

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC EDUCATION
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
August 18, 2016

OFFICE OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

- E. Revision to the methodology to award grant funds in support of local school improvement efforts authorized by Section 1003(g) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965

Purpose: To provide school improvement funds to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) reserved under Section 1003(g) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) for the purpose of allocating adequate resources to schools and districts with the greatest need and those that exhibit the strongest commitment to substantially raising student achievement in the persistently lowest-achieving Title I schools, and focus schools in the state.

Eligibility: To receive funds, a school must have been identified as a persistently low achieving Title I school or focus school based on the definition for Mississippi that was approved by the United States Department of Education. Additionally, each school must submit a comprehensive grant application that addresses required federal school improvement components and includes the implementation of a rigorous federally approved intervention model.

Funding Source: Federal (School Improvement Grant)

Basis for Awarding the Grants: Competitive

I. Grants will be awarded based on the quality of the LEA's application and the availability of funding. Grants may be awarded for up to five years based on the school's progress towards meeting the required federal annual goals in the following areas:

Leading Indicators

- Number of minutes within the school year and school day;
- Student participation rate on state assessments in reading/language arts and in mathematics, by student subgroup;
- Dropout rate;
- Student attendance rate;
- Number and percentage of students completing advanced coursework (e.g., AP/IB), early-college high schools, or dual enrollment courses;
- Discipline incidents;
- Chronic absenteeism;

- Distribution of teachers by performance level on a LEA's teacher evaluation system; and
- Teacher attendance rate.

Achievement Indicators

- School improvement status and Annual Measureable Objectives (AMO) targets met and missed;
- Percentage of students at or above proficiency level on state assessments in English language arts and mathematics, by grade and by student subgroup;
- Average scale score on state assessments in English language arts and mathematics, by grade, for the "all students" group, for each achievement level, and for each subgroup;
- Graduation rate; and
- College enrollment.

II. The total of funds awarded to LEAs will be based upon Federal Guidance Final Requirements- School Improvement Grants-Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Federal Register / Volume 80, No. 26 / February 9, 2015 / 7224-7251).

MDE will award grants of "sufficient size and scope to support the activities required under section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act". Grants must be in an amount sufficient to enable the school to implement fully and effectively the specified federally approved intervention model throughout the period of availability. An LEA's total grant may not be less than \$50,000 or more than \$2,000,000 per year for each priority or focus school that the LEA commits to serve.

Recommendation: Approval