

WEMSS-2025 Q and A – Frequently Asked Questions

Q. I am looking at applying for this grant to get reimbursed for some of our staff that are currently enrolled in a paramedic program. Will this be acceptable for this grant cycle?

A. Unfortunately, the expenses for this grant will have to take place between 10/1/2024 - 9/30/2025. So, if students or staff are already enrolled in a program reimbursement would not be eligible for these participants.

Q. Where am I able to find some information on potential paramedic education grants being awarded this year?

A. Although we currently have a grant cycle open any information regarding this can be found on our website. [Click Here](#)

Q. If the support is offered and the employee refuses will the agency be held responsible for lack of compliance (What recourses can be implemented should an employee/ student not comply with agreed terms and conditions i.e. attendance, homework or required oversight?)

A. Some programs have been successful with cost sharing. Unspent funds can be reallocated to another student, within the grant period. If this is in reference to a student who has their education covered and then fails to perform, not much.

Q. Thank you for this very detailed review. The RFP had verbiage regarding aspiring programs that could provide education in areas of need but not approved by Michigan yet as an approved applicant. Today's verbiage in the power point stated only currently approved programs. Is this an oversight or the approved verbiage now? The program is already CAAHEP accredited but not currently Michigan approved. The program specializes in difficult access areas with an extremely successful outcome.

A. This would be acceptable, if the goal was to be/become an education program in an underserved area.

Q. If the support is offered and the employee refuses will the agency be held responsible for lack of compliance (What recourses can be implemented should an employee/ student not comply with agreed terms and conditions i.e. attendance, homework or required oversight.)

A. The applications will be graded on support to the students and helping them succeed. The focus is on support, not punitive. Some programs have been successful with splitting the cost with the students.

Q. Can agencies be reimbursed for project equipment time, training supplies and practice equipment. For example, projectors, practice mannequins, training videos and other items if needed?

A. Equipment that stays with the program is generally not allowable. The instructor cost would depend on the use of video and the time and if the program was receiving other funding.

Q. If our program begins a month before the grant period, does it qualify? if we are billed after the timeframe is open, then it is ok?

A. It depends on when the expense is incurred, not when the program begins.

Q. We are a large healthcare organization that, in 2021, established a mobile health unit made-up of paramedics and EMTs, with 15 current staff and more unfilled positions. We are looking to expand this model, which has proven successful: The mobile health unit often educates and moves staff from EMT, to Paramedic, to Critical Care, offering increased responsibilities and meaningful career pathways. Although the unit does not do transport, staff visit MD-referred patients in their homes seeking to avoid unnecessary ER visits. This grant opportunity is of great interest, and we want to understand and are investigating what is necessary to become an *approved education program* and/or to *gain accreditation*, neither of which we have today. If we are seeking this, are we eligible for this opportunity?

A. If you would be applying seeking to be accredited or to become an approved education program, you could find information on how to do that on our website <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/inside-mdhhs/legislationpolicy/ems/education-information/education-program-resources> and/or on the Committee on Accreditation for the EMS Professions' website <https://coaemsp.org/>. Programs applying for this status will be expected to show that they are filling a need in their area, specifically serving an area that is not already being served by other EMS education programs. The goal of these grants is to increase the workforce in the EMS System and will be evaluated as such.

Q. Are there any grants for funding available to help with startup cost?

A. For now, no funding can be used to start EMS agencies. During each application period we monitor for feedback and incorporate that into the next grant cycle. If there is consensus with stakeholders that this would be allowable, it may be incorporated in a future application cycle.

Q. We are on the border with Ohio and the closest paramedic programs for us are in Toledo, Ohio. Can we use the grant funds to send people to a paramedic program in Toledo, or does it have to be a Michigan program?

A. Yes, if they are eligible for licensing in Michigan at the end of the course, this would be allowable.