



2020-21 Section 99h: Robotics Competition  
Grant Program Technical Assistance  
November 18 & 20, 2020  
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Zoom Connection:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87870368059?pwd=L0lZOEt5eDM5OExOajRhZnFuU0s2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 878 7036 8059

Passcode: 03Fj5q

**Important:**

Please **mute** your phone. We will be monitoring the chat tool in the webinar for questions. We will also open for questions at the end of the conference call.

# Agenda/ Objectives

- ▶ Welcome/ Introductions - 10 min.
- ▶ Review Resources - 5 min.
- ▶ Grant Requirements and Structure - 15 min.
- ▶ Application Process - 20 min.
- ▶ Programming Specifics - 30 min - 10 min/program
- ▶ Question and Answer - 10 min.

# Resources

- Grant webpage:  
<https://www.techplan.org/edtech-initiatives/rdi/first-robotics/>
  - Request for Proposal (RFP) Instructions
  - Template Spending Plan
  - Student Roster
  - MEGS+ Step-by-Step Document
  - Links to robotics programming
- FIRST in Michigan Webpage:  
<https://www.firstinmichigan.org/>
- Robotics Education Competition Foundation Webpage:  
<https://www.roboticseducation.org/>
- Square One Webpage:  
<https://www.squareonenetwork.org/>



# Grant Purpose

- To support the State Board of Education's Mission and [Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan](#)
- To support students in grades Pre-K - 12 through participation robotics competitions, such as: FIRST Robotics progression, RECF, and Square One.



# Eligible Applicants

- Local Education Agencies (LEAs)
- Public School Academies (PSAs)
- Intermediate School Districts (ISDs)
- Registered Nonpublic Schools\*



# Grant Requirements - Defined in Statute

To be eligible for a grant, a district will demonstrate that it has:

- ▶ Established a partnership for the purpose of the Robotics program with at least one sponsor, business entity, higher education institution, or technical school.
- ▶ Submitted a spending plan. A template can be found at <https://www.techplan.org/edtech-initiatives/rdi/first-robotics/>.
- ▶ Agreed to pay at least 25 percent of the cost of the total grant award.



# Grant Requirements - Proposed by Staff:

- ▶ Each Applicant:
  - ▶ Be registered
  - ▶ Have a current team number and coach
  - ▶ Participate
  - ▶ Be willing to offer elective high school credits
  - ▶ [Be willing to participate in the digital badging](#)
  - ▶ Provide an electronic roster

# Grant Criteria/Prioritization

- ▶ High economically disadvantaged populations (focus and priority based schools).
- ▶ Schools that serve a high percentage of low income families (based on Free and Reduced Lunch count data).
- ▶ First time teams participating in robotics programming starting with the high school program and working down to kindergarten.
- ▶ Districts that establish feeder teams (teams that generate student populations that will potentially move up to high school or middle school programs).
- ▶ Districts in a broad geographical distribution.



# Grant Funding

**\*\*\*\$4,400,000 for Public Schools\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\$300,000 for Non-Public Schools\*\*\***

# FIRST Grant Structure

- Coach's Stipend Award
- Support Award (Event Registrations, Materials, Travel Costs, Other)
- Advancement Award

# Coaching Stipend Award

- A Coaching Stipend is for salary only
  - Up to \$1,500 per program, per building
  - **Example 1** - Two teams in the same building. One that participates in VEX Robotics and one that competes in the Square One Mini-IVD Challenge, same coach for both teams. Two awards will be issued.
  - **Example 2** - Two teams in the same building, both participate in FTC, same coach. One award will be issued.
  - **Example 3** - Three teams, one in elementary, one in middle school, one in high school - all are FIRST Programs, same coach for all three teams. Three awards will be issued.
  - **Example 4** - Two teams in the same building. One VEX and one FIRST, each team has one coach and two mentors. Two awards will be issued, and the district has the autonomy of dividing the award among the coach and mentors.
- District is required to match 25% of each Coach's Stipend award

\*\*\*MDE Stipend Award + 25% Match = Total Stipend Amount \*\*\*

FRC Example: \$1,500 stipend + \$375 match = \$1,875

# Support Awards

Can be used to pay for FIRST registration, FIRST events, materials, travel costs, and other expenses associated with the FIRST team (promotional items, etc.)

- \$9,000 - Rookie High School FIRST Robotics Teams
- \$8,000 - 2nd year High School FIRST Robotics Teams
- \$7,000 - 3rd year High School FIRST Robotics Teams
- \$6,000 - 4th year High School FIRST Robotics Teams
- \$5,000 - 5th year and Beyond High School FIRST Robotics Teams
- \$4,000 - Rookie FIRST Tech Challenge Teams
- \$3,000 - Veteran FIRST Tech Challenge Teams
- \$ 800 - Rookies FIRST LEGO League Teams
- \$ 500 - Veterans FIRST LEGO League Teams
- \$ 350 - Rookie FIRST LEGO League Jr. Teams
- \$ 200 - Veteran FIRST LEGO League Jr. Team
- \$ 400 - FIRST Lego League - Discover
- \$4,000 - VEX Rookie Teams
- \$3,000 - VEX Veteran Teams
- \$ 800 - VEX-IQ Rookie Teams
- \$ 500 - VEX IQ Veteran Teams
- \$5,000 - VEX AI Rookie Team
- \$ 800 - RAD Rookie Teams
- \$ 400 - RAD Veteran Teams
- \$5,000 - Square One Autonomous
- \$6,500 - Square One Full Scale
- \$5,000 - Square One Mini Racing
- \$4,000 - Square One V2X
- \$4,000 - Square One Underwater



# Advancement Awards\*

Contingent upon funding\*\*, teams that **qualify** and **participate** in State, Super-Regional (FTC only), and World Competitions will automatically begin to receive their Advancement Grant awards beginning in the May 2020 State School Aid Payments. FIRST in Michigan and RECF will supply a list to the MDE of all advancing teams.

\*\*Contingent upon funding, the MDE will provide an award of equal amount for reasonable expenses.

# Coach Stipend and Support Grants Award Payment Schedule

January 20 (4/11 <sup>th</sup> of full award amount)
Additional Award Dates (each payment totaling 1/11 <sup>th</sup> of full award amount)
February 20
March 20
April 20
May 20
June 22
July 20
August 20

# Advancement Grants Award Payment Schedule

May 20 (8/11 <sup>th</sup> of full award amount)
Additional Award Dates (each payment totaling 1/11 <sup>th</sup> of full award amount)
June 22
July 20
August 20

# Key Dates\*

- ▶ November 12, 2020 - Grant RFP is announced via eblast memo
- ▶ November 12, 2020 - Application is live in MEGS+
- ▶ November 18 & 20, 2019 - Technical Assistance Webinar
- ▶ December 11, 2020 - Applications due at 11:59pm in MEGS+
- ▶ December 14-16, 2020 - Grant applications reviews
- ▶ January 4, 2021 - Grants Awards Announced
- ▶ January 20, 2021 - Awards made via SAMS

\*All dates subject to change at the discretion of MDE.





# Application Process

Available in MEGS+

- 1 application per district
- Application allows for multiple team submission
- Each team must have:
  - Team and sponsor pages
  - District-wide cumulative FIRST Spending plan and Student Roster uploaded
  - Spending Plan and Student Rosters must be uploaded under attachments

# MEGS+ Application Demo

The screenshot displays the Michigan Electronic Grant System Plus (MEGS+) application demo interface. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the Michigan state logo and the text "Michigan Electronic Grant System Plus - MEGS+ Michigan Department of Education". Below the header is a navigation bar with links for "Michigan.gov", "Reports", "Administration", "Training Materials", and "Agencies". A secondary navigation bar includes "Home", "Quick Search", "Detailed Application Search", and a user greeting "Welcome, Amanda Stoel" with a "Logout" link. Two buttons, "GLOBAL ERRORS" and "SHOW HELP", are located in the top right corner.

The main content area is titled "Main Menu > Application Menu". The application details are as follows:

- AAA - TEST Schools -**
- Quick Links:** [View/Edit](#) | [Change Status](#) | [Management Tools](#) | [Examine Related Items](#) | [View Comments](#)
- Application:** FY 2021 - 99h: Robotics Competition Program Grant | **Status:** Application In Progress | **Security Level:** Not Assigned

Please select from an option below. For detailed instruction about each option, select the **SHOW HELP** button.

**View / Edit**

Select the **View/Edit** button below to view, edit, and complete the application/task.

[VIEW / EDIT](#)

**Change Status**

Select the **View Status Options** button below to perform actions such as submitting applications or request modifications.

[VIEW STATUS OPTIONS](#)

**View Management Tools**

Select the **View Management Tools** button below to perform actions such as adding people to this document or viewing the document history.

[VIEW MANAGEMENT TOOLS](#)

**Examine Related Items**

Select the **View Related Items** button below to view see related items such as reports, messages, etc.

[VIEW RELATED ITEMS](#)

# Assurance of Accuracy

- Staff
- Legislative
- Districts Level Five

# Robotics Programming



Mission  
Programs  
Timeline  
Cost  
Contacts

# Questions?

## Contact:

- Amanda Stoel, [stoela@michigan.gov](mailto:stoela@michigan.gov)
- Ashley Arras, [arrasa@michigan.gov](mailto:arrasa@michigan.gov)
- Gail Alpert, [gail.alpert@gmail.com](mailto:gail.alpert@gmail.com)
- Mike Martus,  
[mike\\_Martus@roboticseducation.org](mailto:mike_Martus@roboticseducation.org)
- Barb Land, [barb@squareonenetwork.org](mailto:barb@squareonenetwork.org)
- Jason Beatty, [jason@squareonenetwork.org](mailto:jason@squareonenetwork.org)