

**FAQ**  
**Indiana Center on Teacher Quality**

***Model Implementation District Applications and Grant Awards***

**1. What is the Absolute Priority for submitting an application?**

The federal SPDG grant, which funds the Model Implementation Districts (MID) requires that the

- District serves not fewer than 10,000 children from families with incomes below the poverty line **or** for which not less than 20% of children served are from families with incomes below the poverty line.
- District is experiencing a shortage of teachers in special education.

A district cannot apply that does not meet this priority.

**2. What is the Intent to Apply?**

A letter stating your districts intent to apply for this grant award should be submitted to Kristan Sievers-Coffer (at [ksievers@doe.in.gov](mailto:ksievers@doe.in.gov)) by April 1, 2016. This letter should provide 1) a simple statement that your district intends to apply; 2) an assurance that your district meets the Absolute Priority; 3) the name and enrollment size of your district and 4) a contact name, phone number and email address.

**3. If my district does not submit a Letter of Intent, can we still submit an application for this grant?**

Yes. The Letter of Intent will provide the reviewers an idea of the interest and will also help us estimate the amount of time that may be necessary for review. Therefore, we encourage districts who think they may apply to send the Letter of Intent but a district will not be penalized if they do not send a Letter of Intent.

**4. How should my district submit our application?**

Once the application is complete, it should be sent electronically to Kristan Sievers-Coffer at [ksievers@doe.in.gov](mailto:ksievers@doe.in.gov). You will receive a return email acknowledging receipt of your application.

**5. If my district is chosen to become a MID, what are the time periods for this award and the work in the district?**

The timeframe for district involvement will be school year 2016-17 through school year 2019-20. The first year will primarily be spent with grant staff in

reviewing district data, setting up district leadership team, and ensuring leadership and staff commitment to the grant work.

**6. What types of things can the grant money be used for?**

Grant funds to the MID's can be used for professional development activities including the following: Subs, PD/In-state Travel, Supplies/Materials, Publications, and teacher stipend for PD

**7. Is there anything that grant funds cannot be used for?**

Yes. Grant funds cannot be used to pay staff salaries, for food, or for equipment, including technology equipment.

**8. What is the estimated range of the awards?**

Six awards under this competition will be distributed during Years 2-5 of the grant and will be determined by district enrollment. The range of awards is from \$15,000 over the four years for small districts to \$150,000 over four years for very large districts. We will set the amount of each award after considering—

- The amount of funds available;
- The relative population of the district;
- The evidence provided in the narrative section of the application
- The alignment of proposed activities with the goals of the grant

**9. Do I need to submit a budget with our district's application?**

No, a budget will not be requested until your district receives the grant award.

**10. When will districts receive notice of the awards?**

The review of applications will take place during August and September of 2016. This will include an on-site visit by the review team to districts who are finalists. Final award notification will be by October 1, 2016.

