Mental Health (31aa(2)) and School Safety (31aa(3)) Funding Fiscal Year 2027 Application Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and Step-by-Step Completion Guide

Frequently Asked Questions

Definitions

Application: The application is the form that includes all certifications and requirements that intermediate school districts (ISDs) and local education agencies (LEAs), both traditional public school districts and public school academies (PSAs), non-public schools, and the Michigan School for the Deaf must agree to in order to receive these funds.

Applying: The process of applying for both Subsection 2 and 3 will be completed in NexSys; funding is determined on a per-pupil basis.

District: a public school, PSA, an ISD/RESA, non-public school, Michigan School for the Deaf

Safety dog: a dog that is **contracted** by a law enforcement agency of this state, a local unit of government of this state, or a district or an intermediate district. The dog should be trained for detection of firearms, explosives, narcotics, or vape substances. Therapy dogs, and supplies to support them, do not meet this definition and are not an allowable expense with these funds.

Mass casualty event: an incident resulting in significant physical injuries to not fewer than 3 individuals on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event, an incident resulting in 2 or more fatalities, or an incident of such scope that the emergency response resources in the jurisdiction are not sufficient and resources from surrounding jurisdictions are required.

Significant physical injury: an injury that involves a risk of death, significant physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or a protracted loss or impairment.

School grounds: all properties owned or operated by the district including transportation vehicles.

School sponsored event: any activity organized or sanctioned by the district.

School Resource Officer (SRO): School resource officers must be properly licensed and in good standing with the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards, and must be in compliance with all applicable laws.

Michigan follows the definition of an SRO as defined by the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). NASRO defines an SRO as a carefully selected, specifically trained, and properly equipped law enforcement officer with sworn authority, trained in school-based law enforcement and crisis response and assigned by an employing law enforcement agency to work collaboratively with one or more schools using community-oriented policing concepts.

Why are there two applications?

This line of funding has two separate subsections. Since the items that a district needs to agree to are different for both, there needs to be two separate applications. These applications will allow for better tracking of funds and will also serve as the final expense report (FER) that is required to be completed.

Does a district need to receive both subsections of funding?

No. A district can choose to receive funding from both subsections or just one or the other. There is no requirement to receive funding under both.

Is this a competitive grant?

No. Both subsections 2 and 3 are awarded on a noncompetitive basis with funding amounts capped at $73.53 per pupil for student mental health and $147.06 per pupil for student safety. The amount listed in legislation is the highest amount per pupil a district can receive. It is highly likely that the amount will be lower should all eligible districts choose to receive funding.

Where can applications be found?

Applications will be in NexSys.

Are there certifications that will need to be agreed upon to receive this funding?

Yes. Recipients of funds allocated in Subsections 2 and 3 will need to agree to the following items:

- To complete an expense report by July 1, 2027 (this applies to both subsections)
- Return funds that were used on unallowable expenses (this applies to both subsections)
- Agree to be subject to a comprehensive investigation, waive any privilege that may otherwise protect information from disclosure in the event of a mass casualty event, and must agree to comply with a comprehensive investigation **(THIS ONLY APPLIES TO SUBSECTION 3 STUDENT SAFETY FUNDS)**
- Coordinate with intermediate districts to avoid duplication of services and to streamline delivery of services to students (this applies to both subsections)

Is there a deadline for districts to submit their application?

Funds under this section will be disbursed on the following schedule:

- Window 1: Districts that apply by November 9, 2026, will receive funds in the December State Aid Payment.
- Window 2: Districts that apply by December 7, 2026, will receive funds in the January State Aid Payment.
- Window 3: Districts that apply by January 4, 2027, will receive funds in the February State Aid Payment.
- Window 4: Districts that apply by April 12, 2027, will receive funds in the May State Aid Payment.

The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. Eastern Time on each of the days listed above. Please be aware that entities can only apply once.

**The date in November may be adjusted based on when the application is finalized and made available to complete.

What if we are having access issues?

If you are experiencing access issues, email MDE-31aa@Michigan.gov as soon as possible. The program office may be able to assist. If the program office is unable to support, they will direct you to contact the NexSys access team by emailing MDE-NexSys-Applications@Michigan.gov.

If we have questions, where should we send them?

Questions should be sent to MDE-31aa@Michigan.gov.

Step-by-Step Instructions

The following instructions will guide users through completing the two applications for this funding.

The applications will be housed in NexSys. Please follow the instructions below to ensure proper completion and submission of these applications. **You must have an active account in NexSys to access these applications.**

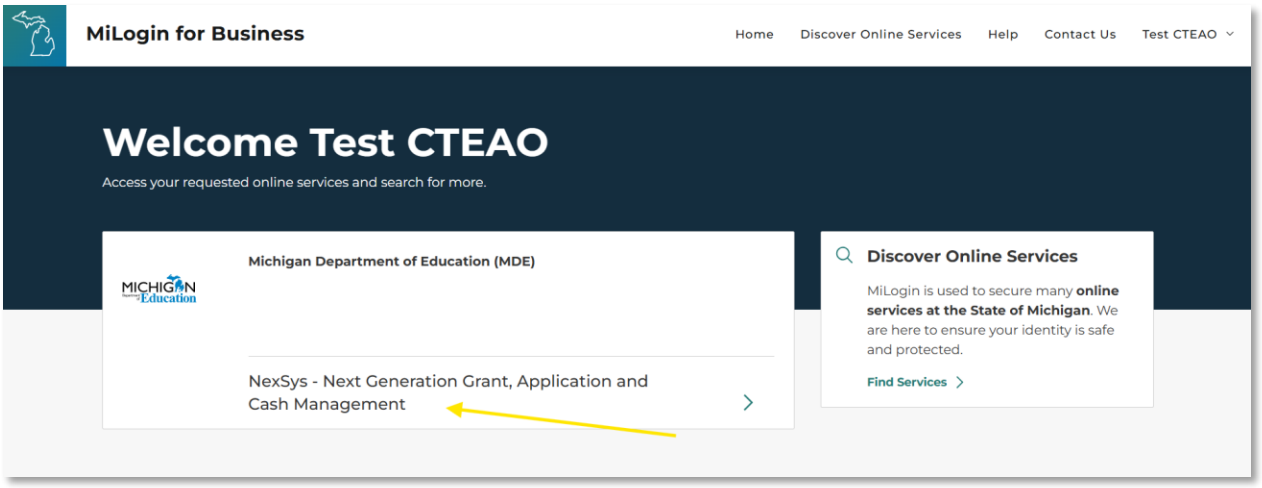
****Checking boxes and saving each required page indicates the applicant agrees to and understands the information included in the application.**

**All images are from the testing site and may be slightly different than what districts see.

**Images are taken from the Section 31aa(2) Mental Health Funding application. All steps will be the same for Section 31aa(3) School Safety Funding.

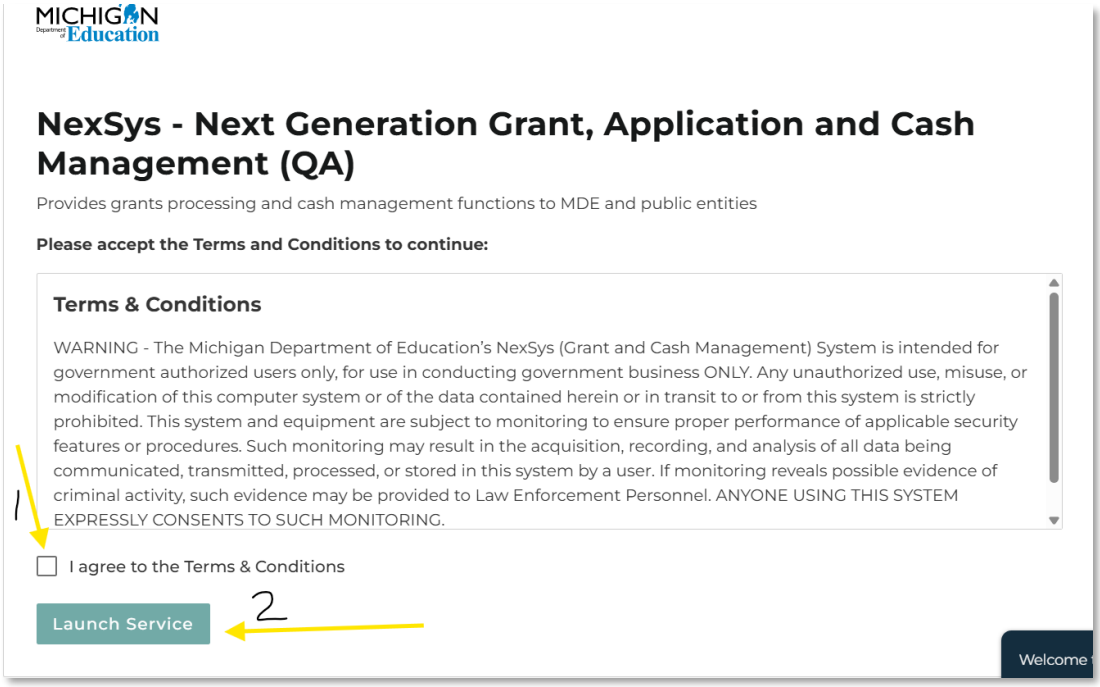
Step1:

Login to MiLogin for Business. From the list of programs available to you, choose and open NexSys.



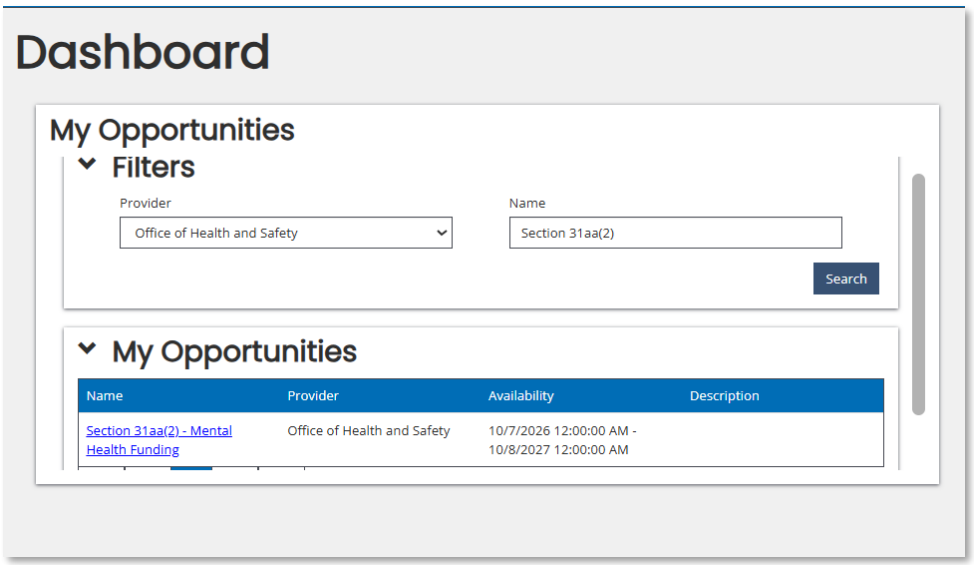
Step 2:

Accept the Terms and Conditions (1) and click "Launch Service" (2).



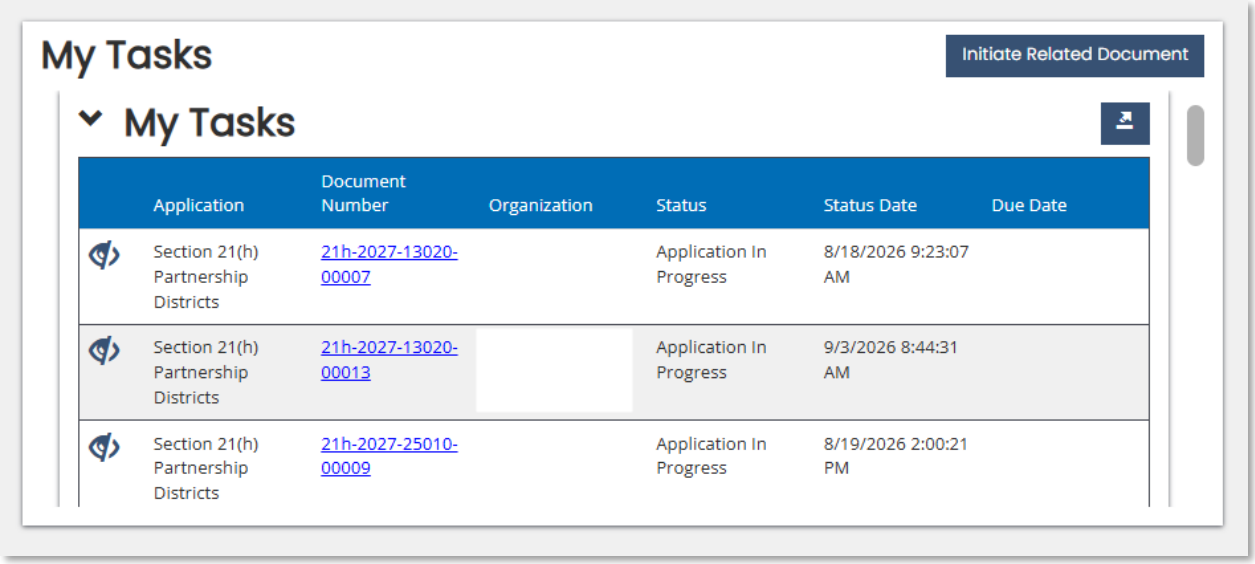
Step 3:

When in NexSys select which application you'd like to complete from your "My Opportunities" dashboard. You can filter by "Provider" and "Name." The application for mental health funding is titled "Section 31aa(2) Mental Health Funding" and the application for school safety funding is titled "Section 31aa(3) School Safety Funding." The provider for both is "Office of Health and Safety."



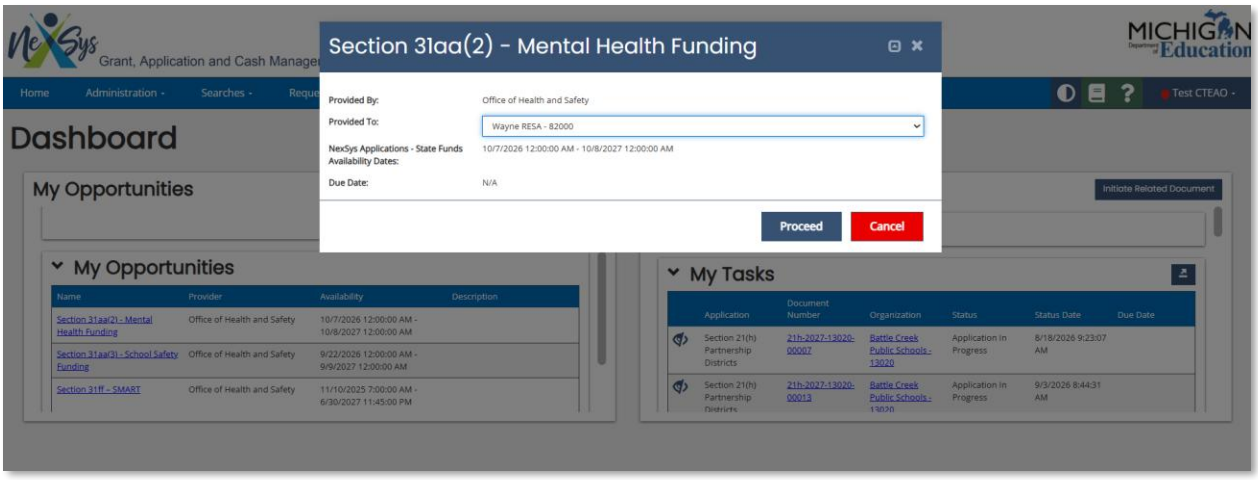
Step 4:

Once you start the application, if you do not finish it in the same session, it will appear the next time you log in under "My Tasks."



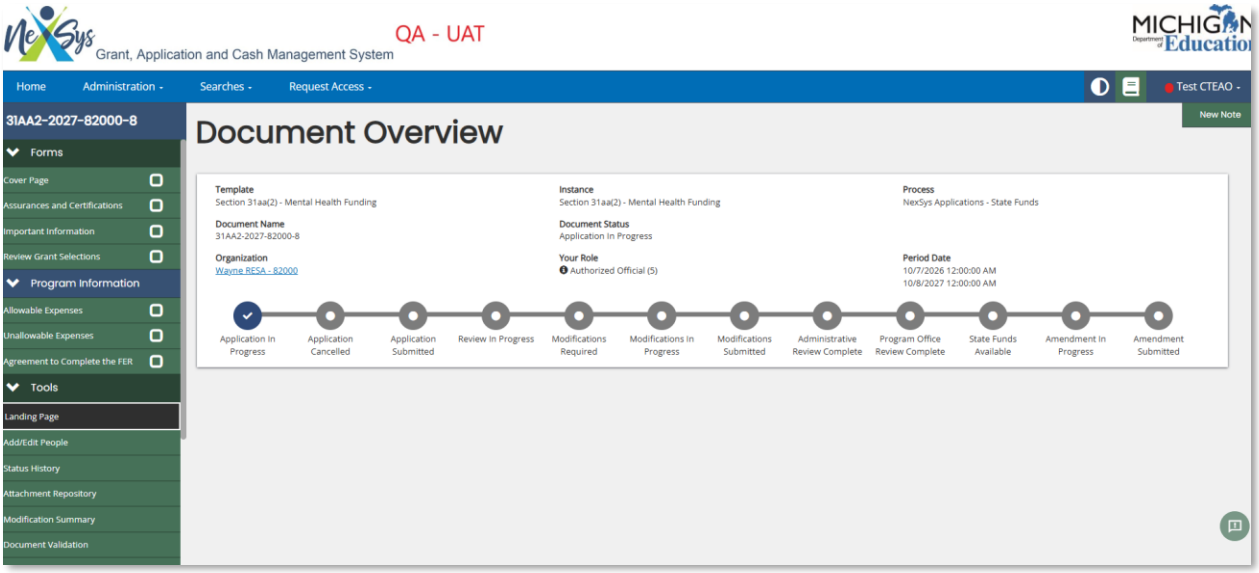
Step 5:

Select the entity you will be completing the application for. If you are a user assigned to multiple entities, you will need to complete the application for each entity. Then click "Proceed."



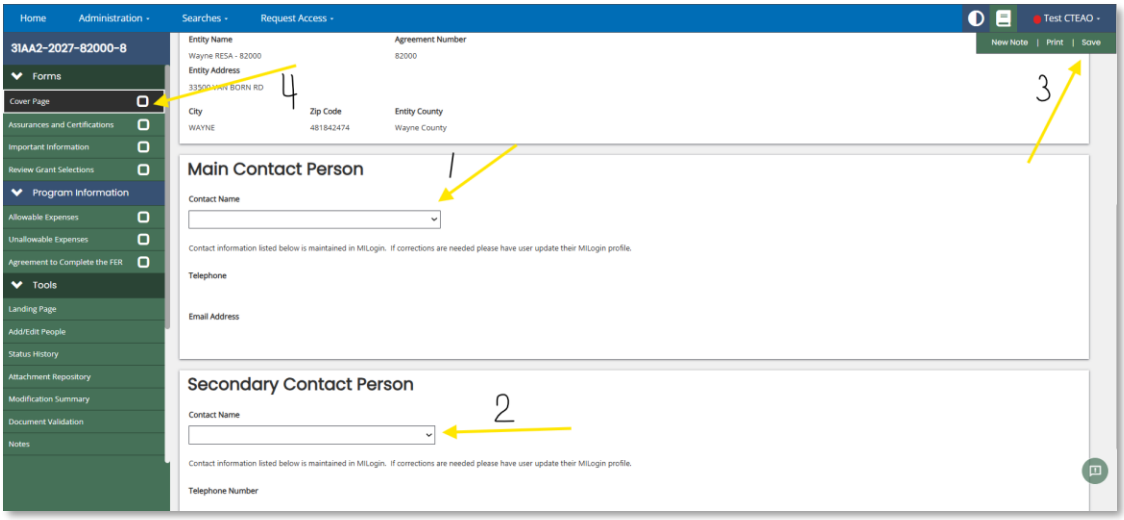
Step 6:

Once the application has been started, it will populate the screen below.



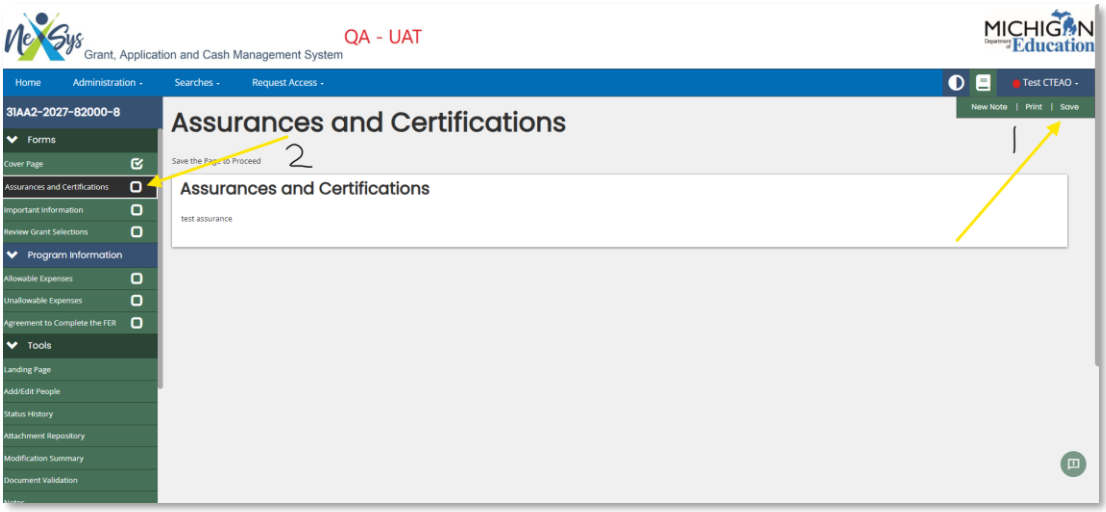
Step 7:

Complete the "Cover Page." At least the "Main Contact Person" (1) is required. If your entity has more than one contact person, it is helpful to complete the Secondary Contact Person's (2) information in case the program office needs to reach out for clarification or if there is an issue with the application that was submitted. Once the contact person/people's names have been selected, click "Save" (3). If the contact information is correct, the phone and email address will automatically fill in. If it is incorrect, an error message will appear. When the page is completed correctly, a check mark will appear in the box next to "Cover Page" in the green menu (4).



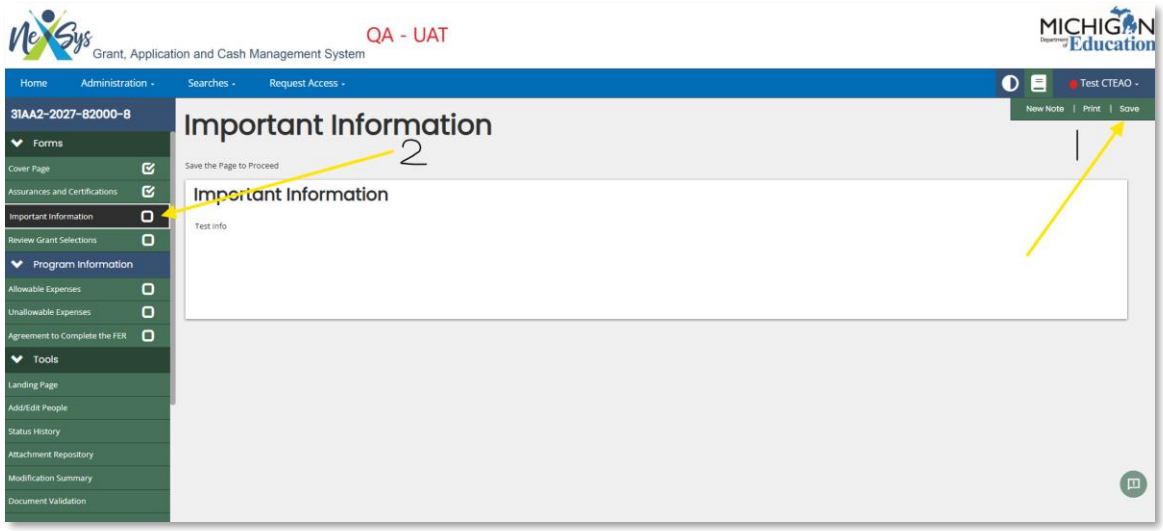
Step 8:

On the "Assurances and Certifications" page the user completing the application needs to click "Save" to complete the requirement. Not clicking "Save" (1) will result in an error and the application will not be able to be submitted. When the page is completed correctly, a check mark will appear in the box next to "Assurances and Certifications" in the green menu (2).



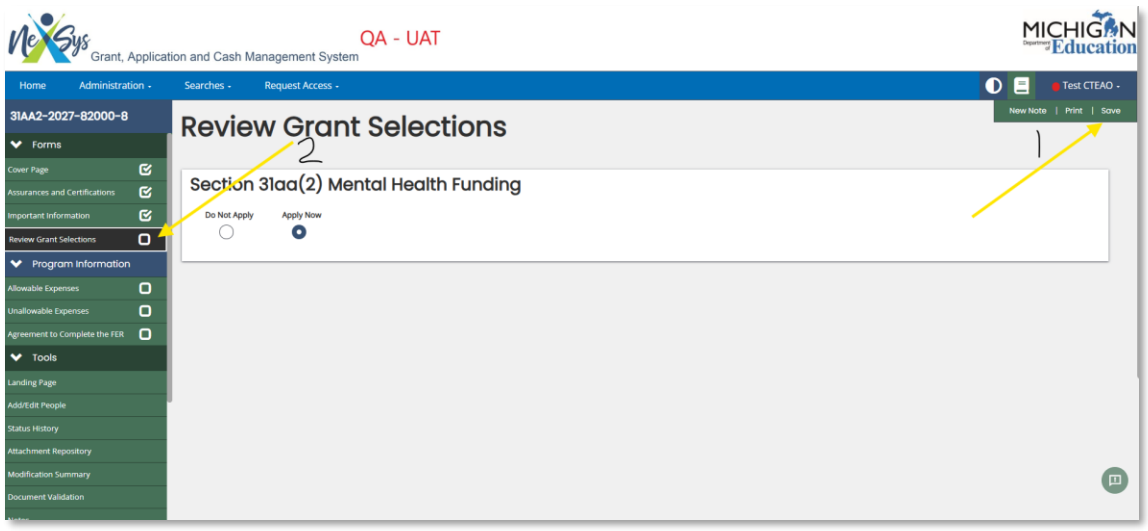
Step 9:

On the "Important Information" page the user completing the application needs to click "Save" to complete the requirement. Not clicking "Save" (1) will result in an error and the application will not be able to be submitted. When the page is completed correctly, a check mark will appear in the box next to "Important Information" in the green menu (2).



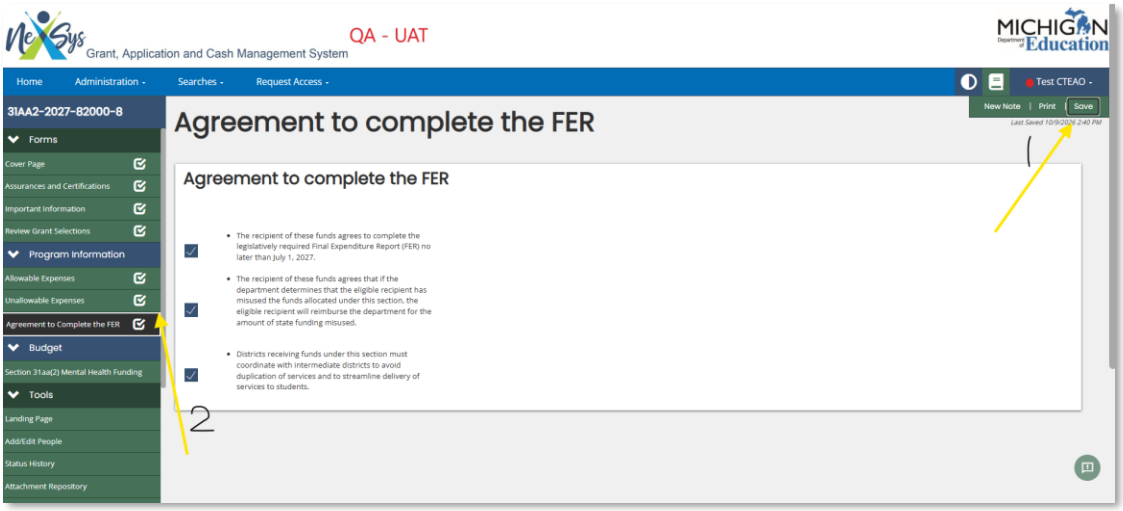
Step 10:

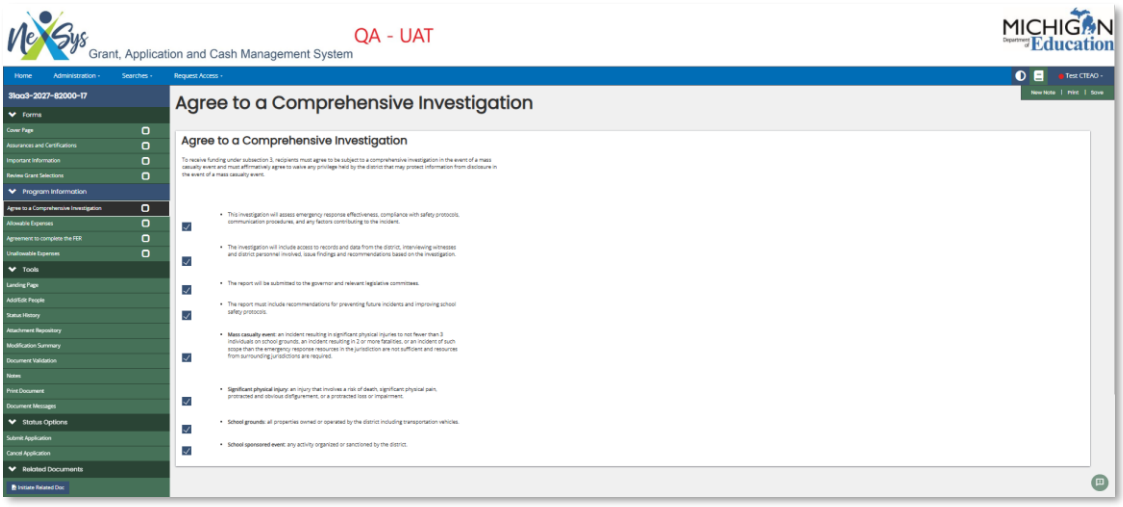
On the "Review Grant Selections" page the user completing the application needs to click "Save" to complete the requirement. Not clicking "Save" (1) will result in an error and the application will not be able to be submitted. When the page is completed correctly, a check mark will appear in the box next to "Review Grant Selections" in the green menu (2). This page defaults to "Apply Now." **Please only apply if your district is choosing to accept these funds.**



Step 11:

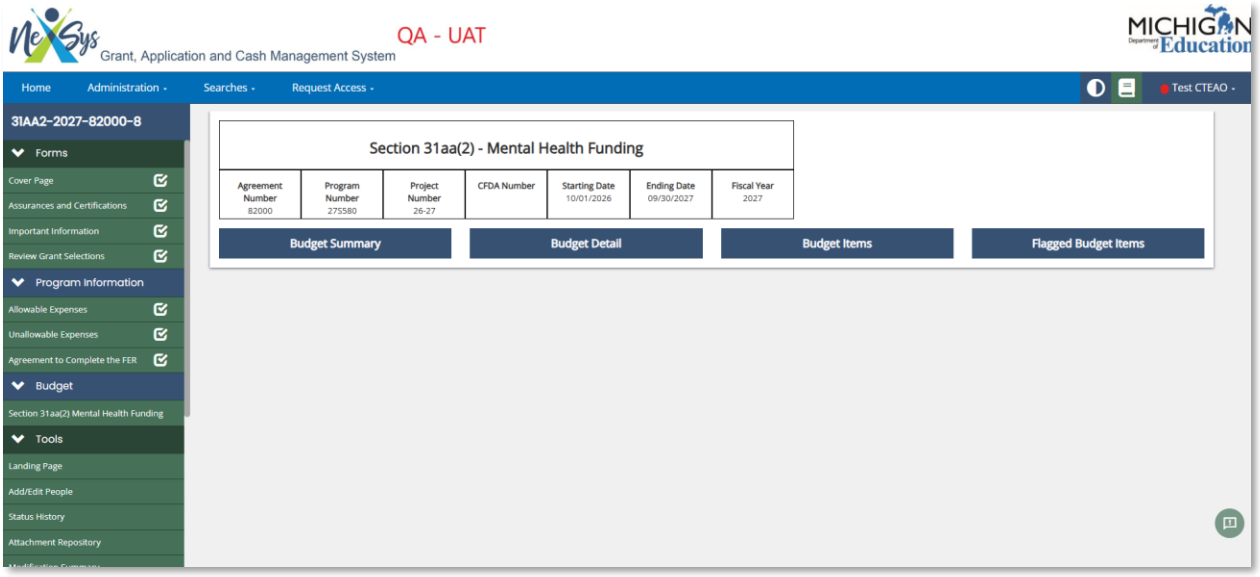
Under the Program Information Section, there are three pages that need to be completed. The only thing that needs to be done on each page is complete the check boxes next to all statements. If a box is left unchecked, an error message will appear, and the application cannot be submitted. Once all check boxes have been completed and each page has been saved, the check boxes in the green menu box will have a check mark in them. For Section 31aa(3) School Safety Funding, there is an additional page that needs to be completed agreeing to a comprehensive investigation. This is **ONLY for Safety Funding** and all boxes need to be checked in order to submit (the second screenshot shows the Comprehensive Investigation page).





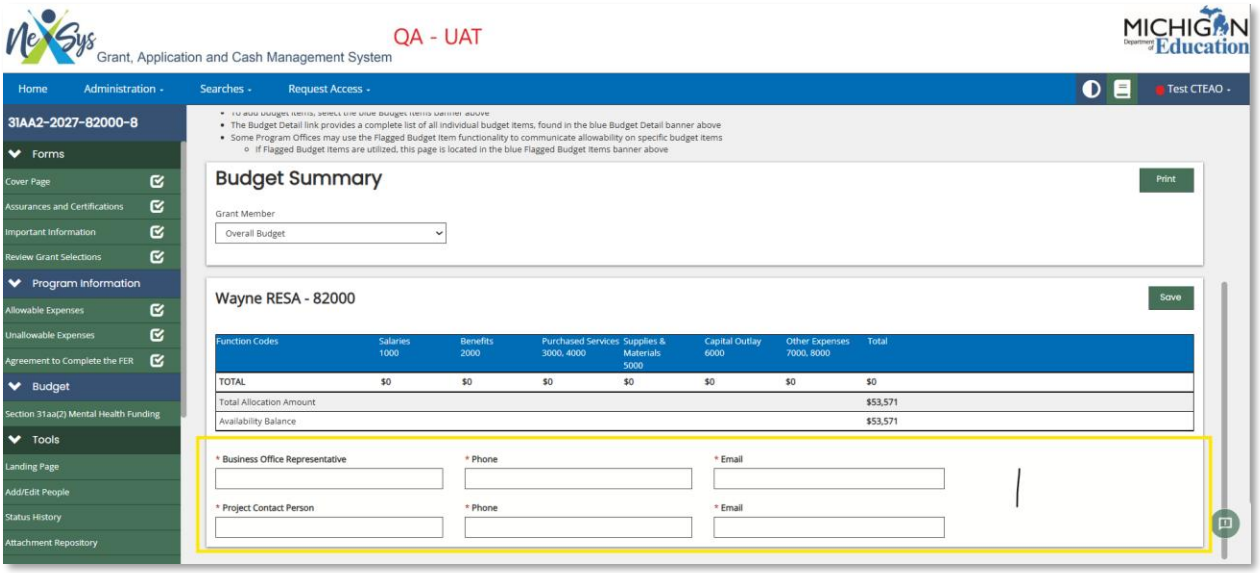
Step 12:

Under the Budget Section, all budget pages will need to be completed.



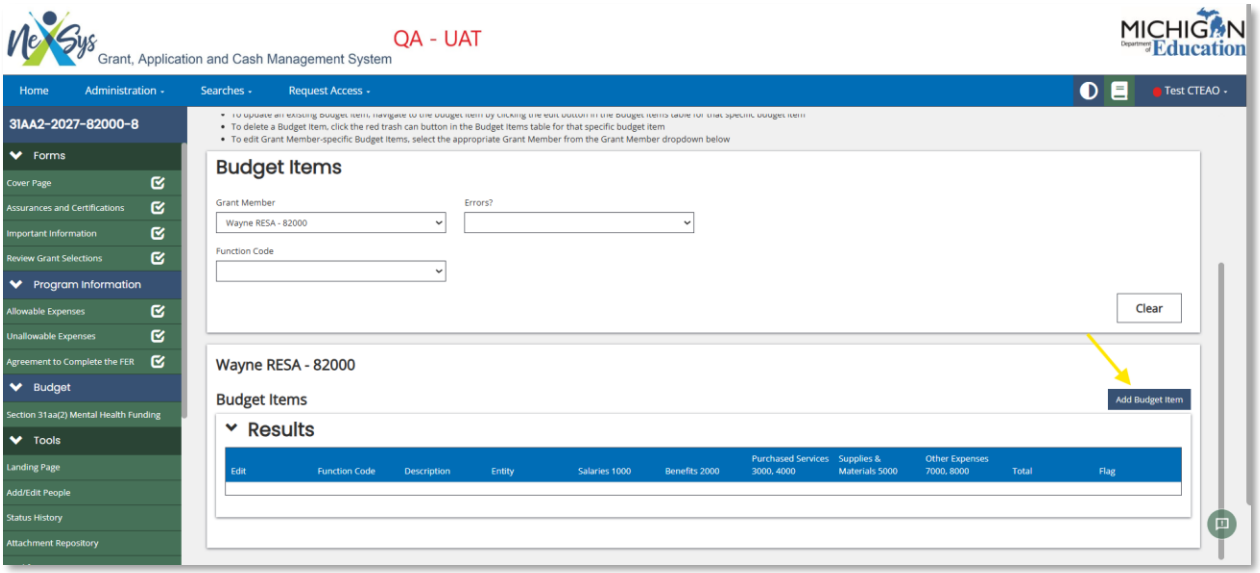
Step 13:

On the Budget Summary Page, both contact points (1) need to be completed and need to list two different people. Once contacts have been entered, click "Save." Please be aware that this will cause an error because budget items have not been added yet. Once budget items have been added, and saved correctly, the error will automatically be resolved. The Budget Summary box, above the contact points, will auto populate after Budget Items are added.



Step 14:

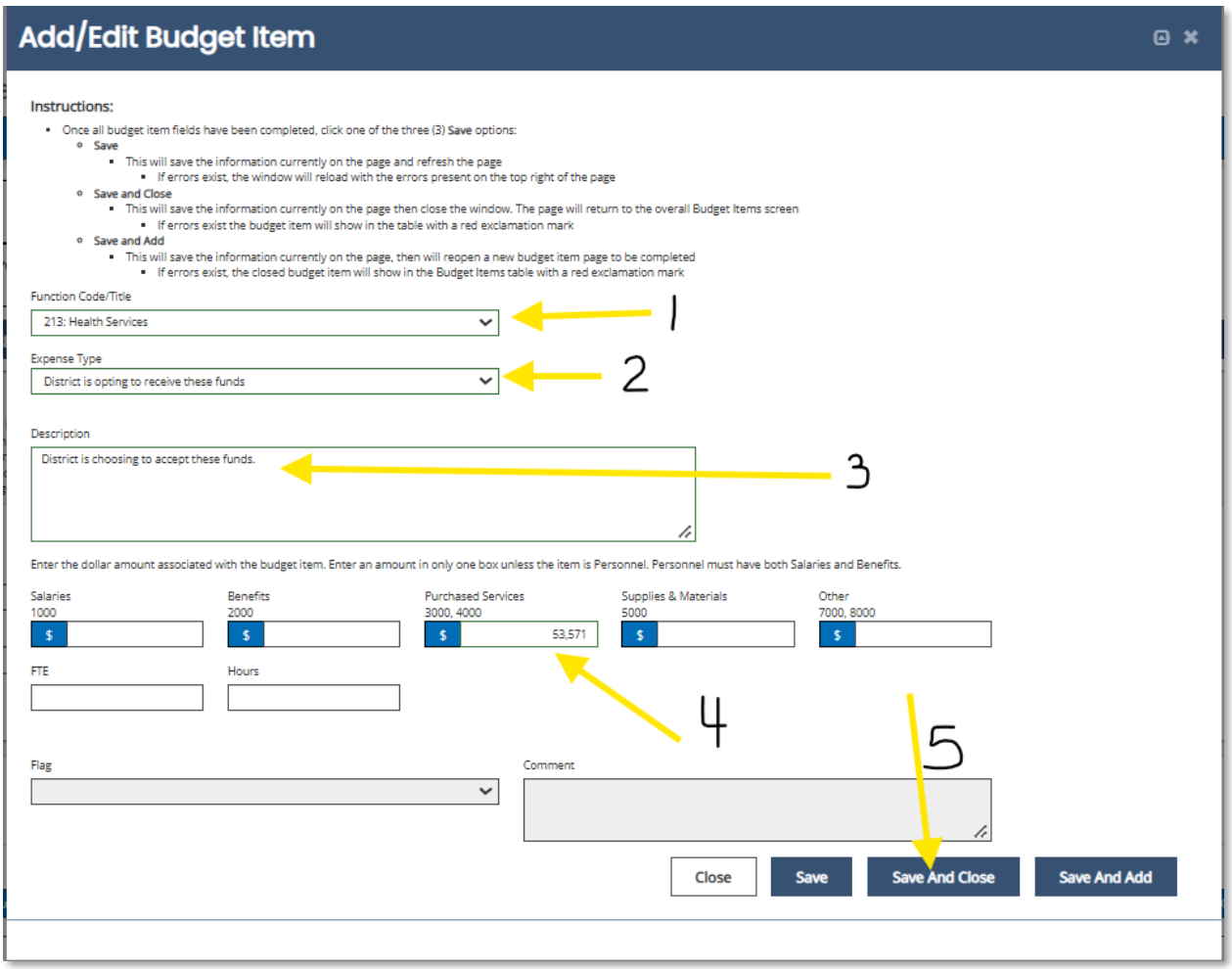
Add Budget Items by clicking on "Add Budget Item."



Step 15:

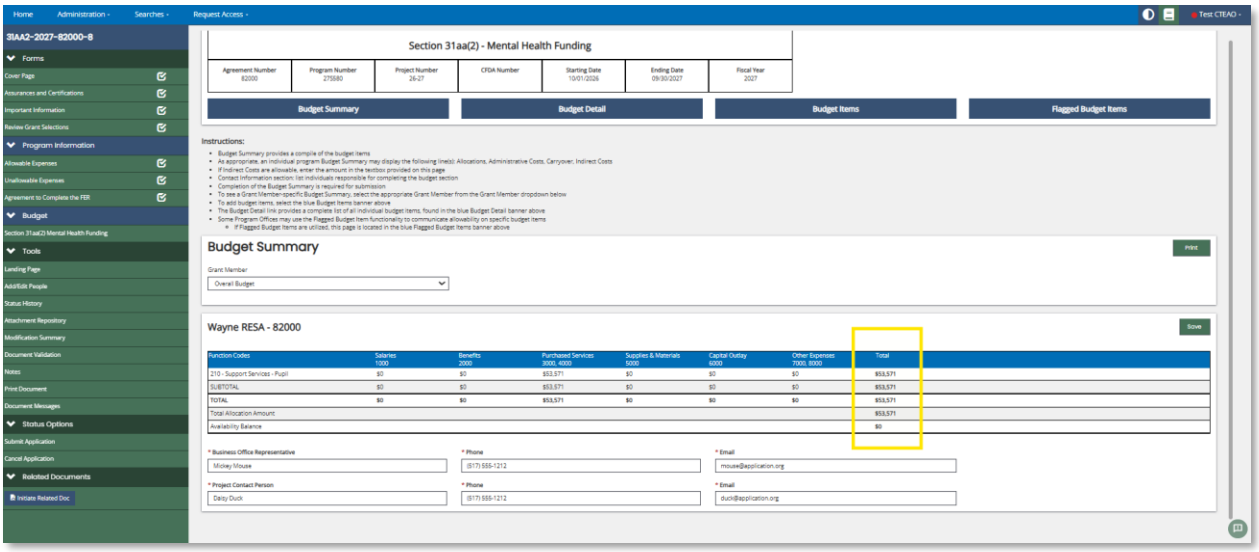
For the application process, please complete only one budget item and complete it as shown below:

1. For Function Code Title, they will be different for each application.
    a. For Section 31aa(2)-Select 213: Health Services
    b. For Section 31aa(3)-Select 266: Security Services
2. For "Expense Type" select "District is opting to receive these funds."
3. In the "Description" box please enter "District is choosing to accept these funds."
4. In "Purchased Services" please enter the allocation amount that has been uploaded for your school. You can find this amount on the Budget Summary page. The amount in the screenshot is a sample used for testing. Each individual entity will have a different amount based on pupil counts.
5. Click "Save and Close."



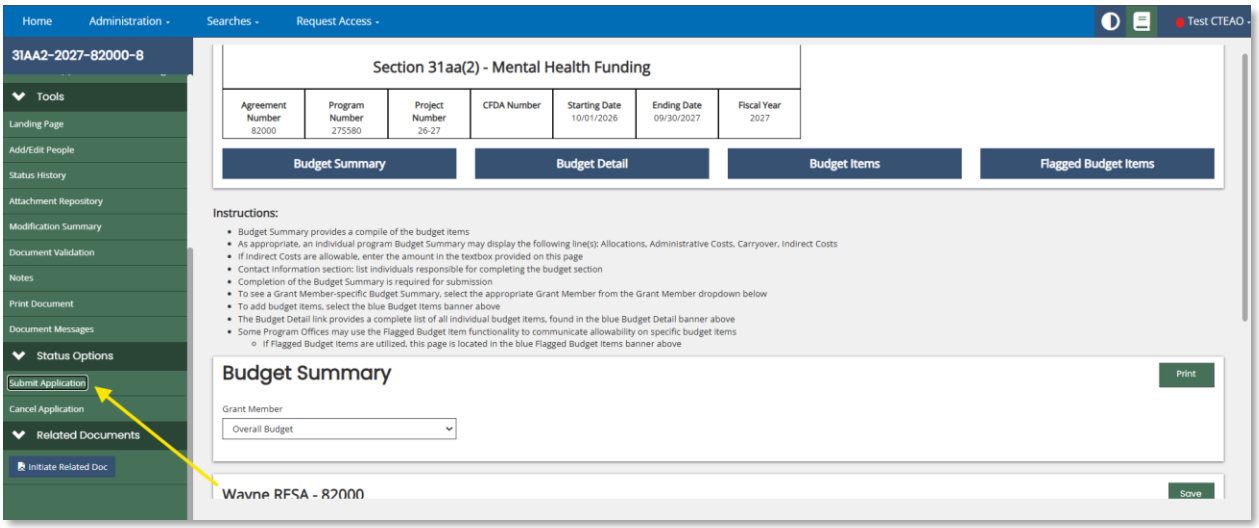
Step 16:

Return to the "Budget Summary" page to confirm that the budget and the allocation amount match.



Step 17:

Submit the application by clicking "Submit Application" on the green menu bar.



*****Applications that are submitted with more budget lines than "District is opting to receive these funds" will be returned for modifications and funding will be delayed. Amendments can be made after funds have been awarded showing how the funds were spent.**