

Section 27h Mentoring and Induction District Support Grant FAQ

#	Question	Answer
1	Who are eligible applicants for the grant?	Intermediate school districts and local education agencies, both traditional public schools and public school academies.
2	What year range will these grant funds cover?	There will be multiple rounds of funding under this grant. This first grant will cover October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2026
3	Can we include costs to hire staff or to pay staff to implement the mentoring and induction program under this grant in our district?	All Michigan Department of Education grants, unless explicitly stated otherwise in legislation, exclude administrative costs. The costs to the districts to administer the program are not eligible for funding under this grant.
4	Is there a limit to how much money a district may ask?	No. With that said, we want to fund as many districts as possible and ask that districts submit for reasonable amounts that are justifiable to increase likelihood of being funded.
5	Does the stipend referenced in the grant also include mentees?	No. The stipend listed in subsection 4, subdivision a-c is specifically for mentors. It is possible to offer stipends to mentees to attend outside professional learning through professional learning expenses.
6	Can GSRP be included in this grant?	If the GSRP is associated with a district, then yes.
7	Can stipends be for mentors of teachers with more than 3 years experience?	The stipends for mentors are specifically for mentors of teachers and school counselors in their first three years. Mentors for administrators in their first three years of their administrative position may be covered.
8	Will partial awards be given?	The awards for this grant will not be prorated.
9	Can funds be used for new superintendent mentorship?	Yes. Although superintendent mentoring is not required by law, these funds may support superintendent mentoring.
10	Statute allows for partnering with and education	Yes. Although there is not a specific line for partnering with an organization for school counselor mentoring, this is an acceptable expense and can be addressed in the Other Resources section of the application.

	organization to provide mentoring for administrators. Are we able to do the same for teachers and/or school counselors? mentor, similar to how we can do this for administrators?	
11	What does the assurance mean that states professional learning purchased w/these funds is in addition to the 15 days already required for new teachers?	The statute (MCL 388.1627h) states that “Professional learning expenses under this subdivision must be in addition to professional learning requirements described under section 1526 of the revised school code, MCL 380.1526.” Since that language was included in statute, we had to include it in the application to comply with law.
12	Is travel to professional learning an allowable expense.	Yes.
13	If currently giving stipends through general fund, may we use this grant money instead?	Grant funds may be used to increase the stipends or offer to more mentors but not supplant current stipends. https://www.ed.gov/sites/ed/files/2020/02/snsfinalguidance06192019.pdf
14	Can we do lunch and learns or PD around a dinner for the mentor/mentee and pay for the food through the grant? Nothing crazy.Pizza, subs, type stuff.	No, food is not an allowable expense.
15	What resources are available to help complete the application.	There is a template with helpful tips to completing the application as well as a technical assistance video on our Mentoring Grants Webpage .
16	Assuming we elect to partner with an established statewide	The application will ask you to name the organization you plan on partnering with, approximately how many administrators will be participating, and how the outcomes of the partnership will help to mitigate the established problem. Since subsection 4, subdivision G

	<p>educational organization in our application, can we simply indicate that we plan to pay the organization \$3,000 per mentee or do we need to detail out how the educational organization will utilize the \$3000 allocation?</p> <p>For example, \$2,500 for mentor pay \$250 for books \$250 for supplies, etc.</p>	<p>specifically mentions this partnership for program cost or \$3,000 (whichever is lesser) a total breakdown of program expenses is unnecessary. We would just need the price of the program. With that said, if you have the specific details of program costs, you may include it in your narrative response if you'd like to better show how the outcomes align with the established problem.</p>
17	<p>As part of our application, we are interested in contracting with the West Michigan Education Research and Development Foundation (WMERDF) as an established state professional organization. Can you let me know if there is any prohibition on using the WMERDF in this manner?</p>	<p>Subsection 4, subdivision g of Section 27h allows for “ Contracting with 1 or more established state professional organizations to provide mentoring services to school administrators. Only \$3,000.00 per administrator or the actual program cost, whichever is lesser, of the costs described in this subdivision may be reimbursed from grant funding under subsection (2).” This was written with the intent of professional administrator organizations such as Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP), Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principal Association (MEMSPA), and other similar organizations that currently have established mentoring programs for administrators. With that said, “established state professional organization” is not defined in the statute and we do not currently have an exhaustive list of those who qualify. If the organization you are intending to work with is a Michigan education focused organization providing mentoring for administrators specifically, it is possible to use them for these expenses. If the organization is providing more services than administrator mentoring, you will want to file the partnership under Other Resources and describe all services they will provide.</p>
18	<p>Can you please send me the mentoring and induction standards and resources provided by MDE.</p>	<p>Thank you for reaching out to us with your question. To ensure that districts are able to plan mentoring and induction programs with secured funds, the district support application is open while the standards are being finalized. The standards are on schedule to be released prior to the awarding of district support grants.</p> <p>In terms of resources, there is a template with helpful tips to completing the application as well as a technical assistance video on our Mentoring Grants Webpage under the Application Resources section.</p>

