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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** December 7, 2017

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

**FROM:** Susan Broman, Deputy Superintendent  
P-20 and Student Transitions *SB*

**SUBJECT:** Support to the *Early On*<sup>®</sup> Field and Qualitative Compliance Information Project Grant Opportunities

The Michigan Department of Education is pleased to announce (2) Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) competitive grant opportunities for projects to begin October 1, 2018. **The deadline to apply for these grants is Friday, February 2, 2018.**

**A technical assistance webinar for both grant opportunities will be held Tuesday, December 12, 2017, from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm.** Links to the Notice of Intent to Apply Google forms, as well as webinar information, grant instructions and application forms, are posted on-line at [www.michigan.gov/earlyon](http://www.michigan.gov/earlyon).

The goal of Part C of IDEA is to provide support to infants and toddlers under three years of age with disabilities and their families. These funds are geared toward improving the developmental outcomes of infants and toddlers who have disabilities and their family's capacity to enhance their growth and development. Various stakeholders are eligible to apply including school districts, human service agencies, professional organizations, advocacy organizations, private profit or nonprofit organizations, or institutions of higher learning.

### **Support to the *Early On*<sup>®</sup> Field**

The Support to the *Early On* Field grant will be funded as follows:

*Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD)* - Funds will be granted to provide support for CSPD for the infant toddler early intervention system commonly referred to as *Early On* Michigan. There are three

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components included: 1) promote the preparation of early intervention service providers, including paraprofessionals/assistants; 2) coordinate, implement, and manage in-service training for professionals; and 3) coordinate and provide technical assistance to the 56 service areas.

*Public Awareness and Child Find System* - Funds will be granted to provide a comprehensive child find system, a public awareness program focusing on early identification of children with disabilities. There are three components: 1) implement a public awareness campaign for *Early On* Michigan; 2) promote and manage a child find system; and 3) update and maintain a central directory of IDEA resources in Michigan.

### **Qualitative Compliance Information Project**

The specific purpose of this grant is to collect and analyze family outcome data and analyze child outcome data, as required by IDEA. Collaboration with other Michigan Department of Education (MDE) grantees, Office of Great Start/Early Childhood Development and Family Education (OGS/ECD&FE), and the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) will be required. Early childhood outcome data will be collected for all children receiving Part C services through the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS). The grantee will be responsible for training and supporting local *Early On* staff to utilize the data.

The grantee will implement an approved family outcomes survey using a variety of modalities, including but not limited to web-based and paper survey, for families of all children receiving Part C services during the designated period. Utilization of various methods, including phone based administration, to ensure an acceptable return rate from various demographic groups is required. The grantee will be responsible for providing support during the implementation of the family outcomes survey.

The grantee will analyze the family and child outcome data, and report the data back to MDE as well as local service areas. Data and progress will be reported publicly to stakeholders, referent groups, and advisors on a regular basis. As needed, the grantee will collaborate with other MDE grantees and offices to ensure a seamless system of data collection, analysis, and reporting.

Questions regarding the Support to the *Early On* Field grant may be directed to Laura Goldthwait, Consultant, OGS/ECD&FE at 517-373-6565 or [goldthwaitl@michigan.gov](mailto:goldthwaitl@michigan.gov).

Questions regarding the Qualitative Compliance Information Project grant may be directed to Kelly Hurshe, Consultant, OGS/ECD&FE at 517-241-8309 or [hurshek@michigan.gov](mailto:hurshek@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance