



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

February 13, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Intermediate School District and Local Educational Agency Superintendents, Public School Academies Administrators, Institutions of Higher Education, and Private Profit and Non-Profit Organizations

FROM: Venessa Keesler, Ph.D. 
Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Request for Proposal for a Statewide Mandated Activities Project, "Dispute Resolution Project" Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

The State Board of Education has approved criteria for a Mandated Activities Project titled, "Dispute Resolution Project."

Purpose: To establish and maintain a statewide project that will provide alternative forms of conflict resolution related to special education issues and provisions addressed in the IDEA and the Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education. The dispute resolution project will include, but is not limited to:

- Processes and procedures for project management such as processing requests, providing intake information, scheduling, and conducting mediation and facilitation services and training and technical assistance;
- mediator and facilitator training;
- collecting and reporting data, routinely and as requested by the Office of Special Education (OSE);
- developing and maintaining training and procedure manuals;
- evaluating dispute resolution system effectiveness; and
- training programs in the areas of communication, conflict resolution, and other topics specifically relevant to dispute resolution related to special education. All training and technical assistance programs and services must be approved by the OSE prior to development and implementation.

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Funding: The proposal will be awarded up to \$620,000 with IDEA, Part B, Section 611 mandated activities funds.

Proposal Due Date: Thursday, April 10, 2014 by 5:00 p.m.

Project Duration: The funding period is twelve months for this project beginning October 1, 2014 and ending September 30, 2015, contingent upon the State Superintendent's approval. Based on satisfactory performance and availability of funds, the project and yearly funding may continue up to five years.

Eligibility: Intermediate school districts, local educational agencies, including public school academies, institutions of higher education, and private profit and non-profit organizations

Application: To receive a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for this project, please contact Ms. Liz Hengesbach at (517) 241-1235 or access it at our website: <http://www.michigan.gov/mde>

If you have any questions regarding the competitive bid procedures, process or intent of the project, please contact Mr. John Andrejack at (517) 241-1235.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance