



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 27, 2023

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Delsa D. Chapman, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent 
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

SUBJECT: Round 2 Future Proud Michigan Educator Grow Your Own Staff Grants
Now Open

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) welcomes new applications for Round 2 of Future Proud Michigan Educator Grow Your Own (GYO) Staff programming grants. These grants support the staffing needs of intermediate school districts (ISDs) and local education agencies (LEAs), both traditional public school districts and public school academies (PSAs), with pathways for school employees wishing to seek initial certification or additional endorsements, in accordance with Michigan Compiled Law (MCL) [388.1627b](#) (27b GYO) of the State School Aid Act. These grants support Goal 7 of Michigan's Top 10 [Strategic Education Plan](#) to increase the numbers of certified teachers in areas of shortage.

In May 2023, MDE announced that 80 school districts were awarded [GYO staff grants](#) for reimbursements of tuition and fees at approved Michigan educator preparation providers, with books, testing fees, travel for coursework, and substitute employee wages also marked for funding eligibility.

Additional federal funds remain available for Round 2 of competitive grants, with grant award announcements expected in November 2023. These grants help ensure that Michigan students have access to well-prepared teachers by providing funding for school employees to seek certification or additional endorsements.

The application is open through **September 6, 2023**, on the Grant Electronic Monitoring System/Michigan Administrative Review System (GEMS/MARS) for eligible applicants (ISDs and LEAs) to apply for funds to support new or existing GYO programs. The federal grant expenditure window remains the same as Round 1, to allow all GYO Staff grantees to reimburse eligible staff expenses incurred between October 1, 2021, and December 31, 2026.

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MDE invites districts whose Round 1 applications were not selected for funding to apply again for Round 2. The Office of Educator Excellence (OEE) will support applicants with the following resources, hosted on the [Future Proud Michigan Educator GYO Staff Grant](#) website:

- Information on [common errors](#) that resulted in unfunded applications in Round 1 of the GYO grant.
- A downloadable template for drafting GYO Round 2 application responses, featured in a link appearing on the application in GEMS/MARS.
- A recording of the "Frequently Asked Questions" webinar from July 25, 2023, that explains best practices for completing GYO Round 2 applications.
- Individual meetings with OEE GYO grant team members on an as-needed basis for more specific questions.

To learn more or to access the Round 2 application for the 27b GYO Staff grants, please visit the [Future PME Grow Your Own website](#). As always, please contact MDE-PME@Michigan.gov with questions.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments