



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 15, 2015

TO: Local and Intermediate District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors and Authorizers
Section 31a Main Contacts

FROM: Norma Jean Sass *NJS*
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D. *VK*
Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Services

SUBJECT: Section 31a At-Risk Pupils

Section 31a provides funding to eligible local educational agencies (LEAs) for instructional and direct non-instructional support services for students who meet the At-Risk identification characteristics specified in the legislation. The Michigan Department of Education has developed guidance to assist LEAs receiving 31a State At-Risk funds in addressing the requirements of this grant.

If your district receives 31a funds, your 31a At-Risk students must be identified in the Michigan Student Data Systems (MSDS) collections. LEAs are required to report eligible students and include any new eligible student in every collection. The only students that will be identified as At-Risk without district input are those students enrolled in a Priority School.

The 2015-2016 Section 31a At-Risk program legislation requires accountability for 3rd grade and 11th grade At-Risk students, which will be determined in three-year cycles beginning in 2015-16. There will be no public reporting of 31a accountability for the 2014-15 year. From the 2015-16 baseline year, 31a accountability for both 3rd grade reading and 11th grade college and career readiness will not be publicly reported until 2018, when three years of data are available.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

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To verify which LEAs receive 31a funds, please refer to the State Aid Status Report, provided by Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) and available at the following link:

<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/SAMSStatusReports/StatusReport.aspx>

Reference the 31a worksheet, PowerPoint, Q&A, and On-Site Review Study Guide Documents at the following link:

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_30334-43638--,00.html

If you have questions about 31a At-Risk, please contact:

Lee Craft, Section 31a Consultant
Office of Field Services
Special Populations Unit
CraftL1@michigan.gov
517-373-6066

Shereen Tabrizi, Manager
Office of Field Services
Special Populations Unit
TabriziS@michigan.gov
517-373-6066

If you have questions about reporting of Section 31a Eligible Pupils in MSDS, please contact:

Center for Education Performance and Information (CEPI) Customer Support
Help Desk
CEPI@michigan.gov
517-335-0505

If you have questions about Section 31a Accountability, please contact:

Alexander Schwarz, Education Assessment Specialist
Office of Evaluation, Strategic Research and Accountability
SchwarzA@michigan.gov
517-373-1292

cc: Michigan Education Alliance