



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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GOVERNOR

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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 27, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Preferred External Service Provider Application

Under the Final Requirements for School Improvements Grants, as defined under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, Title I, Part A. Section 1003(g) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act as amended in January 2010, one of the criteria that the State Education Agency (SEA) must consider when an local educational agency (LEA) applies for a Section 1003(g) School Improvement Grant (SIG) is the extent to which the LEA has taken action to "recruit, screen, and select external providers." To assist LEAs in this process, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is requesting applications from entities wishing to be considered for placement on a preferred provider list that will be made available to LEAs on the MDE website. If an LEA selects a provider that is not on the list, the provider must complete the application process before engaging in the selected intervention at the LEA.

Preferred External Service Provider Eligibility:

- Education Management Organizations (EMOs), Charter Management Organizations (CMOs), Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), and other types of education organizations.
- Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) may apply to become preferred providers for their constituent districts or districts outside of their service areas.
- A school or school district may apply to become an approved preferred provider. However, the school or school district may not become a preferred provider in its own district.
- Providers with particular expertise in one or more, but not all five, service areas may apply to become a preferred provider in those areas of expertise. These providers must partner with a lead preferred provider who has negotiated (or will negotiate) a contract with the LEA.

Applications will be reviewed on their merits, not on a competitive basis. Please note that the application and accompanying attachments will be accessible online to LEAs

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Page 2
May 27, 2010

seeking to contract for educational services. (Federal Employer Identification Number and Social Security numbers will not be posted.)

Preferred external service providers will be required to participate in a state-provided training program that specifies performance expectations and familiarizes providers with state legislation and regulations. External providers will be monitored and evaluated regularly and those that do not demonstrate positive results will be removed from the preferred provider list. All decisions made by the MDE are final; there is no appeal process.

Please note that being placed on the Preferred Provider List does not guarantee that a provider will be selected by an LEA to provide services.

In order for an applicant entity to be included on the MDE Preferred External Providers' list, the applicant entity must complete the application and return it to mde-ssos@michigan.gov.

The application may be accessed at www.michigan.gov/mde under "Current Topics."

Questions regarding the application may be directed to Mark Coscarella or Anne Hansen at (517) 373-8480 or mde-ssos@michigan.gov.

cc: William Mayes, MASA
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