



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**DATE:** January 9, 2020

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

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent   
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

**SUBJECT:** Early Literacy (K-3) Grant Opportunity

As a part of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 State School Aid appropriations budget supplemental ([Public Act 162 of 2019](#), approved by the state legislature on December 20, 2019), the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is processing a grant intended to increase student achievement in early literacy. The grant covers the following area:

- Summer Reading Program
  - Section 35a(9) of the FY 2019-20 State School Aid provides \$5,000,000 to districts to implement a summer school reading program for Grade 3 pupils who did not score at least proficient on the English language arts (ELA) portion of the 2019 Grade 3 Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP), and for pupils in Grades K-2 who are not reading at grade level.
  - Allocated grant funds will be dependent upon the number of applicants and on a formula for an equal amount per pupil based on the number of pupils identified to have scored less than proficient on the ELA portion of the 2019 Grade 3 M-STEP.
  - Applications are due by **January 15, 2020** and grant funds will start disbursing in the March state aid payment.

Applications and background information can be found at [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753\\_74161-515033--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_74161-515033--,00.html).

Please note: Previous communication about this grant was sent via the [MDE Gov Delivery ELA List Serv](#) on December 19, 2019 and via GEMS to Level 5 users on December 23, 2019.

If you have questions regarding this communication or the grant, please contact [MDE-EarlyLiteracy@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-EarlyLiteracy@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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