



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: August 30, 2016

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Brian Whiston, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for Section 21g: Competency-based Reporting Pilot Grant

From the appropriation made under Section 21g of the 2016 School Aid Act, \$500,000 has been appropriated for a grant to a public-private partnership between the Michigan Center of Innovation in Education and the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators. The partnership, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education, is to develop and pilot a competency-based transcript and marketplace to provide enhanced choice to pupils and parents for the completion of the requirements for a high school diploma under the Michigan Merit standard. Criteria are based in the school aid and proposed by staff. The grant process is scheduled to begin October 1, 2016.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Criteria for Section 21g: Competency-based Reporting Pilot Grant as attached to the State Superintendent's memorandum dated August 30, 2016.

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## MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

### Criteria for Section 21g: Competency-based Reporting Pilot Grant

The State Board of Education has adopted guiding principles and strategic goals for developing Michigan into a top 10 education state in 10 years.

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goals.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGIC GOALS THIS CRITERIA SUPPORT**

This grant supports the guiding principles and strategic goals of the State Board of Education (SBE) and Michigan Department of Education (MDE) under goal two, specifically strategy 2.4.b by ensuring that an infrastructure is in place to support the monitoring of student learning against standards so that results are actionable in real-time. The Section 21g: Competency-based Reporting Pilot grant also supports goal 2, strategy 2.8.a by providing an integrated system of guidance to develop and support districts and school leadership competencies, to accelerate student achievement including the operations, systems, and infrastructure.

### **PURPOSE / BACKGROUND OF GRANT**

Type of Grant Program:

- New                       Continuing                       Formula  
 Competitive                       Designated in Legislation or MDE Proposal

The 2016 School Aid Act appropriates \$500,000 in general funds for the 2016-17 fiscal year for the development and pilot of a competency-based transcript and marketplace to provide enhanced choice to pupils and parents for the completion of the requirements for a high school diploma under the Michigan merit standard.

### **CRITERIA**

Date criteria were last approved: \_\_\_\_\_ N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Source of Criteria:

- Federal Law, Rules or Regulation                       Proposed by Staff  
 State Law or Rules                       Defined in MDE's Approved Grant Proposal to the Funder

The intended grantee will agree to perform all of the following activities:

Defined in Statue:

- Establish an articulation framework for the Michigan academic, technical, and global competencies of prekindergarten through high school diploma requirements, including providing for career and technical and dual enrollment opportunities.
- Establish assessment criteria for measuring these competencies and awarding universally recognized credentials, micro-credentials, credits, and micro-credits for demonstrated competencies independent of state-administered assessments.
- Identify a means of accrediting education service providers as competency-based credentialing organizations to facilitate any-time, any-pace, any-way, any-place learning such that credentials, micro-credentials, credits, and micro-credits can be earned inside and outside traditional classroom settings.
- Develop and pilot a pupil-owned transcript that satisfies postsecondary institution requirements for admission and allows pupils to accumulate credentials, micro-credentials, credits, and micro-credits required for high school graduation, postsecondary matriculation, and early career success.
- Establish and pilot a marketplace of accredited education service providers to provide enhanced choice for pupils and parents when selecting credentials, micro-credentials, credits, and micro-credits needed to satisfy Michigan high school diploma requirements, including career and technical and dual enrollment opportunities.
- Upon completion of the pilot, the grantee shall provide a report detailing the project's expenditures, pupils served, successes and challenges, and feasibility for expanding the project statewide.

Proposed by Staff:

- The partnership will provide a statement of work, which includes but is not limited to a narrative that addresses the sequence and depth of each of the legislatively designated criteria. The narrative should also include a timeline of the project, details the collaboration with key stakeholders such as accrediting education service providers, pupils, parents, and transcript and marketplace industry experts, a budget summary, and a budget detail for progress monitoring and continuous improvement of program implementation.
- Upon future funding, a mechanism for progress monitoring and sustainability will be established.

## **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND TARGET POPULATION SERVED**

The eligible applicant is the Michigan Center of Innovation in Education in partnership with the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators.

The target population is students in grades PreK-12.

## **TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE**

\$500,000

The MDE understands it is the intent of the legislature to initially provide no more than 50 percent of the funds awarded to a grantee. In order to receive the remaining funds, the grantee must provide the MDE a progress report on the development and piloting of the competency-based transcript and marketplace. The MDE will only release the funds if, upon review of the progress report, the MDE determines that sufficient progress has been made by the grantee.

## **STATUTE**

P.A. 249 of 2016, School Aid, Section 21g

## **OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT / PROGRAM CONTACT**

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