



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 21, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** State Board of Education

**FROM:** Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Criteria for the Title II (B) Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant Program

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) administers the United States Department of Education (USED) Title II (B) Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant Program. The Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) is a grant program that supports improved student achievement in mathematics and science through enhanced training for mathematics and science teachers. States are responsible for conducting a competitive grant program that makes awards to partnerships between high-need school districts and science, mathematics and engineering departments within universities, giving districts and arts and science faculty joint responsibility for improving mathematics and science instruction.

MSP seeks ways to sustain intensive, high-quality professional development activities that focus on deepening teachers' content knowledge. It also increases the knowledge of how students learn particular content, providing opportunities for engaging learning, and establishing coherence in teachers' professional development experiences.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the Title II (B) Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant Program, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated March 21, 2011.

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MICHIGAN  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Criteria for Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant Program (Title II (B))

The State Board of Education has adopted as its goal "Significant and meaningful improvement in the academic performance 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**

Improve the equitable distribution of effective and certified educators especially in shortage areas and hard to serve areas.

**BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT**

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

The Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) is a formula grant program available to all states that supports improved student achievement in mathematics and science through enhanced training for mathematics and science teachers. States are responsible for conducting a competitive grant program that makes awards to partnerships between high-need school districts and science, mathematics, and engineering departments within universities, giving districts and arts and science faculty joint responsibility for improving mathematics and science instruction.

MSP seeks ways to sustain intensive, high-quality professional development activities that focus on deepening teachers' content knowledge. It also increases the knowledge of how students learn particular content, providing opportunities for engaging learning, and establishing coherence in teachers' professional development experiences.

**CRITERIA**

Date criteria were last approved: March 24, 2008

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

- Build a collaborative partnership with a high-need school district and higher education mathematics, science, and/or engineering faculty, with priority given to those applicants that include in the partnership, the local mathematics and science center. Other partners may include public charter schools or other public schools, colleges of teacher education, community

colleges, businesses, and nonprofit or for-profit organizations concerned with mathematics and science education.

- Provide evidence that the proposed program is based on need and is linked to the on-going school improvement plan for the schools.
- Provide evidence that the proposed program has the potential to increase the academic achievement of students in mathematics and science by enhancing the content knowledge and teaching skills of classroom teachers.
- Provide evidence that the program is aligned to the Michigan Professional Development Vision and Standards.
- Demonstrate through the evaluation process whether or not professional development had an impact on improving teacher content and student learning in mathematics.

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

MSP funds are designated for activities that improve the content knowledge of mathematics and science teachers in high-need schools.

Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education, both two- and four-year institutions, local high-need school districts that meet defined criteria, Mathematics and Science Centers, or intermediate school districts.

### **TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE**

The total funding is expected to range between \$4,500,000 and \$5,000,000 per year.

### **STATUTE**

**Authority:** PL 107-110 the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Title II, Part B, Mathematics and Science Partnerships Program. The legislative language is found at: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/mathsci/index.html>.

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

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