / PROGRAM CONTACT

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