



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 27, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Intermediate School District and Local Educational Agency Superintendents, Public School Academies Administrators, Institutions of Higher Education, and Private Profit and Non-Profit Organizations

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D.   
Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Availability of Request for Proposal for a Statewide Mandated Activities Project, "Autism Spectrum Disorder" Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

The State Board of Education has approved criteria for a Mandated Activities Project titled, "Autism Spectrum Disorder."

**Purpose:** The purpose of this grant is to maintain and increase support to Intermediate School Districts (ISDs), Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), Public School Academies (PSA) and community partners to scale-up statewide personnel development through coordinated partnerships and provide regional training and technical assistance.

This multi-tiered, coordinated system will provide ISDs, LEAs and PSAs with accurate and timely information, effective resources, applicable training, effective collaboration, and access to opportunities to strategically partner with communities and other related organizations.

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The Office Special Education (OSE) is seeking proposals for a project that will perform within the parameters, policies, and requirements established by the OSE that will include, but is not limited to:

- Developing and maintaining a statewide multi-tiered system that is sustainable and will provide technical assistance and training to ISDs, LEAs and PSAs to improve outcomes for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
- Increasing local capacity in providing professional development to ISDs, LEAs and PSAs.
- Addressing how ISDs, LEAs and PSAs can meaningfully engage and work collaboratively with parents and families in planning their child's education.
- Creating a model for school districts to understand best practices regarding support services provided by paraprofessionals.
- Providing statewide public awareness on how to access appropriate resources and information.
- Collecting and reporting data routinely and as requested by the OSE.
- Performing analyses of local, regional and state issues and concerns regarding ASD.
- Providing data and information necessary for accurate and timely completion of Michigan's State Performance Plan (SPP) and the Annual Performance Report (APR).
- Creating processes and procedures for management of the project.

**Funding:** The proposal will be awarded up to \$1,550,000 with IDEA, Part B, Section 611 mandated activities funds.

**Proposal Due Date:** Tuesday, May 27, 2014 by 5:00 p.m.

**Project Duration:** The funding period is twelve months for this project beginning October 1, 2014 and ending September 30, 2015, contingent upon the State Superintendent's approval. Based on satisfactory performance and availability of funds, the project and yearly funding may continue up to five years.

**Eligibility:** Intermediate school districts, institutions of higher education, and private profit and non-profit organizations

**Application:** To receive a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for this project, please contact Ms. Liz Hengesbach at (517) 241-1235 or access it at our website: [http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530\\_6598---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_6598---,00.html)

If you have any questions regarding the competitive bid procedures, process or intent of the project, please contact Mr. John Andrejack at (517) 241-1235.

c: Michigan Education Alliance