

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D. STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 30, 2025

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents

Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Dr. Diane L. Golzynski, Deputy Superintendent

Division of Business, Health and Library Services

SUBJECT: Section 11x(6) – Consolidation Studies Grant

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is pleased to announce that the application is available for Section 11x(6) Consolidation Studies (MCL 388.1611x), which was passed into law as part of Public Act 103 of 2023. Grant funds can be used to support the cost of a feasibility study or analysis of consolidation of districts or consolidation of services among one or more school districts or one or more intermediate school districts. The maximum amount of a grant to be distributed under this section is \$250,000. This is third round of grants under this section.

Eligible applicants are intermediate school districts (ISDs) and local education agencies (LEAs), both traditional public school districts and public school academies (PSAs). The application for Section 11x(6) grants is available on January 30, 2025, to eligible applicants. The application period will remain open until funds are exhausted or until **Tuesday, September 30, 2025, whichever comes first.** Additional information regarding the grant opportunity and the application process can be found within NexSys.

According to the law, the consolidation feasibility study or analysis may include, but is not limited to, consolidation opportunities in the following areas:

- Financial services, which may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Budgeting and staffing
 - o Payroll
 - Employee benefits
 - State reporting
 - Software consolidation to achieve common software throughout the intermediate school district
- Human resources, which may include, but are not limited to:
 - Onboarding

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- o Title IX administration
- Hiring
- Software consolidation to achieve common software throughout the intermediate school district
- Information technology, which may include, but is not limited to:
 - Software consolidation to achieve common software throughout the intermediate school district
 - Fiber projects
 - Cybersecurity
 - o One-to-one device management
- Grant management and reporting, which may include, but is not limited to:
 - Management of all state grant sites and databases
 - Grant reporting
 - Cash management, which may include, but is not limited to, the opportunities for intermediate school districts and districts to contract on cash flow management to maximize interest earnings
- Debt issuance and management, including all of the following:
 - Refunding opportunities
 - New bond issue analysis
 - School facility consolidation
 - Consolidation of transportation-related activities
 - Physical consolidation of districts

An intermediate school district that receives a grant under this section shall meet with its constituent districts located within the intermediate school district to discuss the results of the study or analysis and to implement changes where feasible. The application for an intermediate school district must include a brief description of how the intermediate school district will conduct these meetings.

Questions regarding this grant program should be directed to the Office of Health and Safety, at MDE-OHS@michigan.gov .

cc: Michigan Education Alliance Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments