388.1635c Multisensory structured reading instruction professional development pilot program; grant eligibility; report.

Sec. 35c. (1) From the state school aid fund money appropriated under section 11, there is allocated an amount not to exceed $300,000.00 for 2019-2020 only for a grant to be distributed by the department to 1 eligible district to create a pilot program to use a multisensory structured reading instruction professional development program to improve reading proficiency rates.

(2) A district is eligible for a grant under this section if all of the following apply to the district:

(a) The district partners with a multisensory structured reading instruction professional development program that meets all of the following:

(i) Is based in Michigan.

(ii) Has 20 or more years of experience in reading instruction.

(iii) Has trained at least 100,000 teachers in reading instruction.

(iv) Has at least 25 training instructors with at least a master's degree who are certified on the Knowledge and Practice Examination for Effective Reading Instruction through the Center for Effective Reading Instruction.

(v) Provides training in more than 40 states.

(vi) Offers graduate-level credits through a regionally accredited university.

(b) The district partners with the program described in subdivision (a) to provide multisensory structured reading instruction professional development for staff in grades K to 3 general education or grades K to 12 special education, or both.

(c) The total combined membership of the constituent districts of the intermediate district in which the district is located is at least 200,000. As used in this subdivision, "constituent district" means a district located within the intermediate district.

(d) The district is located in prosperity region 10.

(e) The total pupil membership of the district is at least 13,000 but not more than 15,000.

(3) A district may expend grant funds awarded under this section, in collaboration with the multisensory structured reading instruction professional development program described in subsection (2), for the following purposes:

(a) Professional development, including training staff in the multisensory, sequential, systematic education approach used by the program.

(b) Multisensory, sequential, systematic education approach teaching materials for pupils in grades K to 3 general education or K to 12 special education, or both.

(4) Not later than December 1, 2021, a district that receives grant funds under this section shall report to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on school aid, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on all of the following for the grant funds awarded under this section:

(a) The number of staff trained.

(b) The number of general education and special education pupils served, including the number of pupils identified as having an early literacy delay or reading deficiency.

(c) The number of hours of added instructional time provided to the pupils served.

(d) Pupil reading proficiency and growth data of pupils served as necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the program.