

2020-2021 Section 99s(3) and (4) MiSTEM Advisory Council Grants Request for Consortium Work Plans

I. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Under [Section 99s\(3\) and \(4\) in the fiscal year 2020 School Aid Act](#), \$3,050,000 is provided to fund grants recommended by the MiSTEM Advisory Council for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs in Michigan. The Council is charged with making specific funding recommendations by December 15. This grant supports the Michigan Department of Education (MDE)'s [Top 10 Strategic Education Plan](#) by supporting and coordinating opportunities for every student in Michigan to engage in high-quality instruction to increase the percentage of all students who graduate from high school and become adults with post-secondary credentials. Each region will be eligible to allocate a certain amount of dollars, based on the number of pupils within the region. Regions can allocate funds to eligible consortia that were funded in fiscal year 2019-20 and as defined below.

The MiSTEM Advisory Council has recommended 14 STEMworks Program consortia and 11 Fiscal Agents to execute and expand the Statewide STEM Strategy. The MiSTEM Advisory Council in partnership with MDE and LEO seeks sustainable, cost-effective statewide and regional collaborations that will organize ISDs, districts, Institutes of Higher Education (IHE), and community/business partners into manageable consortia to help every region implement the Statewide STEM Strategy. Continuing and new consortium leaders will receive funds to address the activities detailed in the plan below, provide project management, and lead in statewide sustainability efforts.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Eligible Consortia

A consortium must be comprised of at least one MiSTEM Network Region, one or more LEA/ISD, and at least one community partner. A community partner is a non-educational entity that helps to facilitate the development, implementation, and ongoing efforts of the consortium activities. The consortium must clearly identify a fiscal agent eligible to receive state school aid dollars, which may or may not be the MiSTEM Network Region fiscal agent. The MiSTEM Advisory Council seeks proposals that show evidence of local and regional collaboration. Applicants must list all partners that will be a part of the proposed program implementation. Applications must include letters of support/commitment from each partner.

Each consortium must identify at least **one eligible grant program**.

Eligible Grant Programs

The grant funds must be used to support transformative activities that sustain the implementation of a program found in the [STEMworks database](#). The program selected must be predominantly classroom-based STEM student programming or project-based experiential learning; or educator professional learning. Consortia selected by the MiSTEM Advisory Council for funding shall represent all network regions and include a diverse

array of options for students and educators, including at least one program in each of the following areas:

- Robotics
- Computer science or coding
- Engineering or bio-science

Consortium applications must describe program selection based on regional needs. Programs and activities selected must also align with Michigan’s mathematics and science standards with explicit connections made to pillars two and three of the statewide STEM education strategy and annual priorities of the MISTEM Advisory Council.

Timeline

- Region Needs Assessments Complete and Potential Fiscals Identified: September 29, 2020
- Awardees recommended to MDE: October 6, 2020
- Consortium Application available in MEGS+: November 12, 2020
- Optional Technical Assistance Meeting: November 12, 2020
- Consortium Applications Complete: December 18, 2020
- Grant Expenditure Period: October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2022
- Interim Report Due: October 29, 2021
- Final Expenditure and Program Report Due: October 31, 2022

III. APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The application template must be completed and uploaded into the MEGS+ portal with all additional documents in one PDF file. Each section of the template addresses the components of the administrative review document that will be used for approval.

- I. Consortium members, population served
- II. Need(s) Statements
- III. Program Description and Legislative Requirements
- IV. Implementation Plan, Standards Alignment, and Plan of Work
- V. Budget / In-Kind or Other Support
- VI. Capacity
- VII. Data Collection/Evaluation

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PROCESS

The MiSTEM Advisory Council and MDE will approve consortium applications by using a review document that outlines the priorities of the Council. The MDE reserves the right to reject any proposals received as a result of this announcement. Incomplete applications or applications that do not meet specifications will jeopardize the opportunity to receive funding (i.e. alignment with the statewide STEM strategy in the strategic plan).

V. ASSURANCE OF ACCURACY

Regions are responsible for ensuring that their consortia allocations do not exceed their budgeted allocations and that deliverables are met through the applicable letter of commitment.

An assurance must be submitted stating that all information provided within the application is true and accurate. If, during the implementation of any funded project, the MDE establishes that inaccurate or false information was provided in the application, the grant may be rescinded.

VI. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

All publications, including reports, films, brochures, and any project materials developed with funding from this program, must contain the following statement: "These materials were developed under a MiSTEM grant awarded by the Michigan Department of Education."

VII. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In keeping with accountability, transparency, and reporting requirements, any and all portions of a region's MiSTEM fund application and reports on the use of funds may be publicly posted.

VIII. LENGTH OF AWARD

Funding will be for the fiscal year 2020-21 and extend through the fiscal year 2021-22 if the interim reporting deadline is met and program plans need to continue (see section XII for further detail). Funds are available beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2022.

IX. TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE AND REGION ALLOCATIONS

A total of \$3,050,000 is available for MiSTEM Advisory Council Grants. The MDE has calculated a formula rate for each region to address local STEM needs. Each region can allocate funds to eligible consortia applications that were funded in fiscal year 2019-20. The 2020-21 allocations are as follows:

Region	Allocation	Region	Allocation
Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD	\$123,958	Northern Michigan University	\$122,939
Copper Country ISD	\$108,410	Oakland Schools	\$282,339
Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD	\$106,502	Saginaw Valley State University	\$173,140
Genesee ISD	\$196,161	Shiawassee Regional ESD	\$187,956

Region	Allocation	Region	Allocation
Grand Valley State University	\$313,068	Traverse Bay Area ISD	\$130,101
Huron ISD	\$117,763	Washtenaw ISD	\$236,298
Kalamazoo RESA	\$224,805	Wayne RESA	\$370,864
Macomb ISD	\$224,551	West Shore Educational Service District	\$131,145

X. BUDGET SUMMARY AND DETAIL

The application requires both a budget summary and detail. The detail should include clear, concise information that aligns to the strategic plan’s activities and outcomes. The budget summary and detail should be allowable, necessary, and reasonable. It is not necessary to provide itemizations of materials and supplies. See the MDE website for a complete listing of allowable expenditures and function codes for the budget summary.

XI. PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payments will be made in accordance with the State School Aid Act and will consist of eleven equal payments beginning October 2020 and ending August 2021. Should the payments not begin in October a lump sum of the first few 11th payments will be allocated to fiscals first and then monthly payments will be issued.

XII. CARRYOVER SCHEDULE

According to the State School Aid Act, if a grant recipient does not expend 2020-21 grant funds by September 30, 2021, the recipient shall submit a carryover budget request to the Department no later than November 1, 2021. These carryover funds MUST be spent by September 30, 2022. For the purpose of this grant application, the carryover timeline has been automatically built into the application process. An interim report will be submitted by October 29, 2021 and will fulfill the carryover request.

XIII. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This document is meant as guidance to assist when completing the application. For full legislative requirements, please reference Section 99s of the [2020-21 State School Aid Act](#).

XIV. SOLE POINT OF CONTACT

The instructions contained in these materials are issued by the MDE, which is the sole point of contact in the state for this program. Applicants should direct questions regarding the application to Megan Schrauben, at (517) 643-5957, or schraubenm1@michigan.gov. For MEGS+ technical assistance, direct questions to Amanda Stoel at (517) 241-3629 or stoela@michigan.gov.