

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (MDE)

**Office of Education Improvement and Innovation (OEII)
Educational Technology and Data Coordination**

**2012-13 Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant
Request for Proposal: Revised 12/7/12**

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

DISCLAIMER:

THE FOLLOWING COMPETITIVE GRANT IS ANNOUNCED AND AWARDS ARE CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS. GRANT APPLICATIONS WILL BE COLLECTED USING THE MICHIGAN ELECTRONIC GRANTS SYSTEM (MEGS+). FUNDS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE STATE AID MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SAMS).

INTRODUCTION:

The FY2013 State Aid Act provides \$50 million in funding for competitive grants for the development or improvement of district technology infrastructure in preparation for the planned implementation of online growth assessments in the 2014-15 school year.

The online growth assessments refer to Michigan's participation in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium's (SBAC) online growth assessments of the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics and English Language Arts, which are scheduled for release in school year 2014-15. The Michigan Department of Education's Bureau of Assessment and Accountability also anticipates transitioning to online assessments in the areas of science and social studies in the 2014-15 school year.

The legislation calls for the MDE, in consultation with the Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget (MDTMB), to establish competitive grant criteria for awarding grants. Public school districts, public school academies, and intermediate school districts are eligible to apply. This document requests competitive applications for participation in the application from all eligible entities.

- For the purpose of the application, public school districts and public school academies will be referred to commonly as "districts." Intermediate school districts will be referred to as "ISDs."

PURPOSE OF THE GRANT:

The Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant Program will fund the following activities:

1. Developing and implementing collaborative purchasing arrangements for statewide network services, and personal learning and assessment devices.
2. Establishing sustainable, cost effective collaborations of technology and data related services to assist schools and districts to become "test ready."
3. Building the capacity of educators at ISDs, public school districts, and public school academies to effectively plan and implement online assessments and "Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace" learning.

PROGRAM DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

Grant funds will be used to implement a statewide project designed to increase the technology readiness of every district to deliver SBAC and Michigan online assessments and to provide every student with opportunities to "Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace" learning. To accomplish this, the following design considerations were made:

1. Developing and implementing collaborative, purchasing arrangements for statewide network services and personal learning and assessment devices.

Network Services

The consensus of the MDE, MDTMB, and other stakeholders is that the first step towards technology readiness includes interconnecting all existing ISD-wide area networks (WANs) and district local area networks (LANs) to a statewide Intranet "backbone." This would create a Statewide Education Network (SEN) that would allow online assessments and other high value online activities to be accessed securely at higher bandwidths and lower costs than traditional Internet access. The resulting SEN would facilitate greater opportunities to share technology related services.

A majority of the work required to establish a SEN can be accomplished through a State Master Contract (SMC) by cumulatively purchasing network services for all qualifying schools in Michigan on a common, statewide network. A statewide "bid" also promises to reduce the overall connectivity costs for Michigan's districts. MDTMB is in the process of establishing a SMC for network services and the MDE intends to leverage up to \$16 million in grant funds to facilitate ISDs and districts purchasing network services from the SMC (see Category One: District Participation).

A second \$16 million of grant funds will be used by awardees to identify opportunities to connect missing portions of the state's ISDs, WANs, and local district LANs by purchasing needed network circuits, electronics, and services. In no way should this be construed as physically "building a statewide network" but rather "building out" existing networks to provide the interconnectivity needed for a SEN (see Category Five: Interconnecting ISD and District Proposals).

Personal Learning and Assessment Devices

Some of the challenges in Michigan's current collaborative device purchasing programs include the lack of statewide educational device standards and procurement policies. States and other organizations that benefit the most from collaborative purchasing arrangements actually bid volume commitments. For example, the State of Maine bid for approximately 75,000 instructional computers (i.e., units) once every four years. This allows Maine to set the standard device specification and secure the best price on laptop computers for its state-run, grades six through eight "one-to-one" laptop initiative. As a result, Maine's high schools also purchased off the bid and benefit from the volume commitment.

The MDE intends to pilot a volume-based purchasing program that standardizes device package options to lower Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) and simplify district procurement processes. It is likely that this bid will be for more than one form factor (i.e., desktop, laptop, tablet) operating system and Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) (see Category Three, Activity Four).

2. Establishing sustainable, cost effective collaborations of technology and data related services to assist schools and districts to become "test ready."

Regional and Statewide Consortia

The MDE seeks to establish sustainable, cost-effective statewide and regional collaborations that will organize ISDs and districts into manageable groups to help every district develop a technology readiness plan and make the best investments for delivering online assessments and "Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace" learning (see Category Two: Consortium Leadership Applications). Winning consortium leads will receive funds to organize membership, provide project management, and lead in statewide planning.

The MDE intends to award consortia leadership in January 2013 and invite Category One participating districts to confirm their participation in one of the winning consortia (see Category Four: District Consortium Confirmation).

3. Building the capacity of educators at intermediate school districts, public school districts, and public school academies to effectively plan and implement online assessments and “Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace” learning.

Technology Readiness Planning

The grant will provide funding for piloting a comprehensive technology readiness planning process to replace the SBAC survey. The pilot will provide participating ISDs and districts with tools, data, and planning templates to prepare a complete technology readiness plan (see Category Three, Activity Two). All participating districts will be asked to complete the survey portion of the planning tool by June 30, 2013. The MDE intends to deploy the technology readiness planning process for all participating districts in 2013-14, should additional funding be provided.

Classroom Readiness Professional Development Program

The grant will provide funding for piloting professional development for a select number of districts to prepare instructional staff for online assessment delivery and the shift towards “Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace” teaching and learning (see Category Three, Activity Three). The MDE has included classroom-level professional development as part of its definition of technology readiness infrastructure, realizing that human capital is often the essential component in successfully implementing technology initiatives. The MDE intends to roll out the technology Classroom Readiness professional development to other participating districts should additional funding be provided.

Education Achievement Authority School Technology Readiness Pilot

The grant will provide funding for piloting a plan for rapidly developing technology readiness in schools and/or districts placed in the Education Achievement Authority. The goal is to ensure that students served by schools in this situation will have access to online assessments and “Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace” teaching and learning (see Category Three, Activity Five).

Data System Integration Infrastructure Pilot

The grant will provide funding for piloting a solution for integrating student information systems (SIS) within and across districts and ISDs. The purpose is to develop means of achieving common statewide SIS programs that address the proliferation of SIS. Efforts such as the Share Learning Collaborative (<http://slcedu.org/>) have proposed “backend” solutions that may allow for disparate system integration and the MDE will explore these options for potential solutions (see Category Three, Activity Six).

High Volume/Low Cost Digital Assessment Pilots

The grant will provide funding for piloting a large-scale, low-cost digital high-stakes assessment. In this instance, “high-stakes” includes assessments where the results are collected/received by the MDE. The goal of the pilot is to demonstrate the feasibility of executing low cost digital assessments at scale with technologies that would provide the MDE with a means of transitioning

large numbers of schools from “paper-and-pencil” assessments to digital means (see Category Three, Activity Seven).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

All individual districts and ISDs are eligible if they satisfy the following requirements:

- Individual districts must substantially complete the Smarter Balanced Assessment technology readiness survey by November 29, 2012.
- Districts and ISDs must agree to complete a technology readiness planning process designated by the department by June 30, 2013.
- For an ISD to be eligible, the ISD must demonstrate that funds awarded on behalf of constituent districts will enable cost savings.
- Added consideration will be given to applicants that propose external partnerships and articulate plans for sustainability beyond grant funding.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE:

\$50,000,000

The legislation limits individual districts to be awarded no more than \$2 million. ISD awards are also limited to no more than \$2 million per constituent district. These funds are part of 2012-13 State School Aid and are available for award after October 1, 2012. These funds must be obligated to eligible recipients by the MDE no later than September 15, 2013. The requirements of State School Aid states recipients to spend the funds by June 30, 2014, or return the balance of the award to the MDE.

- No indirect charges can be charged to State School Aid. Only direct, including administrative, charges are allowable.

GRANT STRUCTURE:

The grant has been divided into five parts, or categories, to streamline the application process:

Category One: District Participation lists the requirements that districts must agree to in order to receive funds under this category. ISDs must agree to the same Category One requirements for their constituent districts to receive funds.

Category Two: Consortium Leadership Application invites districts and ISDs to apply to act as leaders of regional and statewide consortia. The consortia work will include, but is not limited to, organizing consortium members, facilitating the completion of regional technology readiness planning process, and other activities. Applicants will propose consortium membership, document past success at leading multi-district technology projects, and provide a list of qualified individuals to assist the MDE, or its designee, in directing the statewide grant work.

Category Three: Statewide Activities Application invites applications in Category Two to apply to lead statewide activities. Applicants may partner with

external partners to provide services. Applicants will propose a means by which they will carry out the work and the external partnerships necessary to complete it.

Category Four: District Consortium Confirmation will require districts and ISDs participating in Category One to confirm participation in one of the winning Category Two consortiums. Districts and ISDs will also be required to indicate spending categories for the Category One funds distributed for their use.

Category Five: Interconnecting ISDs and District Applications will invite eligible entities to apply for the remaining funds, currently estimated at \$16 million, for the purpose of interconnecting ISDs and districts to form a SEN.

OVERVIEW OF GRANT RANGES:

Category One: District Participation- up to \$16 million

Category Two: Consortium Leadership Application- at least \$1 million

- Winning consortium leaders will receive an award of at least \$80,000. Consortium leaders will receive an additional \$0.50/per pupil enrolled in participating districts and ISDs after participation is confirmed in Category Four.

Category Three: Statewide Activities Application- up to \$16 million

- Activity 1: up to \$2.25 million
- Activity 2: up to \$1 million
- Activity 3: up to \$1 million
- Activity 4: \$5.25-6.25 million
- Activity 5: up to \$4 million
- Activity 6: up to \$1 million
- Activity 7: up to \$250,000

Category Four: District Consortium Confirmation- up to \$1 million

- Category Two consortium leaders will receive approximately \$0.50/per pupil enrolled in participating districts and ISDs after participation is confirmed in Category Four.

Category Five: Interconnecting ISDs and Districts- estimated to be \$16 million.

GRANT APPLICATIONS:

The following section explains the application requirements for each of the grant categories detailed above. These requirements are also found in MEGS+ under the same titles:

Category One: District Participation

To receive funding allocated for this section, districts must agree to all nine of the following requirements. Once applicants have agreed to the requirements, the MDE anticipates awarding funds in the January 2013 State School Aid payment to districts. If all nine requirements are not met by June 30, 2013, the MDE may take action to recapture awarded funds.

NO CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE NINE CATEGORY ONE REQUIREMENTS. THE MDE HAS PROVIDED CLARIFICATION IN THE SECTION THAT FOLLOWS

To be eligible for Category One funds districts must agree by December 20, 2012 to meet the following requirements by:

1. The district agrees to participate in one statewide or regional consortium identified through the Category Two application process and agrees to confirm consortium participation and submit spending estimates in MEGS+ under Category Four.
2. The district agrees to join a statewide organization, which may be formed through activities related to this grant for the purpose of purchasing network services from a SMC. The district may wait until the conclusion of the district's current network services contract to begin purchasing services.
 - *The district is not eligible to participate in this grant if the district does not take the next eligible opportunity to opt out of its current network services contract after November 15, 2012, without written permission from the MDE or its designate.*
3. The district agrees to sign a shared services agreement with MDTMB or its designate by June 30, 2014, and allow for the connection of the district to a SEN. Districts must permit installation of electronics, provided by this grant, required for implementing and monitoring the Statewide Education Network (SEN).
4. The district must volunteer to participate in one or more Smarter Balanced, or State of Michigan provided, pilot online testing opportunities during **each** school year (2012-13 and 2013-14). This requirement includes installing any necessary software on instructional computing devices to participate in the online assessment pilots.
5. The district agrees to install any hardware/software provided by this grant that is necessary to achieve "zero effort" in monitoring and reporting technology readiness at the district and/or school building level. In addition,

if selected, the district agrees to participate in a pilot of the Michigan technology readiness planning process (i.e., Category Three, Activity Two) and/or a pilot of the Michigan classroom readiness professional development program (i.e., Category Three, Activity Three).

6. District agrees to apply for E-rate discounts for all of its eligible Priority 1 services for E-rate funding years 2013-14 and 2014-15.
7. The district agrees to inform its parents of programs offered within the district's community to provide discounted home Internet service for qualified students by June 30, 2013. The MDE will provide districts with a list of available programs in the state for dissemination.
 - Example: In certain communities, Comcast Internet Essentials offers \$9.99/month for home connectivity for families qualifying for Free and Reduced Lunch (<http://www.internetessentials.com/default.aspx>).
8. The district agrees to limit Category One funds spending to the following uses and agrees to submit a budget under Category Four explaining how funds should be spent:
 - Network services off SMC
 - Computer/device purchasing pilot (Category Three, Activity Four)
 - In-building wireless connectivity
 - Technology Readiness Planning (Category Three, Activity Two)
 - Online/Digital Assessment
9. The district understands that its ISD must also agree to these requirements for the district to receive Category One funds.

CLARIFICATION OF THE NINE CATEGORY ONE REQUIREMENTS:

OVERALL:

- **CATEGORY ONE FUNDS SHOULD BE VIEWED AS AN INVESTMENT ON BEHALF OF THE STATE IN THE EFFORTS OF PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS TO BECOME TECHNOLOGICALLY READY FOR ONLINE ASSESSMENTS AND ANY TIME, ANY PLACE, ANY WAY, ANY PACE LEARNING. AT ANY POINT DURING THE GRANT PROGRAM (JANUARY 2013 THROUGH JUNE 2014), PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS MAY DECIDE, FOR WHATEVER REASON, NOT TO MEET ANY ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS AND NOTIFY THE MDE. THE MDE WILL WORK WITH DISTRICTS OPTING-OUT OF CATEGORY ONE TO RETURN THE GRANT FUNDS.**

REQUIREMENT 1:

- **NO CLARIFICATION IN RFP NEEDED. PLEASE SEE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR REQUEST INFORMATION AT TECHREADY@MICHIGAN.GOV.**

REQUIREMENT 2:

- **THE MDE INTENDS TO FORM A STATEWIDE CONSORTIUM FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING NETWORK SERVICES ON BEHALF OF ALL PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS AND ISDS THROUGH ESTABLISHING A STATE MASTER CONTRACT (SMC). THE MDE UNDERSTANDS THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF AMBIGUITY IN THIS REQUIREMENT BECAUSE THE SMC IS IN DEVELOPMENT. TO ALLEVIATE THE CHALLENGES CAUSED BY THIS, THE MDE WILL PROVIDE A STANDARD WAIVER THAT WILL GIVE PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS UNTIL THEIR E-RATE APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING YEAR 2015 (SCHOOL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016) TO BEGIN INCLUDING THE SMC IN THEIR E-RATE BID EVALUATION PROCESS, USING PRICE AS THE PRIMARY FACTOR PER FCC RULES.**
- **THE MDE DEFINES "NETWORK SERVICES" TO INCLUDE THE COMPONENTS NEEDED TO FACILITATE A STATEWIDE EDUCATIONAL NETWORK (SEN), I.E., THE CIRCUITS, INTERCONNECTS, NETWORK ADMINISTRATION, SUPPORT, ETC., ACCESS TO DATA CENTERS HOUSING INSTRUCTIONAL AND ASSESSMENT APPLICATIONS, AND, BASED ON ECONOMICS, SUCH SERVICES AS INTERNET, VIDEO, VOICE OVER IP, ETC.**

REQUIREMENT 3:

- **THE TERM "SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT" REFERS GENERICALLY TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE DISTRICT/ISD TO ALLOW THE STATE OF MICHIGAN TO UTILIZE DISTRICT/ISD NETWORKS FOR INTERCONNECTING STATE AGENCIES. THE MDE REALIZES THIS MAY IMPACT DISTRICT/ISD E-RATE FILINGS. THE MDE WILL ONLY REQUEST PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS AND ISDS TO SIGN SUCH AGREEMENTS AT THE REQUEST OF THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT, AND BUDGET (DTMB). NO BLANKET AGREEMENT IS REQUIRED AT THIS TIME.**

REQUIREMENT 4:

- **NO CLARIFICATION IN RFP NEEDED. PLEASE SEE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR REQUEST INFORMATION AT TECHREADY@MICHIGAN.GOV.**

REQUIREMENT 5:

- **NO CLARIFICATION IN RFP NEEDED. PLEASE SEE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR REQUEST INFORMATION AT TECHREADY@MICHIGAN.GOV.**

REQUIREMENT 6:

- **FOR THE E-RATE FUNDING YEAR 2014 (SCHOOL YEAR JULY 1, 2014 TO JUNE 30, 2015), PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS AND ISDS THAT ARE ELIGIBLE UNDER E-RATE GUIDELINES ARE REQUIRED TO FILE FOR E-RATE INDIVIDUALLY OR AS A MEMBER OF AN E-RATE CONSORTIUM. THE MDE INTENDS TO STRUCTURE A STATEWIDE E-RATE CONSORTIUM FILING FOR E-RATE FOR FUNDING YEAR 2015 (SCHOOL YEAR JULY 1,**

2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016) THROUGH CATEGORY THREE, ACTIVITY ONE ACTIVITIES. PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS AND ISDS THAT ARE ELIGIBLE UNDER E-RATE GUIDELINES WOULD BE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATEWIDE E-RATE CONSORTIUM FILING FOR FUNDING YEAR 2015 (SCHOOL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016).

REQUIREMENT 7:

- **NO CLARIFICATION IN RFP NEEDED. PLEASE SEE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR REQUEST INFORMATION AT TECHREADY@MICHIGAN.GOV.**

REQUIREMENT 8:

- **NO CLARIFICATION IN RFP NEEDED. PLEASE SEE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR REQUEST INFORMATION AT TECHREADY@MICHIGAN.GOV.**

REQUIREMENT 9:

- **IF AN ISD DECLINES TO PARTICIPATE IN CATEGORY ONE, ITS CONSTITUENT DISTRICTS WILL NOT RECEIVE CATEGORY ONE FUNDING. IF AT ANY TIME AN ISD DECLINES TO PARTICIPATE, ITS CONSTITUENT DISTRICTS MAY BE REQUIRED TO RETURN THE CATEGORY ONE FUNDS THEY HAVE RECEIVED.**

Process to Apply: Category One

- Complete the SBAC technology readiness survey by November 29, 2012.
- Agree upon application to complete the Michigan technology readiness planning survey (i.e., replacement to SBAC survey) by June 30, 2013.
- Using MEGS+, agree to the above nine requirements by December 20, 2012.

*** Please note: The application will not close in MEGS+ until January 31, 2013. The application must be submitted by **December 20, 2012, 11:59 a.m. EST**

Category Two: Consortium Leadership Application

The MDE invites districts and ISDs to apply to act as leaders of regional and statewide consortia. The consortia work will include, but is not limited to, organizing consortium members, facilitating the completion of regional technology readiness planning process, and other activities. Applicants will propose consortium membership, document past success at leading multi-district technology projects, and provide a list of qualified individuals to assist the MDE, or it's designate, in directing the statewide grant work.

The MDE intends to establish no more than twelve consortia and award grant leadership by January 22, 2013. The application will be released November 22, 2012, in MEGS+ and must be completed by January 31, 2013.

Winning applicants will also serve as fiscal agents for their consortium. Consortia leaders may anticipate receiving at least \$80,000 for winning Category Two. These funds may be used to cover expenses related to organizing consortium members,

facilitating the completion of regional technology readiness planning process, and other related activities.

Process to Apply: Category Two

1. Satisfy Category One requirements by December 20, 2012.
2. Prepare and submit a 10-page narrative that responds to the Category Two rubric found in Attachment 1 by January 31, 2013.
3. Prepare and submit a spreadsheet list of districts and ISDs participating in the consortium according to the template found in Attachment 2 by January 31, 2013.

Category Three: Statewide Activities Application

Category Two Consortium **APPLICANTS** will be eligible to apply for Category Three funds. This may be in conjunction with external partners to provide one or more of the seven statewide activities that carry out the grant work. Applicants will propose a means by which they will carry out this work and the external partnerships necessary to complete it.

- Category Three applications will be available in MEGS+ by December 20, 2012 and are due January 31, 2013. Award timing and amounts will vary by activity.

Activity One: Project Management and E-rate Network Services Consortium

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the Consortium applicants under Category Two, in partnership with the MDE or its designee, for providing project management services. These services relate to coordinating the interchange of all seven activities under this category, including the involvement of up to twelve Category Two consortia leaders and their participating districts. The applicant will also coordinate the formation of a statewide network services consortium.

- Applications for Activity One should respond to the rubric found in Attachment 3.
- **PLEASE NOTE: THE WINNING APPLICANT WILL PROVIDE OVERSIGHT AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR ALL CATEGORIES AND ACTIVITIES UNDER THIS GRANT, INCLUDING CATEGORY FIVE.**

Activity Two: Technology Readiness Planning Pilot

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the proposed consortium applicants under Category Two to submit proposals for providing project management services related to the deployment of a statewide Technology Readiness Planning tool, in partnership with the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators (MAISA), and piloting that tool in up to 12 Category Two consortia, 56 intermediate school districts, and a minimum of 2 districts per ISD.

- Applications for Activity Two should respond to the rubric found in Attachment 4.

Activity Three: Classroom Readiness Professional Development Program

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the consortium applicants under Category Two, in partnership with the Regional Educational Media Centers Association of Michigan (REMCAM), for providing project management and

professional development design and delivery services related to developing and piloting of a statewide classroom readiness professional development program. The pilot program should include servicing at least 100 districts distributed among the winning Category Two consortia.

- Applications for Activity Three should respond to the rubric found in Attachment 5.

Activity Four: Statewide Device and Software Purchasing Consortium Pilot

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the consortium applicants under Category Two, in partnership with REMCAM, for providing project management and statewide bid design services related to developing and piloting of a statewide, collaborative procurement process. This process should provide a mechanism for purchasing a limited selection of assessment-ready and personal learning devices (i.e., computers). The pilot program should be available by March 2013 for all districts qualifying to participate in Category One.

- Applications for Activity Four should respond to the rubric found in Attachment 6.

Activity Five: Education Achievement Authority School Technology Readiness Pilot

The MDE will accept applications from districts, in partnership with the Education Achievement Authority (EAA), for the purpose of establishing a plan for rapidly developing technology readiness in schools placed in the EAA.

- Applications for Activity Five should respond to the rubric found in Attachment 7.

Activity Six: Data System Integration Infrastructure Pilot

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the consortium applicants under Category Two, in partnership with the Shared Learning Collaborative (<http://slcedu.org/>) or similar national organization and the Center of Educational Performance and Information (CEPI), for providing project management and software infrastructure design and building services to develop a workable prototype for integrating a variety of school data and business solution software packages. The goal of the pilot is to establish the feasibility of consolidating software applications across districts and ISDs statewide without incurring high conversion costs.

- Applications for Activity Six should respond to the rubric found in Attachment 8.

Activity Seven: High Volume/Low Cost Digital Assessment Pilots

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the proposed consortium **APPLICANTS** under Category Two for providing a large-scale, low-cost "digital" pilot of at least one statewide, high-stakes assessment. The goal of the pilot is to demonstrate the feasibility of executing low cost digital assessments at scale.

- Applications for Activity Seven should respond to the rubric found in Attachment 9.

Process to Apply: Category Three

- 1. SATISFY CATEGORY ONE REQUIREMENTS BY DECEMBER 20, 2012.**
- 2. PREPARE AND SUBMIT A CATEGORY THREE APPLICATION BY JANUARY 31, 2013.***
3. Prepare and submit a maximum 10-page **CATEGORY THREE** narrative that responds to the corresponding activity rubrics found in Attachments 3 through 9 by January 31, 2013.
4. Prepare a budget summary and narrative in MEGS+ by January 31, 2013.
***CATEGORY THREE, ACTIVITY FIVE APPLICANTS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR CATEGORY TWO.**

Category Four: District Consortium Confirmation

Once Consortium Leaders have been identified in Category Two, districts and ISDs will be requested to return to MEGS+ to confirm their consortium participation by February 11, 2013. Districts may begin this process on January 15, 2013. Districts must confirm consortium participation and provide expenditure reports related to the funds received from fulfilling the Category One requirements.

- Consortium leaders will receive an additional \$0.50/student enrolled in their consortium districts. The student count will be based on the Fall 2012 blended count. These funds may be used to cover expenses related to organizing consortium members, facilitating the completion of regional technology readiness planning process, and other related activities.

Process to Apply: Category Four

1. Category One recipients:
 - a. Return to MEGS+ to confirm their consortium participation.
 - b. Submit a spending plan explaining how Category One funds were spent.

Category Five: Interconnecting Districts, PSAs and ISDs

The overall goal of the Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant program of 2012-13 is the implementation of a SEN by employing collaborative purchasing arrangements for network services and by interconnecting ISDs, PSAs, and school districts with a common Internet "backbone." Principally, this work will be carried out in partnership with the consortia formed in Category Two. Eligible applicants will propose methods and means for accomplishing the grants goals. The MDE anticipates announcing the Category Five eligibility requirements and application in MEGS+ by January 30, 2013 and will be due in March 2013.

OPENING AND CLOSING DATES:

The MDE released the general instructions, scoring rubric, and supporting information for the Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant on Thursday, November 15, 2012, on the www.michigan.gov/mde website and the www.TechPlan.org website. Applications must be submitted in MEGS+. Dates and deliverables are subject to change.

NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL PARTICIPATION:

Section 22.i specifically limits the use of funds to districts, ISDs, and “constituent districts.” The generic term “district” refers to both public school districts and public school academies. State law does not provide for non-public schools to directly receive state aid funds. There are several ways non-public schools can benefit from the technology infrastructure investments and programs established through this grant program:

1. Non-public schools can ask the State to include its location in the statewide bid related to establishing the SMC for network services. This should lower connectivity costs and provide a mechanism for access to the Statewide Education Network.
2. Non-public schools will be permitted to participate in the statewide collaborative device purchasing pilot program. Participating non-public schools will not be eligible to receive any financial incentives or rebates, but will benefit from the volume discounts that result.
3. Non-public schools can participate in the technology readiness planning process through the consortia formed to carry out the work. The MDE will provide interested non-public schools with consortia contact information to facilitate their involvement.
4. Non-public schools can participate in the classroom readiness professional development program “at cost.” This means a limited number of non-public schools, determined by the awardee, can purchase seats in the program for the cost of program delivery. The MDE anticipates providing non-public schools with a lower cost / high quality educational technology professional development opportunity.

ASSURANCE OF ACCURACY:

For each application, an assurance must be submitted stating that all information provided within is true and accurate. If, during the implementation of any funded project, the MDE establishes that inaccurate or false information was provided in the application, the grant may be rescinded.

PROCESS FOR THE GRANT COMPETITION:

Applications will be received and reviewed according to the timeline below. The tentative time frame for the operation of this grant program includes these major milestones:

November 15, 2012	Category One: District Participation applications released Category Two: Consortium Leadership applications released
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November 22, 2012	Grant application available for application in MEGS+
December 20, 2012	Category One: District Participation applications due
December 20, 2012	Category Three: Statewide Service Provider applications released in MEGS+
January 22, 2013	Category One awardees announced
January 31, 2013	Categories TWO AND Three: CONSORTIUM LEADER AND Statewide Service Provider applications due
January 30, 2013	Category Five: Interconnection of Districts and ISDs released in MEGS+
February 20, 2013	Category TWO AND Three awardees announced
FEBRUARY 20, 2013	Category Four: District Consortium Confirmation available
MARCH 14, 2013	Category Four: District Consortium Confirmation due
March TBD ₇ , 2013	Category Five: Interconnection of Districts and ISDs APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE (TBD)
MARCH 20, 2013	CATEGORY FOUR AWARDS ANNOUNCED
March TBD ₇ , 2013	Category Five awardees announced (TBD)
June 30, 2013	Category One requirements complete
November 30, 2013	Category Two-Five Progress Performance Report due
June 30, 2014	All grant activities complete
August 30, 2014	Category Two-Five Progress Final Performance Report due

*All dates are subject to change.

REJECTION OF PROPOSALS:

The MDE reserves the right to reject any proposals received as a result of this announcement.

REVIEW PROCESS:

The MDE utilizes a review panel when scoring its competitive grants. For this grant program, review teams will be composed of people from within and outside the MDE as needed, with expertise in technology readiness planning and

implementation. The MDEs OEII staff will supervise the review process:

- Category One: scored internally by MDE staff
- Category Two: scored by a review panel selected by the MDE
- Category Three: scored by a review panel selected by the MDE
- Category Four: scored internally by MDE staff
- Category Five: scored by a review panel selected by the MDE

Award selections will be based on merit and quality, as determined by points awarded through the rubrics provided in the attachment section and all other relevant information. All funding is subject to approval by the State Superintendent. All applicants will be notified of the Superintendent's action.

REVIEW CRITERIA:

The scoring rubrics identified below should be used as a guide when writing the proposal. The reviewers will judge proposals against the elements described in the rubric. The proposals most likely to be funded are those that have most completely addressed all the elements described in the rubric. A narrative that is written in the sequence of the rubric facilitates evaluation by the grant readers.

Category One: District Participation

- Complete the SBAC technology readiness survey by November 29, 2012.
- Agree upon application to complete the Michigan technology readiness planning survey (i.e., replacement to SBAC survey) by June 30, 2013.
- Using MEGS+, agree to the above nine requirements by December 20, 2012.

Category Two: Consortium Leadership Application

- Attachment 1: Category Two Rubric
- Attachment 2: Category Two Membership Spreadsheet

Category Three: Statewide Activity Application

- Attachment 3: Rubric Activity One
- Attachment 4: Rubric Activity Two
- Attachment 5: Rubric Activity Three
- Attachment 6: Rubric Activity Four
- Attachment 7: Rubric Activity Five
- Attachment 8: Rubric Activity Six
- Attachment 9: Rubric Activity Seven

FINAL REPORT:

The grantee will provide a report of the project to include measurable outcomes based on grant objectives. The report will include a detailed PowerPoint presentation. PowerPoint reports will be posted on the MDE website, as received. The intent of the PowerPoint is to share the project outcomes with interested educators. The grantee will also be required to compile data to provide a means to

evaluate the effectiveness of the grant.

INFORMATION CONCERNING OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Grant Reviewers:

Readers for Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant applications will be selected according to the MDE Standard Operating Procedure. All individuals chosen to be grant reviewers may be required to participate in a grant reviewer training session to become familiar with the specifics of the program and funding priorities prior to the beginning of the review processes.

Length of Award:

Funding will be effective immediately following approval of grant awards by the State Superintendent, with an ending date of June 30, 2014.

Indirect Charges:

State law does not allow indirect charges on State School Aid funds.

Payment Schedule:

Grantees will request funds using SAMS.

Financial Reporting:

A final expenditure report will be required within 60 days of the grant ending date, showing all bills paid in full.

Preparing the Narrative and Uploads:

All pages in attachments should have one-inch margins and be collated and numbered consecutively throughout. The **narrative** is limited to **10 double-spaced pages using 11 point Verdana font**. Appendices of charts and graphs should be limited to 4 pages per participating ISD. Addenda accompanying applicant proposals should be limited to 4 double-spaced pages using 11 point Verdana font.

Ownership of Materials Produced:

Ownership of products resulting from this grant, which are subject to copyright of economic value, shall remain with the MDE unless such ownership is explicitly waived. This stipulation covers recipients as well as subcontractors receiving funds through this grant program.

Attachment 1 – Rubric Category Two: Consortium Leadership Application

Category Two: Consortium Leadership Application

The MDE invites districts and ISDs to apply to act as leaders of regional and statewide consortia. The consortia work will include, but is not limited to, organizing consortium members, facilitating the completion of the regional technology readiness planning process, and other activities. Applicants will propose consortium membership, document past success at leading multi-district technology projects, and provide a list of qualified individuals to assist the MDE, or its designee, in directing the statewide grant work.

The MDE intends to establish no more than twelve consortia and award leadership grants by January 22, 2013. The application will be released November 22, 2012 in MEGS+ and must be completed by **JANUARY 31, 2013**.

Winning applicants will also serve as fiscal agents for their consortium. Consortia leaders may anticipate receiving at least \$80,000 for winning Category Two. These funds may be used for expenses related to organizing consortia members, facilitating the completion of the regional technology readiness planning process, and other related activities.

Eligibility of consortiums to apply:

- A consortium must be comprised of a partnership of at least **50 districts**, at least **2 ISD**, and represent at least 10 percent of the statewide student population (i.e. at least 150,000 students).

OR

- A consortium must be comprised of a partnership of districts and ISDs with at least **4 ISDs** and at least **50 districts**.

OR

- In the case of a district-led consortium, a consortium must be comprised of at least **50 districts** and at least **1 statewide K-12 education leadership organization**.
 - *Please note the MDE intends to award 1 winning consortium led by a public school district and 1 led by a public school academy should the application meet the eligibility criterion and score well on the narrative portion of the application.*

Process to Apply (Category Two):

1. Satisfy Category One requirements by December 20, 2012.
2. Prepare and submit a 10-page narrative that responds to the following rubric by **JANUARY 31, 2013** in MEGS+.
3. Prepare and submit a spreadsheet list of districts and ISDs participating in the consortium according to the template found in Attachment 2 by

JANUARY 31, 2013.

Graded Component	Points Possible
<p>External Partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes a documented partnership with at least one statewide education leadership association. Extra consideration given for more than one partnership. External partnerships should be documented in a separate PDF uploaded in MEGS+. 	10
<p>Consortium Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant receives points proportionally based on a formula used to balance district and ISD participation. Formula = # of Districts/400 + # of enrolled students/ 1 MILLION + # of ISDs/28 + # of contiguous ISDs/14 Total % x 50 points (not to exceed 50 points) Applicant properly submitted a spreadsheet, based on the MDE template, which tabulates participating districts and ISDs. (Zero points if applicant does not submit spreadsheet.) 	50
<p>Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed example of successfully leading similar types of collaborations between districts and ISDs. 	30
<p>Project leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of four highly qualified, experienced project leaders with dedicated time available to assist in directing statewide activities. (Zero points if applicant does not submit resumes as a separate attachment.) 	10
<p>Budget</p> <p>Ultimately determined in Category Five application.</p>	N/A
<p>Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If applicant is an ISD, proposal includes cost saving projections achieved by ISD leadership. Proposal includes a model for sustainability beyond grant funding. 	Included
<p>TOTAL</p>	100

Category Two Applicant Requirements Grading Scale

90 points or more	Applicant will be recommended by the review board to receive Category Two funds.
75-89 points	Applicant may be given the opportunity to make corrections to its application based on reviewer's comments and/or scoring rubric and be eligible for re-application.
74 points or less	Applicant will not be eligible to make corrections to application and will not be considered for dispersed Category Two funds.

Attachment 2 – Fall 2012 Estimated Blended Count (Category Two: Consortium Leadership Application)

The pupil estimated count for districts will be available in MEGS+ and titled "Fall 2012 Estimated Blended Count." Once blended counts are reported for 2012, the finalized count will be added to MEGS+ and titled "2012 Blended Count."

The following grading scale will be used to score all Category Three Activity rubrics:

Category Three Application Requirements Grading Scale

90 points or more	Applicant will be recommended by the review board to receive Category Three funds
75-89 points	Applicant may be given the opportunity to make corrections to its application based on reviewers comments and/or scoring rubric and be eligible for re-application
74 points or less	Applicant will not be eligible to make corrections to application and will not be considered for dispersed Category Three funds

Attachment 3 – Activity One Rubric

Activity One: Project Management and E-rate Network Services Consortium:

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the consortium applicants under Category Two for providing project management services. This will be awarded through a memo of understanding with the MDE or its designee. These services relate to coordinating the interchange of all seven activities under this category, including the involvement of up to twelve Category Two consortia leaders and their participating districts. The applicant will also coordinate the formation of a statewide network services consortium.

- **In order for an ISD to be eligible to apply, the applicant must demonstrate cost savings by providing grant award to the ISD compared to providing grants to individual districts.**
- Proposed services should cover from March 2013 to June 2014.
- Proposed costs should not exceed \$2.5 million.
- The MDE intends to use the rubric found in Attachment 3 to score Activity One proposals.
- Applicants understand that, if awarded, they will have to sign a memo of understanding with the MDE or its designee, governing the scope of work.
- The MDE intends to award one Activity One applicant.
- Narratives should not exceed ten pages and should be in 11 point, Verdana font with one inch margins.

Graded Component	Points Possible
External Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a documented partnership with at least one statewide education leadership association. Extra consideration given for more than one partnership. • Includes endorsement of at least ten intermediate school districts. Extra consideration given for more than ten ISD endorsements. • External partnerships should be documented in a separate PDF uploaded in MEGS+. 	10
Project Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed description for providing project management for statewide coordination of Category Two consortia and oversight of the implementation of the seven, Category Three statewide activities and Category Five. 	40
Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed example of successfully leading similar types of collaborations between districts and ISDs. 	20
Project leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of highly qualified and experienced project management leadership with dedicated time available to manage project. 	10

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INCLUSION OF AT LEAST ONE HIGHLY QUALIFIED, EXPERIENCED PROJECT LEADER WITH DEDICATED TIME AVAILABLE TO ASSIST IN DIRECTING STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES. (ZERO POINTS IF APPLICANT DOES NOT SUBMIT RESUMES AS A SEPARATE ATTACHMENT.) 	
Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed budget that stays within the \$2.25 million budget estimate and covers the February 2013-June 2014 timeframe. 	10
Sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If applicant is an ISD, proposal includes cost saving projections achieved by ISD leadership. Proposal includes a model for sustainability beyond grant funding. 	10
TOTAL	100

Attachment 4 –Activity Two Rubric

Activity Two: Technology Readiness Planning Pilot:

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the proposed consortium applicants under Category Two to submit proposals for providing project management services related to the deployment of a statewide Technology Readiness Planning tool, in partnership with the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators (MAISA), and piloting that tool in up to 12 Category Two consortia, 56 intermediate school districts, and a minimum of two districts per ISD.

- **In order for an ISD to be eligible to apply, the applicant must demonstrate cost savings by providing grant award to the ISD compared to providing grants to individual districts.**
- Proposed services should cover from February 2013 to June 2014.
- Proposed costs should not exceed \$1 million.
- The MDE intends to use the rubric found in Attachment 4 to score Activity Two proposals.
- Applicants understand that, if awarded, they will have to sign a memo of understanding with the MDE or its designate, governing the scope of work.
- The MDE intends to award one Activity Two applicant.
- Narratives should not exceed ten pages and should be in 11 point, Verdana font with one inch margins.

Graded Component	Points Possible
External Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a documented partnership with the MAISA. • Includes endorsement of at least ten ISDs. • External partnerships should be documented in a separate PDF uploaded in MEGS+. 	10
Project Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed description for establishing a statewide technology readiness planning process, including developing and deploying a survey tool for collecting data from all Category One district participants. • The proposal incorporates the work begun by the MAISA on technology readiness planning. • The proposal extends the MAISA work to include ISD and district planning, including piloting in 2013 and assisting all Category One district and ISDs in completing the planning process by June 2014. 	40
Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed example of successfully leading similar types of collaborations between districts and ISDs. 	20
Project leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of highly qualified and experienced project management leadership with dedicated time available to manage project. 	10

Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed budget that stays within the \$1 million budget estimate and covers February 2013-June 2014 timeframe. 	10
Sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If applicant is an ISD, proposal includes cost saving projections achieved by ISD leadership. Proposal includes a model for sustainability beyond grant funding. 	10
TOTAL	100

Attachment 5 – Activity Three Rubric

Activity Three: Classroom Readiness Professional Development Program:

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the consortium applicants under Category Two, in partnership with the Regional Educational Media Centers Association of Michigan (REMCAM), for providing project management and professional development design and delivery services related to developing and piloting of a statewide classroom readiness professional development program. The pilot program should include servicing at least 100 districts distributed among the winning Category Two consortia.

- **In order for an ISD to be eligible to apply, the applicant must demonstrate cost savings by providing grant award to the ISD compared to providing grants to individual districts.**
- The proposed services should cover February 2013 to June 2014.
- Proposed costs should not exceed \$2 million.
- The MDE intends to use the rubric found in Attachment 5 to score Activity Three proposals.
- Applicants understand that, if awarded, they will have to sign a memo of understanding with the MDE or its designee, governing the scope of work.
- The MDE intends to award one Activity Three applicant.
- Narratives should not exceed ten pages and should be in 11 point, Verdana font with one inch margins.

Graded Component	Points Possible
External Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a documented partnership with REMCAM. • Includes at least one additional partnership with another statewide educational association. • External partnerships should be documented in a separate PDF uploaded in MEGS+. 	10
Project Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed description for establishing a statewide classroom readiness professional development pilot program. • The proposal incorporates a train- the-trainer model, or “academy,” based on a correct mix of district staff to carry out the professional development once program is complete. • The proposal includes elements of SBAC professional development related to online test delivery. • The proposal includes elements of national best practices related to improving student outcomes using technology. • The proposed program seeks to leverage on-demand, online professional development to support integrating technology with classroom instruction to achieve “Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace” learning outcomes. Proposal incorporates both Open 	40

Education Resources and Premium Content.	
<p>Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed example of successfully leading similar types of professional development programs involving statewide education associations, districts, and ISDs. 	20
<p>Project leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of highly qualified and experienced project management leadership with dedicated time available to manage project. Leadership should have extensive experience with technology planning at the district or ISD level. 	10
<p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed budget that stays within the \$2 million budget estimate and covers February 2013-June 2014. 	10
<p>Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If applicant is an ISD, proposal includes cost saving projections achieved by ISD leadership. Proposal includes a model for sustainability beyond grant funding. 	10
TOTAL	100

Attachment 6 – Activity Four Rubric

Activity Four: Statewide Device and Software Purchasing Consortium Pilot:

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the consortium applicants under Category Two, in partnership with REMCAM, for providing project management and statewide bid design services related to developing and piloting of a statewide, collaborative procurement process. This process should provide a mechanism for purchasing a limited selection of assessment-ready and personal learning devices (i.e., computers). The pilot program should be available by March 2013 for all districts qualifying to participate in Category One.

- **In order for an ISD to be eligible to apply, the applicant must demonstrate cost savings by providing grant award to the ISD compared to providing grants to individual districts.**
- Proposed services should occur by June 2013 with delivery of purchased devices no later than August 30, 2013.
- Proposed costs should not exceed \$5.25 million.
- The MDE intends to use the rubric found in Attachment 6 to score Activity Four proposals.
- Applicants understand that, if awarded, they will have to sign a memo of understanding with the MDE or its designate, governing the scope of work.
- The MDE intends to award one Activity Four applicant.
- Narratives should not exceed ten pages and should be in 11 point, Verdana font with one inch margins.

Graded Component	Points Possible
External Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a documented partnership with the REMCAM. • External partnership should be documented in a separate PDF uploaded in MEGS+. 	10
Project Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed description for establishing a statewide volume based, collaborative purchasing pilot program for purchasing personal learning and assessment devices (i.e., computers). The target for the pilot includes purchasing 50,000 to 100,000 units. • The proposal articulates how the pilot will operate like a single purchasing organization and streamline the purchasing process with a goal of minimum effort on behalf of participating districts from device selection to classroom deployment. • The proposal incorporates a total cost of ownership (TCO) model for a minimum of five and a maximum of ten common devices across early, middle, and high school grade spans. The program handles insurance, breakage, repair/replacement, etc. The proposal includes a means of identifying costs associated with students taking the devices home at night, on weekends, and 	50

<p>over summer breaks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed program articulates a method of “locking in” individual district commitment, using incentives or rebates, to achieve volume purchasing and greater discounts by acting as a single statewide buyer of devices on behalf of districts. • The proposal should explain how the pilot would provide districts with an option to purchase through the program starting in March 2013. 	
<p>Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed example of leading similar types of statewide device purchasing programs involving statewide education associations, districts, and ISDs. 	10
<p>Project leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of highly qualified and experienced project management leadership. Leadership should have extensive experience with technology purchasing programs. 	10
<p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal explains how up to \$5 million will be used as incentives or rebates on the devices and/or software purchased through the program. • The detailed budget stays within the \$250,000 budget estimate for program administration that covers February 2013-September 2013. 	10
<p>Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If applicant is an ISD, proposal includes cost saving projections achieved by ISD leadership. • Proposal includes a model for sustainability beyond grant funding. 	10
TOTAL	100

Attachment 7 – Activity Five Rubric

Activity Five: Take-over School Technology Readiness Pilot:

The MDE is accepting applications from districts, in partnership with the Education Achievement Authority (EAA), for the purpose of establishing a plan for rapidly developing technology readiness in schools placed in the EAA.

- **In order for an ISD to be eligible to apply, the applicant must demonstrate cost savings by providing grant award to the ISD compared to providing grants to individual districts.**
- Proposed planning services should cover the March 2013 to September 2013 timeframe.
- The MDE intends to award one Activity Five application.
- The MDE intends to use the rubric found Attachment 7 to score Activity Five proposals.
- Applicants understand that, if awarded, they will have to sign a memo of understanding with the MDE or its designate, governing the scope of work.
- The MDE intends to award one Activity Five applicant.
- Narratives should not exceed ten pages and should be in 11 point, Verdana font with one inch margins.

Graded Component	Points Possible
External Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a documented partnership with the EAA. • External partnership should be documented in a separate PDF uploaded in MEGS+. 	10
Project Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed description for establishing a pilot program for bringing schools up to a certain level of technology readiness for the delivery of online assessments and “Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace” learning in schools taken over by the EAA. • The plan covers the March 2013-September 2013 timeframe. 	40
Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed example of successfully leading similar types of technology readiness planning for reform schools. 	20
Project leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of highly qualified and experienced project management leadership. 	10
Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal explains how up to \$4 million will be used for developing a plan and piloting a program to bring reform schools up to a certain level of technology readiness. 	10
Sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If applicant is an ISD, proposal includes cost saving projections achieved by ISD leadership. 	10

• Proposal includes a model for sustainability beyond grant funding.	
TOTAL	100

Attachment 8 –Activity Six Rubric

Activity Six: Data System Integration Infrastructure Pilot:

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the consortium applicants under Category Two, in partnership with the Shared Learning Collaborative (<http://slcedu.org/>) or similar national organization and the Center of Educational Performance and Information (CEPI), for providing project management and software infrastructure design and build services to develop a workable prototype for integrating a variety of school data and business solution software packages. The goal of the pilot is to establish the feasibility of consolidating software applications across districts and ISDs statewide without incurring high conversion costs.

- **In order for an ISD to be eligible to apply, the applicant must demonstrate cost savings by providing grant award to the ISD compared to providing grants to individual districts.**
- Proposed services should occur between March 2013 and June 2014 with a workable prototype available in January 2014.
- Proposed costs should not exceed \$1 million.
- The MDE intends to use the rubric found in Attachment 8 to score Activity Six proposals.
- Applicants understand that, if awarded, they will have to sign a memo of understanding with the MDE or its designate, governing the scope of work.
- The MDE intends to award one Activity Six applicant.
- A partnership with the CEPI will be required after award, but is not necessary for a winning proposal.
- Narratives should not exceed ten pages and should be in 11 point, Verdana font with one inch margins.

Graded Component	Points Possible
External Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a documented partnership with at least one of the Regional Data Initiative (RDI) consortium. • Includes a documented partnership with at least one leading national organization with expertise in the area of data systems integration. • Partnerships with at least three, commonly used SIS vendors to provide demonstrative evidence that pilot works with multiple SIS. • External partnership should be documented in a separate PDF uploaded in MEGS+. 	10
Project Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal provides clear details on how applicant will establish a pilot program for back-end integration of disparate SIS into a common data infrastructure. 	40

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pilot would result in a workable prototype by June 2014 that integrates actual SIS and data used by districts. • The pilot is ultimately designed to develop standardized systems and move districts to fewer, common SIS. • The work product includes details of design specifications for transitioning to a statewide SIS program that offers no more than five SIS with one dedicated as a "state solution." The design spec would recommend the five-and-one SIS, include transition and conversion cost estimates, and recommendations on how to leverage the common software infrastructure established through this pilot. The design specifications would be provided by September 30, 2013. • The pilot builds on work currently being done "at scale" in other states and regions. 	
<p>Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed example of successfully leading similar types of data systems integration projects in districts and ISDs. • Included example of work from any partners. 	20
<p>Project leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included highly qualified and experienced project management leadership. Leadership should have extensive experience with data systems integration projects. • Include qualifications of project team from national partners that will contribute to the project. 	10
<p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal explains how up to \$1 million will be used to establish a workable pilot by June 2014. 	10
<p>Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If applicant is an ISD, proposal includes cost saving projections achieved by ISD leadership. • Proposal includes a model for sustainability beyond grant funding. 	10
TOTAL	100

Attachment 9 – Activity Seven Rubric

Activity Seven: High Volume / Low Cost Digital Assessment Pilots:

The MDE will accept proposals from any of the proposed consortium **APPLICANTS** under Category Two for providing a large-scale, low-cost “digital” pilot of at least one statewide assessment. The goal of the pilot is to demonstrate the feasibility of executing low cost digital assessments at scale.

- **In order for an ISD to be eligible to apply, the applicant must demonstrate cost savings by providing grant award to ISD compared to providing grants to individual districts.**
- Proposed services should occur by June 2013.
- Proposed costs should not exceed \$250,000.
- The MDE intends to use the rubric found in Attachment 9 to score Activity Seven proposals.
- Applicants understand that, if awarded, they will have to sign a memo of understanding with the MDE or its designate, governing the scope of work.
- The MDE intends to award one Activity Seven applicant.
- Narratives should not exceed ten pages and should be in 11 point, Verdana font with one inch margins.
- PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT THE MDE MAY DECIDE NOT TO FUND ANY OF THE PROPOSALS RECEIVED.

Graded Component	Points Possible
External Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included a documented partnership with a Michigan Educational Leadership Organization. • Included at least one partnership with a national assessment organization. • External partnership should be documented in a separate PDF uploaded in MEGS+. 	10
Project Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed description for establishing a statewide pilot of large-scale, low cost digital assessment. • The proposal details how partners would achieve 30,000-50,000-student assessments collected and scored within two weeks. • The proposal provides evidence of how pilot would assist large number of districts in transitioning to online assessments by 2014-15. 	40
Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed example of successfully leading similar types of statewide digital assessment pilots involving statewide education associations, districts and ISDs. 	20

<p>Project leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of highly qualified and experienced project management leadership with expertise in digital assessments. 	10
<p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget based on per-completed student assessment, not to exceed \$3/assessment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funds will be paid in 2 installments: 80 percent of the estimated students participating and then the balance based on reconciling estimated and actual numbers of completed assessments. • Proposal narrative explains how budget leverages a significantly larger “spend” by the partners. 	10
<p>Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If applicant is an ISD, proposal includes cost saving projections achieved by ISD leadership. • Proposal includes a model for sustainability beyond grant funding. 	10
TOTAL	100