



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 12, 2021

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

FROM: Dr. Scott M. Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent 
P20 System and Student Transitions

SUBJECT: Great Start Readiness Program – Local Government Contracting

Public Act (P.A.) 48 of 2021 was signed by Governor Whitmer on July 13, 2021. Section 32d(2) includes new language in bold below that allows Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) grantees, either individual intermediate school districts (ISDs) or a consortium of ISDs, the opportunity to collaborate with local governments to identify children and the option to contract with local governmental units.

32d(2) From the state school aid fund money allocated under subsection (1), an amount not to exceed \$295,120,000.00 and from the federal funds allocated under subsection (1), an amount not to exceed \$121,000,000.00 is allocated to intermediate districts or consortia of intermediate districts based on the formula in section 39. An intermediate district or consortium of intermediate districts receiving funding under this section shall act as the fiduciary for the great start readiness programs. **An intermediate district or consortium of intermediate districts receiving funding under this section may collaborate with local governments to identify children eligible for programs funded under this section and may contract with local governments to provide services.** In order to be eligible to receive funds allocated under this subsection from an intermediate district or consortium of intermediate districts, a district, a consortium of districts, **a local government**, or a public or private for-profit or nonprofit legal entity or agency must comply with this section and section 39. The funds allocated under this subsection for 2021-2022 are a work project appropriation, and any unexpended funds for 2021-2022 are carried forward into 2022-2023. The purpose of the work project is to continue to improve access to preschool programming for economically disadvantaged children. The estimated completion date of the work project described in the immediately preceding sentence is September 30, 2023. (Emphasis added)

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The language in Section 32d(2) of P.A. 48 of 2021 means that an ISD or a consortium of ISDs may choose to: (1) only collaborate with local governments; (2) only contract with local governments; (3) both collaborate and contract with local governments; or (4) neither collaborate nor contract with local governments. Given the importance and value of partnerships, local communities are encouraged to reflect on the options provided. Options may work well in one community but may not be practical or useful in another.

To provide services means to comply with all subsections within section 32d, which is consistent with the statute language "must comply with this section and section 39," including providing services under section 32d, subsections 4 through 7 that encompass direction provision of program components, application and implementation plan, enrollment, staffing, budget, and program model options (part-day, school-day, GSRP/Head Start Blend).

For further questions, please send inquiries to MDE-gsrp@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors