

THE STATE SCHOOL AID ACT OF 1979 (EXCERPT)
Act 94 of 1979

***** 388.1637.amended THIS AMENDED SECTION IS EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008 *****

388.1637.amended Eligibility of district for allocation under MCL 388.1632d; preapplication; final application; consortium; submission of resolution showing certain risk factors.

Sec. 37. (1) A district is eligible for an allocation under section 32d if the district meets all of the requirements in subsections (2), (3), and (4).

(2) The district shall submit a preapplication, in a manner and on forms prescribed by the department, by a date specified by the department in the immediately preceding state fiscal year. The preapplication shall include a comprehensive needs assessment and community collaboration plan that includes, but is not limited to, great start readiness program and head start providers, and shall identify all of the following:

(a) The estimated total number of children in the community who meet the criteria of section 32d and how that calculation was made.

(b) The estimated number of children in the community who meet the criteria of section 32d and are being served by other early childhood development programs operating in the community, and how that calculation was made.

(c) The number of children the district will be able to serve who meet the criteria of section 32d including a verification of physical facility and staff resources capacity.

(d) The estimated number of children who meet the criteria of section 32d who will remain unserved after the district and community early childhood programs have met their funded enrollments. The school district shall maintain a waiting list of identified unserved eligible children who would be served when openings are available.

(3) The district shall submit a final application for approval, in a manner and on forms prescribed by the department, by a date specified by the department. The final application shall indicate all of the following that apply:

(a) The district complies with the state board approved early childhood standards of quality for prekindergarten.

(b) The district provides for the active and continuous participation of parents or guardians of the children in the program, and describes the district's participation plan as part of the application.

(c) The district only employs for this program the following:

(i) Teachers possessing proper training. For programs the district manages itself, a valid teaching certificate and an early childhood (ZA) endorsement are required. This provision does not apply to a district that subcontracts with an eligible child development program. In that situation a teacher must have a valid Michigan teaching certificate with an early childhood (ZA) endorsement, a valid Michigan teaching certificate with a child development associate credential, or a bachelor's degree in child development with specialization in preschool teaching. However, both of the following apply to this subparagraph:

(A) If a district demonstrates to the department that it is unable to fully comply with this subparagraph after making reasonable efforts to comply, teachers who have significant but incomplete training in early childhood education or child development may be employed by the district if the district provides to the department, and the department approves, a plan for each teacher to come into compliance with the standards in this subparagraph. A teacher's compliance plan must be completed within 4 years of the date of employment. Progress toward completion of the compliance plan shall consist of at least 2 courses per calendar year.

(B) For a subcontracted program, the department shall consider a teacher with 90 credit hours and at least 4 years' teaching experience in a qualified preschool program to meet the requirements under this subparagraph.

(ii) Paraprofessionals possessing proper training in early childhood development, including an associate's degree in early childhood education or child development or the equivalent, or a child development associate (CDA) credential, or the equivalent as approved by the state board. However, if a district demonstrates to the department that it is unable to fully comply with this subparagraph after making reasonable efforts to comply, the district may employ paraprofessionals who have completed at least 1 course in early childhood education or child development if the district provides to the department, and the department approves, a plan for each paraprofessional to come into compliance with the standards in this subparagraph. A paraprofessional's compliance plan must be completed within 2 years of the date of employment. Progress toward completion of the compliance plan shall consist of at least 2 courses or 60 clock hours of training per calendar year.

(d) The district has submitted for approval a program budget that includes only those costs not reimbursed

or reimbursable by federal funding, that are clearly and directly attributable to the great start readiness program, and that would not be incurred if the program were not being offered. If children other than those determined to be educationally disadvantaged participate in the program, state reimbursement under section 32d shall be limited to the portion of approved costs attributable to educationally disadvantaged children.

(e) The district has established or has joined a multidistrict, multiagency, school readiness advisory committee consisting of, at a minimum, classroom teachers for prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade; parents or guardians of program participants; representatives from appropriate community agencies and organizations; the district curriculum director or equivalent administrator; and, if feasible, a school psychologist, school social worker, or school counselor. In addition, there shall be on the committee at least 1 parent or guardian of a program participant for every 18 children enrolled in the program, with a minimum of 2 parent or guardian representatives. The committee shall do all of the following:

(i) Ensure the ongoing articulation of the early childhood, kindergarten, and first grade programs offered by the district or districts.

(ii) Review the mechanisms and criteria used to determine participation in the early childhood program.

(iii) Review the health screening program for all participants.

(iv) Review the nutritional services provided to program participants.

(v) Review the mechanisms in place for the referral of families to community social service agencies, as appropriate.

(vi) Review the collaboration with and the involvement of appropriate community, volunteer, and social service agencies and organizations in addressing all aspects of educational disadvantage. The district must participate in a collaborative recruitment and enrollment process with, at a minimum, all other funded preschool programs that may serve children in the same geographic area, including the competitive programs described under section 32l and head start programs, to assure that each child is enrolled in the program most appropriate to his or her needs and to maximize the use of federal, state, and local funds. The collaborative recruitment and enrollment process should be established to reflect the geographic service areas of the collaborative partners. An effective process includes opportunities for families to meet with and learn about each program for which their child is eligible. A child who is income-eligible for head start must be referred to head start. If, after referral to head start, a family chooses to enroll a head-start-eligible child in the great start readiness program, a waiver indicating that the family has been informed of the child's eligibility to attend head start must be completed by the family in a form and manner determined by the department and submitted to the great start readiness program before the child may be enrolled in the great start readiness program. The great start readiness program shall retain the waiver in the child's enrollment file.

(vii) Review, evaluate, and make recommendations to a local school readiness program or programs for changes to the great start readiness program.

(f) The district has submitted for departmental approval a plan to conduct and report annual great start readiness program evaluations and continuous improvement plans using criteria approved by the department. At a minimum, the evaluations shall include a self-assessment of program quality and assessment of the gains in educational readiness and progress of the children participating in the program.

(g) More than 50% of the children participating in the program live with families with a household income that is equal to or less than 300% of the federal poverty level.

(h) The district must demonstrate participation in a collaborative recruitment and enrollment process with all other funded preschool programs serving children in the same geographic area to assure that each child is enrolled in the program most appropriate to his or her needs.

(4) A consortium of 2 or more districts shall be eligible for an allocation under section 32d if the districts designate a single fiscal agent for the allocation. A district or intermediate district may administer a consortium described in this subsection. A consortium shall submit a single preapplication and application for the children to be served, regardless of the number of districts participating in the consortium. The consortium may decide, with approval of all consortium members, to serve numbers of children based on the allocation to each district or based on the allocation to the entire consortium, allowing children residing in any district in the consortium to be served by the consortium at any location.

(5) With the final application, an applicant district shall submit to the department a resolution adopted by its board certifying the number of 4-year-old children who show evidence of risk factors as described in section 32d who live with families with a household income that is less than or equal to 300% of the federal poverty level.

History: Add. 1986, Act 212, Eff. Oct. 1, 1986;—Am. 1987, Act 128, Eff. Oct. 1, 1987;—Am. 1988, Act 318, Eff. Oct. 1, 1988;—Am. 1989, Act 197, Eff. Oct. 1, 1989;—Am. 1989, Act 235, Imd. Eff. Dec. 21, 1989;—Am. 1990, Act 207, Eff. Oct. 1, 1990;—Am. 1992, Act 148, Eff. Oct. 1, 1992;—Am. 1993, Act 175, Eff. Oct. 1, 1993;—Am. 1993, Act 336, Eff. Oct. 1, 1994;—Am. 1994, Act 283,

Eff. Oct. 1, 1994;—Am. 1995, Act 130, Eff. Oct. 1, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 300, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996;—Am. 2000, Act 297, Imd. Eff. July 26, 2000;—Am. 2002, Act 191, Imd. Eff. Apr. 26, 2002;—Am. 2004, Act 351, Eff. Oct. 1, 2004;—Am. 2005, Act 155, Eff. Oct. 1, 2005;—Am. 2006, Act 342, Eff. Oct. 1, 2006;—Am. 2007, Act 137, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 2007;—Am. 2008, Act 268, Eff. Oct. 1, 2008.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 351 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 1. In accordance with section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending in this amendatory act from state sources for fiscal year 2004-2005 is estimated at \$11,173,900,000.00 and state appropriations to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2004-2005 are estimated at \$11,113,650,400.00."

Enacting section 1 of 2005 PA 155 provides:

"Enacting section 1. In accordance with section 30 of article I of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending in this amendatory act and in House Bill No. 4831 of the 93rd Legislature from state sources for fiscal year 2005-2006 is estimated at \$11,364,814,000.00 and state appropriations to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2005-2006 are estimated at \$11,341,913,100.00.

"Enacting section 1 of Act 342 of 2006 provides:

"Enacting section 1. (1) In accordance with section 30 of article I of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending in this amendatory act from state sources for fiscal year 2006-2007 is estimated at \$11,682,508,200.00 and state appropriations to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2006-2007 are estimated at \$11,536,597,200.00.

(2) In accordance with section 30 of article I of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state sources for fiscal year 2005-2006 in this amendatory act and 2005 PA 155 is estimated at \$11,308,027,200.00 and state appropriations to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2004-2005 are estimated at \$11,285,376,300.00."

Enacting section 1 of Act 137 of 2007 provides:

"Enacting section 1. In accordance with section 30 of article I of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending in this amendatory act from state sources for fiscal year 2007-2008 is estimated at \$11,527,973,800.00 and state appropriations to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2007-2008 are estimated at \$11,458,493,300.00."

Enacting section 1 of Act 268 of 2008 provides:

"Enacting section 1. In accordance with section 30 of article I of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending in this amendatory act from state sources for fiscal year 2008-2009 is estimated at \$11,816,898,200.00 and state appropriations to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2008-2009 are estimated at \$11,602,465,900.00."