



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 12, 2020

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

FROM: William A. Pearson, Ed.D., Interim Deputy Superintendent *WAP*
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

SUBJECT: Section 99h: Competitive Robotics Competition Grant Program

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is announcing the 2020-21 competitive robotics competition grant program, funded through section 99h of the state School Aid Act. The purpose of the grant is to improve student mathematics, science, and technology skills through participation in events hosted by FIRST Robotics; Square One in Michigan; or the Robotics Education and Competition (REC) Foundation, known as VEX. The competitive robotics competition grant provides authentic hands-on learning experiences for students, which allow them to express their creativity, have a voice in their learning, and connect with their educators, coaches, and mentors.

Traditional public school districts, public school academies, nonpublic schools, and intermediate school districts are eligible for funding on behalf of their competitive robotics competition teams. An amount not to exceed \$4,400,000 has been allocated in fiscal year 2020-21 for competitive grants to districts and intermediate districts, and an additional \$300,000 has been allocated for competitive grants to nonpublic schools.

The grant application is available through the Michigan Electronic Grants System Plus (MEGS+). Two 90-minute technical assistance webinars are scheduled for November 18 and November 20, both beginning at 3:00 p.m. Join the webinar through [zoom](#), using the meeting ID: 878 7036 8059 and passcode: 03Fj5q.

For more information, please visit the [grant program website](#). Questions may be directed to Ashley Arras, ArrasA@michigan.gov or 517-241-6966, department technician in MDE's office of systems, evaluation and technology.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors

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