



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 6, 2021

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

FROM: William A. Pearson, Ed.D., Interim Deputy Superintendent
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports *WAP*

SUBJECT: Diversity and Equity in the Education Workforce 2021 Grant

As a continuation of Michigan's efforts to grow and diversify the educator workforce, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is announcing a competitive planning grant to develop diverse communities of practice. MDE recognizes the research that supports the utility of having a diverse education workforce, and its impact on academic outcomes as well as the social and emotional development of children across the state.

Intermediate school districts (ISDs) and regional educational service agencies (RESAs) are invited to apply for this grant to support efforts embodying best practices to ensure that a diverse workforce is part of the educational system in learning communities.

MDE has allocated \$65,000 to support these planning proposals. Proposals may be partially funded dependent upon the number of applications and the quality of the proposals. Preference will be given to ISDs/RESAs that serve areas with diverse populations.

Through the development of a community of practice, the grant awardee will cultivate:

- high-quality, replicable professional development enhancing the experiences of teachers of color, and
- replicable resources and materials designed to support and retain a diverse professional workforce.

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Applications will be submitted through NexSys. Guidelines and instructions for the grant program are located on the [Community of Practice grant website](#).

Deadline for Submitting Grant Application: May 31, 2021 by 11:59 p.m. eastern standard time (EST)

Application Available: May 6, 2021

Estimated Available Funds: \$65,000

Estimated Range of Awards: Up to \$35,000 per awarded entity

Estimated Number of Awards: 2

Project Period: July 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021

Budget Period: July 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021

A technical assistance webinar will be hosted at 10 a.m. on May 14, 2021. To participate in the webinar, please request a webinar link no later than 5 p.m. on May 13, 2021.

To request a webinar link, or if you have questions regarding this information or other aspects of this grant program, please contact MDE's Office of Educator Excellence at: SimmonsR7@Michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors