

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN STATE SUPERINTENDENT

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

January 8, 2015

MEMORANDUM

- TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents and Public School Academy Directors
- FROM: Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent
- SUBJECT: 2014-15 Consolidation of Operations or Services Grant Announcement (22g)

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is pleased to announce the Michigan Legislature enacted, and the Governor signed, PA 196 of 2014. Section 22g of this Act allocates \$2 million to support the 2014-15 Consolidation of Operations or Services Grant program.

These competitive grants will be awarded to districts and intermediate districts for the reimbursement of transition costs associated with the complete consolidation of districts or intermediate districts, the consolidation of operations or services between two or more districts, intermediate districts, or other local units of government, or the consolidation or sharing of technology and data operations or services between 50 or more districts or 5 or more intermediate districts. Additional priority will also be given to projects involving either a comprehensive, research-based academic early warning indicator and dropout prevention solution or a data-driven system for identifying early reading challenges and establishing individual reading development plans for every student by the end of grade 3.

Grants will be awarded based on the applicant meeting the following criteria:

- Project involving one of the following:
 - Complete consolidation of districts or intermediate districts
 - Consolidation of individual operations or services between 2 or more districts, intermediate districts, or other local units of government
 - Consolidation or sharing of technology and data operations between 50 or more districts or 5 or more intermediate districts

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- Priority given to projects involving either of the following:
 - A comprehensive, research-based academic early warning indicator and dropout prevention solution
 - A data-driven system for identifying early reading challenges and establishing individual reading development plans for every student by the end of grade 3
- Well-defined cost savings, efficiencies, and educational system benefits
- Completion timeframe well-defined

The grant application will become available in MEGS+ on January 12, 2015 and applications will be accepted through February 27, 2015. Award determinations and announcements are expected to be made in April 2015.

To assist you in preliminary planning, a copy of the grant scoring sheet can be accessed at:

http://michigan.gov/documents/mde/2014-15_Consolidation_of_Operations_or_Services_Grant_Scoring_Sheet_477072_7.pdf

Questions regarding this grant program may be directed to Christopher May at <u>MayC@michigan.gov</u> or 517-335-1263.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance