



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 17, 2015

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

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

SUBJECT: **CORRECTION TO MEMO #144-15** sent on December 10, 2015, regarding
Use of Title and Grant Funds for the Purchase of Assessment

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has determined that funds awarded for the Assessment Reimbursement Grant as part of the Early Literacy Grants will not be considered as supplanting if a district's assessment was originally purchased with Federal Title Funds or other State Granted Funds.

After much consideration, the MDE has determined that if the assessments (Computer-Adaptive, Screener, Diagnostic, Benchmark) for which a district is applying for reimbursement under this grant were originally approved for purchase with funds other than from a General Fund Budget, districts would be eligible to receive the reimbursement and appropriately adjust budgets and allocations. Additionally, because the amount for the Reimbursement Grant has not been determined (formula based on K-3 count), awarded districts will be permitted to "braid" funding in order to complete the purchase of the assessment tool.

In an effort to provide the most flexibility to the districts based on this information, the purchase by date for assessments has been extended to January 15, 2016.

Lastly, districts are reminded that they are not permitted to "double-dip" on funding sources. If funds awarded through the Reimbursement Grant are in excess of the amount used to purchase the assessment, guidelines have been set for the appropriate use of these funds. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Andy Middlestead (Reimbursement Grant Representative) at MiddlesteadA@michigan.gov or your Office of Field Services Representative.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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