



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 24, 2008

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 24, 2008.

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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 Strategic Goal "Attain substantial and meaningful improvement in academic achievement for all students/children with primary emphasis on high priority schools and students."

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

PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

The Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant (MSP) Program addresses two State Board of Education Priorities:

Implement the "darkening the dotted lines" partnership between the Michigan Department of Education and the intermediate school districts.

As the name suggests the grant requires partnerships. Federal requirements dictate a partnership between universities and high needs local education agencies (LEA). While not specifically required to be a partner in the grant, intermediate school districts are positioned to be valuable partners in these projects.

Continue to review teacher preparation programs and improve certification process.

In particular this program focuses on Activity 6: Improve professional development for current teachers to support enhanced student achievement and outcomes.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT

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

The Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) is a formula grant program 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 September 25, 2003

Defined in Legislation Defined in Department's Approved Proposed by Staff

Build a collaborative partnership with a high needs 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.

LEGISLATION

Authority: PL 107-110 the No Child Left Behind Act of 200 1, 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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