



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 1, 2018

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

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent *V. Keesler*  
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

**SUBJECT:** Request for Local Educational Agency and Public Comments  
Title I, Part A, Section 1003(b) Grant Eligibility Waiver Request

Title I, Part A, Section 1003 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires state education agencies (SEAs) to reserve 7 percent of the state Title I, Part A allocation annually to provide funding to support the development, implementation, and monitoring of Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and/or Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) plans and activities in identified schools.

Section 1003(b) as written restricts the SEA to awarding funds to support only the CSI and TSI schools. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is requesting a waiver from the United States Department of Education (U.S.E.D.) to allow Michigan school districts operating under signed partnership district agreements with the MDE to implement district wide and building level supports and services to non-identified schools (schools that are not CSI or TSI).

The MDE believes this waiver request is necessary to fully implement the accountability and support components of its approved Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) state plan. Michigan's ESSA identifies districts with significant numbers of CSI schools as partnership districts. Partnership districts emphasize district-wide efforts to improve academic achievement for all students, not just those in CSI schools. As described above, the funding requirements in the law limit the state to providing funds to support only CSI and TSI schools. Allowing these funds to support all schools in a partnership district will allow for district-wide programs, supports, and activities that benefit all students and schools.

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The waiver request may be viewed at:

[http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818\\_44099---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818_44099---,00.html)

Individuals wishing to comment on the waiver request should submit comments to [MDE-SIG@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SIG@michigan.gov) by March 1, 2018. Please include the phrase "Section 1003 Eligibility Waiver Request Comments" in the subject line.

Questions may be directed to Bill Witt at 517-335-4733 or by email at [wittb1@michigan.gov](mailto:wittb1@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance