

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
May 9, 2019

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

B. Approval to revise the methodology to award grants to school districts, to participate in the State Systemic Improvement Plan

Background and Purpose: The Office of Special Education has developed a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) that is based on building capacity of the local school districts using evidence-based practices in reading with a focus on improving third grade reading proficiency. The purpose of the grant is to provide funding for half the salary plus benefits, up to \$35,000, for literacy coaches in local school districts.

Eligibility: Any school district in the state of Mississippi that has not been awarded a SSIP grant is eligible to apply for these funds.

Funding Source: Federal funds

Basis for Awarding the Grants: Competitive

Funds will be awarded based on the following methodology:

- Districts will be recruited through a competitive process
- Grant awards will be in the amount not to exceed \$35,000 for the purpose of salary and fringe benefits
- Grant awards may be granted up to five years based on end-of-year evaluation and availability of funds

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material: None