



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 Science Olympiad

From the appropriation made under Section 99s(6) of the FY 2015 State Aid Act, \$250,000 has been appropriated for competitive grants to districts that provide pupils in grades K-12 with expanded opportunities in science education and skills by participating in events and competitions hosted by Science Olympiad. Criteria have been proposed by staff in addition to those defined in statute. The grant applications must be submitted by November 15, 2015, and the awards announced by December 15, 2015.

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

Attachment

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Grant Criteria for Science Olympiad

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 by expanding opportunities for events and competitions that will provide students with opportunities to learn in a project-based setting, utilizing the technologies and skills necessary for success in the 21st Century.

PURPOSE / BACKGROUND OF GRANT

Type of Grant Program:

- New Continuing Formula
 Competitive Designated in Legislation or MDE Proposal

The FY2015 State Aid Act appropriated \$250,000 for the 2015-16 school year for competitive grants to districts that provide pupils in grades K-12 with expanded opportunities in science education and skills by participating in events and competitions hosted by Science Olympiad.

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:

- Districts applying for a Science Olympiad grant shall submit an application in a form and manner determined by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) not later than November 15, 2015.
- To be eligible for a grant, a district shall pay at least 25 percent of the cost of participating in the Science Olympiad program.

Proposed by Staff:

- In order to receive funds for new teams, applicants will establish an elementary or a secondary Science Olympiad team in the 2015-2016 school year and register their teams with Science Olympiad.
- In order to receive funds for established teams, applicants must have a current Science Olympiad team in place that is registered with Science Olympiad.
- Priority will be given to districts that have high economically disadvantaged populations.
- Develop a digital badge to award to students who participate in Science Olympiad.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND TARGET POPULATION SERVED

All Michigan public school districts.

The target population to be served are students from districts with high economically disadvantaged populations.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

\$250,000 - The MDE understands the Legislature intends these funds to provide for the 2015-16 school year only.

- Grants to districts of up to \$800.00 for new elementary teams.
- Grants to districts of up to \$400.00 for established elementary teams.
- Grants to districts of up to \$1,600.00 for new secondary teams.
- Grants to districts of up to \$800.00 for established secondary teams.

STATUTE

P.A. 85 of 2015 School Aid, Section 99s(6)

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT / PROGRAM CONTACT

Office of Education Improvement and Innovation:

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