



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** August 25, 2015  
**TO:** State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Brian J. Whiston, Chairman   
**SUBJECT:** Approval of Grant Criteria for Van Andel Education Institute

The Michigan Legislature has allocated an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for 2015-2016 to be distributed in a form and manner determined by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), to the Van Andel Education Institute to provide professional development for science teachers in using student-driven, inquiry-based instruction.

A single grant of up to \$250,000 will be made available to the fiscal agent of the Van Andel Education Institute whose proposal is approved by the MDE. The target populations are focus schools, priority schools, and other schools with high achievement gaps in science.

The primary goal of the grant is to prepare students for success with the Michigan Merit Curriculum. The desired outcomes are an increase in the number of students demonstrating career and college readiness as measured by the state summative assessments.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Grant Criteria for Van Andel Education Institute, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 25, 2015.

Attachment

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

JOHN C. AUSTIN – PRESIDENT • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – VICE PRESIDENT  
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • PAMELA PUGH – TREASURER  
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY – NASBE DELEGATE • KATHLEEN N. STRAUS  
EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER • RICHARD ZEILE

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • (517) 373-3324

## MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

### Grant Criteria for Van Andel Education Institute

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 the State Board's mission and the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) Priority I to close achievement gaps among all student groups by providing professional development for science teachers in using student-driven, inquiry-based instruction.

### **PURPOSE / BACKGROUND OF GRANT**

Type of Grant Program:

- New                       Continuing                       Formula  
 Competitive                       Designated in Legislation or MDE Proposal

Section 99s(7) of the State School Aid Act builds upon the work that the Van Andel Education Institute has done with science teachers in support of teaching the Michigan Science Standards. Section 99s(7) is funded at \$250,000 for the 2015-2016 school year.

The Van Andel Education Institute will use the grant to develop and implement a professional development program for science teachers in using student-driven, inquiry-based instruction for the purposes of advancing and promoting science education and increasing the number of students who choose to pursue careers in science or science-related fields.

The primary outcome of the grant is to prepare students for success with the Michigan Merit Curriculum. The desired outcomes are an increase in the number of students demonstrating career and college readiness as measured by the state summative assessments.

### **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

The main criteria upon which subgrantees will be selected are the following:

Defined in Statute:

- The Van Andel Education Institute will use funds to provide professional development for science teachers in using student-driven, inquiry-based instruction.

Proposed by Staff:

The grant applicant will demonstrate the following:

- Ability to establish a professional development program focused on:
  - a. Improving student achievement in science.
  - b. Closing achievement gaps.
  - c. Ways of integrating content across subject areas.
  - d. Building partnerships between focus schools, priority schools, and other schools with high achievement gaps in science.

The program will:

- Align with the MDE Standards for Professional Learning.
- Include an evaluation process that measures the effect of the professional development provided.
- Develop a digital badge to award to teachers who have demonstrated competency in using student-driven, inquiry-based instruction.

### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND TARGET POPULATION SERVED**

The Van Andel Education Institute, through its fiscal agent, is eligible for a single grant of up to \$250,000. The target populations are science teachers in focus schools, priority schools, and other schools with high achievement gaps in science.

### **TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE**

\$250,000 in general funds for 2015-2016

### **STATUTE**

Section 99s(7) of P.A. 85 of 2015, State School Aid

### **OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT / PROGRAM CONTACT**

Office of Education Improvement and Innovation:

Director:	Linda Forward	517-241-3147
Program Contact:	Megan Schrauben	517-335-3199