



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 27, 2015

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

FROM: Norma Jean Sass 
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

SUBJECT: Section 99h, For the Inspiration and Support of Technology (FIRST)
Tech Challenge and Robotics Competition Grants

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) invites applicants for the 2015-2016 Section 99h, Middle School FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) and High School FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Grant. FIRST is a national program and is available to 7-12 grade students. Two million dollars in funding for this grant program has been made available from FY2015 State School Aid, P.A. 85. All public school districts and public school academies in the State of Michigan are eligible to apply. Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) that enroll full-time students at the ISD are eligible to apply as well. State law prevents the use of State Aid funds for non-public school participation.

For more information regarding the grant program, and to access the Request for Proposal, please see <http://www.techplan.org/rdi>. Technical assistance webinars are scheduled for the middle school FTC and high school FRC grants on September 9, 2015, at 8:30 a.m., and September 15, 2015, at 2:30 p.m. The webinar URL is <http://remc.adobeconnect.com/first-ta/> and the audio dial-in phone number is 1-888-808-6929, access code 8105360. If you have any questions please email or call Amanda Stoel (stoela@michigan.gov), Department Analyst in the Educational Technology Unit with the Office of Education Improvement and Innovation at (517) 241-3629.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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