

MiSTEM Playbook Pilot Grant

Transforming STEM education with problem-, place-, project-based learning.



Grant Overview

MiSTEM is reimagining STEM education using transdisciplinary approaches to create a STEM culture, empower teachers, integrate business and education, and ensure high-quality STEM experiences for students.

MiSTEM is looking to learn from schools/districts that have implemented STEM education using problem-, place-, project-based (“3-P learning”) approaches in Michigan K-12 classrooms. MiSTEM will award \$100,000 in grants (\$10,000 each) to capture the grantees 3-P story so others can take a similar pathway. As part of this grant, awardees will review and provide feedback on [draft playbook\(s\)](#) from a user experience perspective.

Read more about MiSTEM Network 3-P learning in Michigan [here](#).



Creating a STEM Culture



Empowering STEM Teachers



Integrating Business and Education



Ensuring High-Quality STEM Experiences

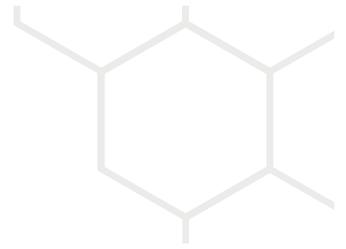
Funding Opportunity Description

Two key components of this funding opportunity are:

1. To document the journey of how the school/district “Transformed Their District” with innovative practices that use problem-, place-, or project-based learning to share in the MiSTEM Playbook.
2. To participate in user experiences with draft playbook(s) to review and provide feedback on STEM Playbooks to improve high quality STEM educational experiences for students through 3-P learning.

Applicants will choose from the current playbooks for review:

- Place-Based Education
- Computer Science
- Community and Everyday Settings



Funding Opportunity

(Continued)

MiSTEM Playbook is **DRAFT** content to be used only for playbook pilot grants. Grantees provide feedback on playbook prototypes in user experience testing. Playbook is not meant to be shared widely at this time.

Each draft of playbook provides key strategies to support schools transitioning to 3-P learning that will enhance student engagement, academic achievement, career exploration and community involvement.

The MiSTEM Playbook Pilot Grant is a two-step competitive process:

- 1) Request for Proposal** – Applicants submit application.
- 2) Invitation to Present** – **ONLY Applicants selected** for further consideration will be invited to deliver a **Pitch Presentation to the MiSTEM Reviewers**.

This 20-minute **“Shark Tank-Inspired Education Experience”** is a virtual session for the MiSTEM Reviewers to hear firsthand the applicant’s innovative school practices with 3-P learning.

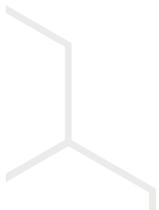
Award Information

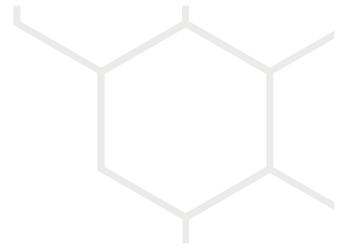
Awards are \$10,000 each.

- Awards are for June 2021-July 2022.
- Applicants will be evaluated on readiness and feasibility for completion within the designated timeline.
- Geographic and demographic diversity will be a consideration in awarding funds.

Eligibility

- Local Education Agency (LEA) or Public School Academy (PSA) in Michigan.
- Priority will be given to applications best aligned to their school improvement plan or the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP).
- **Current use of 3-P learning approaches is required.**





Required Consortium Members

A consortium must comprise:

- MiSTEM Network Region
- One LEA or PSA
- At least one noneducational community partner

The LEA or PSA must be the lead for the proposal and provide fiscal services for this grant.

Technical Support

Applicants will have access to technical assistance from the MiSTEM Network statewide staff and the supporting playbook authors.

[Statewide Staff](#)

Playbook Informational Webinar

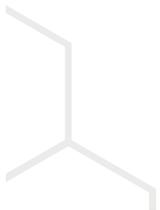
Applicants are encouraged to:

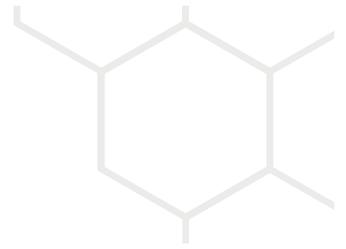
1. **Attend the Playbook Technical Assistance Webinar** to learn about the application and selection process, and to answer questions that potential applicants might have about the grant.
 - **Date: Monday, March 1, 2021**
 - **Time: 5-6 p.m. (ET)**
 - **Register [here](#)**

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted online [here](#).

- **Application deadline is 5 p.m. (ET) on April 30, 2021.**
- All materials must be submitted in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel or Portable Document Format (PDF), with PDF preferred.





How to Apply

(Continued)

The application is a competitive two-step process:

STEP 1: REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Submit the RFP online, including the following elements:

- Contact information about the applicant
- Select the preferred MiSTEM Playbook for review and critique
- Description of 3-P Learning in your school/district
- Explanation of alignment between 3-P learning to the school/district continuous improvement plan
- Consortium partners and how they currently engage in the 3-P instructional approach at the school
- Agreement to complete the Playbook Pilot Grant Project Deliverables and Timeline Chart (see pg 7)

STEP 2: INVITATION TO PRESENT

Applicants selected for further consideration *will be invited to deliver a Pitch Presentation* of your innovative school practices with 3-P learning to the MiSTEM Reviewers: a *“Shark Tank-Inspired Education Experience”* in a virtual session that consists of a **10-minute virtual presentation and 10-minute Q&A** with the MiSTEM Reviewers.

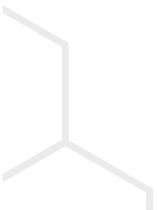
Pitch Presentation dates are May 18-20, 2021, and scheduled between 4-6 p.m. (ET).

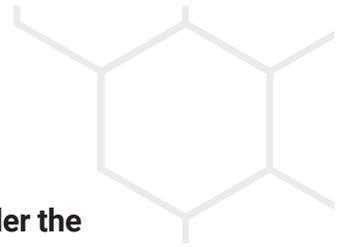
Notes:

- a) This Pitch Presentation is intended to be an educational experience to inform the MiSTEM Review Team what school looks like in your community.
- b) Future grant applicants and others from your team can attend virtually as “audience-as-viewers” but will not be able to interact with your presentation during the session.

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE

- Applicants that are approved will be notified via email with further instructions to secure the MiSTEM Playbook Pilot Grant.





Grant Selection Criteria

Pilot Grants will be reviewed by MiSTEM reviewers under the selection criteria:

1. **Relevance:** strength of applicant's practice or history of using 3-P learning, in the school/district.
2. **Technical Merit:** strategy and activities are feasible, technically sound and reproducible to accomplish 3-P learning.
3. **Commitment:** extent to which 3-P learning is institutionalized in the school/district improvement plan and culture.
4. **Education:** agreement to share data and documents pertaining to the grantee's progress to create vignettes made available on the MiSTEM Playbook website.
5. **Outreach:** extent to which LEA/PSA engages external partners and community in 3-P instructional strategies.

MiSTEM may seek to balance funding to ensure diverse sites in the pilot year, with attention to settlement pattern (urban, suburban, rural); region of Michigan (east/southeast, west/southwest, mid-Michigan, northern Lower Peninsula, Upper Peninsula); grades targeted (elementary, middle, high school); socioeconomic status and other demographic factors; and school format (traditional public, public charter).

Award Administration Information

Award Notices

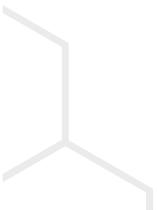
Successful applicants will receive notification via email from Grand Valley State University (GVSU) that the application has been approved.

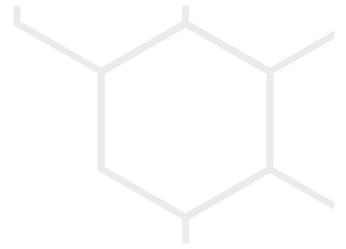
Approved applicants will submit additional requirements:

- Cover letter on applicant's letterhead with assurances to support the grant, signed by an authorized representative of the applicant.
- Letter from each consortium partner clearly stating continued collaboration with the school/district 3-P learning approach.
- Complete the grant award agreement with GVSU. Standard terms and conditions are not subject to modifications. Failure of a successful applicant to accept these obligations will result in cancellation of the grant award.

Grant proposals are considered public information under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, PA 442 of 1976, as amended.

Funds for this grant were awarded by the Michigan Department of Education to the MiSTEM Network at Grand Valley State University.





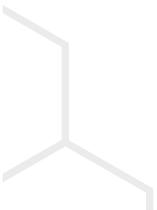
Documentation/ Evaluation of Grant Activities

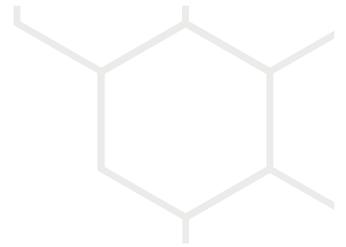
- In the 2021-22 school year, a school or district improvement plan will incorporate problem-, place-, project-based learning as a strategy for achieving meaningful school or district improvement goals and objectives (e.g., for student learning, engagement or well-being) acknowledged in the school improvement plan or Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process.
- Grant recipients are expected to fully participate in documentation/evaluation of their experiences. Grantees, in collaboration with MiSTEM staff, will provide information about currently used 3-P instructional strategies, feedback about strengths and limitations of playbook materials, and their experiences using the playbook materials. There will be pre-grant and end-of-grant surveys, feedback forms about usefulness of the materials and a system for sharing materials (lessons, organizational documents, student products, videos, photos, etc.) produced. In addition, lead project staff will participate in an end-of grant telephone interview.
- The data collected will be used to prepare stories for sharing with educators and others interested in the strategies being used. These vignettes will be made available through the MiSTEM Playbooks website. Grant awardees will receive a packet of materials to guide the documentation and evaluation activities. It is highly recommended that someone other than the project coordinator be responsible for fulfilling the documentation/evaluation expectations. MiSTEM staff will be available to assist project staff as necessary. Permission to use videos, photos and names associated with the school will be requested as needed.
- All marketing or communications materials developed under this grant shall have acknowledgment on those materials with the following statement:
 - “These materials were developed under a MiSTEM Network grant awarded by the Michigan Department of Education.”
 - MiSTEM logo (optional)

Questions

Questions can be submitted online with the [Submit a Question](#) form and answers will be posted on the webpage at www.michigan.gov/mistem.

For more information, please contact Natalie Lowell, MiSTEM Network Project Director at GVSU, lowellna@gvsu.edu.





Important Grant Dates

Request for Proposal Open	Feb 18, 2021
Technical Assistance Webinar	Mar 01, 2021
Request for Proposal Due	Apr 30, 2021 (5 p.m. ET)
Grant Reviews	May 2021
Selected Applicants invited to deliver Pitch Presentation:	
Pitch Presentation	May 18, 2021 (4-6 p.m. ET)
Pitch Presentation	May 19, 2021 (4-6 p.m. ET)
Pitch Presentation	May 20, 2021 (4-6 p.m. ET)
Grant Notifications by	May 30, 2021
Grant Activities Period	June 1, 2021-June 30, 2022
Evaluation Report completed by	July 30, 2022

Playbook Pilot Grant Project Deliverables & Timeline Chart

Project Deliverables	June 2021	July - Sept. 2021	Oct.- Dec. 2021	Jan.- Mar. 2022	April - July 2022
Secure grant award with MiSTEM Network @ GVSU	X				
Attend virtual Kick-off Ceremony & Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share 3-P learning journey, complete evaluation pre-survey, review project deliverables & timeline 		X			
Collaborate with MiSTEM to create vignettes of your 3-P learning story to share on the MiSTEM Playbook		X	X	X	
Participate in the User Experiences to conduct technical reviews and critiques to selected draft playbook(s)		X	X	X	
End of project evaluation report					X

