



RYAN WALTERS
STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Special Education Directors, and MTSS Contacts
FROM: Sherri Coats, Program Director, Special Education Services
DATE: April 26, 2024
SUBJECT: Project 619 – OKMTSS Implementation

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) provides federal funding for the education of children with disabilities. IDEA allows funds to be allocated for various activities designed to improve results for children with disabilities. Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) is a framework that incorporates evidence-based practices with early intervention for all children.

This letter is to notify districts of a reserved funding project to provide a one-time allocation for the purpose of developing or improving an OKMTSS framework which will be implemented, with fidelity, using an evidence-based academic and/or behavior continuum of interventions through tiered support. The Office of Special Education Services has identified “targeted” districts who will receive a **\$5,000** allocation. The project funding serves to incentivize, through stipends to school personnel, time invested in developing or improving alignment to the essential components for implementing an evidence-based MTSS framework. The funds may only be used to provide stipends to staff who are participating in OSDE sponsored MTSS training and/or leadership opportunities that build the knowledge sharing capabilities to develop and sustain fidelity of implementation of OKMTSS in the district.

Only identified targeted districts will receive the \$5,000 allocation. The district has the full discretion to determine how to disperse the stipends to MTSS school personnel working to lead the district in this endeavor. However, federal guidance prohibits Superintendents and/or persons acting in a Superintendent capacity of being paid with federal dollars. Superintendents and Special Education Directors will be notified by letter if they meet one of the following criteria:

- Identified by Office of Special Education Services as Differentiated Monitoring Results (DMR) level 3 or 4
- Identified by Office of School Support as CSI based on IEP subgroup

- Selected as a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) site
- State assessment data shows 0% mastery (for the IEP subgroup) in reading and math in grades 4, 8, and 11 over the last two or more years

The application will be located in the Grants Management System (GMS). Half of the funds will be made available in the 2023-2024 school year, while the other half will be made available in the 2024-2025 school year. The 2023-2024 Allocations will be available May 1, 2024; budgets must be completed by June 1, 2024. If all of the 2023-2024 required activities have been completed, all funds need to be claimed by August 1, 2024.

To be eligible for **\$2,500.00 reimbursement for stipends for the 2023-2024 school year**, the district MTSS team (defined below) must participate in all of the bolded items by June 30, 2024.

- **Must - Establish/Reestablish a District OKMTSS team including a minimum of 5 people and a maximum of 8 people, which must include superintendent (including interim) OR other central office staff who can make instructional/programmatic decisions for the district, site administrator, general education teacher, special education teacher and one or more of the following: school psychologist, school counselor, interventionist for reading, math, or behavior, central office staff in charge of instruction, special education administrator or other identified position of leadership.**

(Evidence: Provide a list of team members and titles)

- **Must - Attend one of the OKMTSS Self-Assessment & Implementation regional trainings (entire team)**
 - ***June 10 – Owasso *June 11 – Woodward *June 17 – McAlester *June 18 – Lawton**

(Evidence: Provide certificates of attendance for each team member)

- **Must - Attend the OKMTSS Summer Conference**
 - **June 25-26, Midwest City**

(Evidence: Provide certificates of attendance for each team member)

The allocations for the 2024-2025 school year will be made available July 1, 2024; budgets must be completed by Oct. 31, 2024. If all of the 2024-2025 required activities have been completed, all funds need to be claimed by Aug 1, 2025.

To be eligible for **\$2,500 reimbursement for stipends for the 2024-2025** school year, the district MTSS team (defined below) must participate in all of the bolded items by June 30, 2025.

- **Must - Begin or expand OKMTSS implementation in your district**
(Evidence: may include but not limited to, meeting agendas/minutes, copy of a newly developed or revised district MTSS manual, narrative report of the work that has been accomplished)
- **Must - Implement use of OKMTSS on EdPlan with a phased approach**
 - Create a timeline of their phased approach with a narrative of the implementation of OKMTSS on EdPlan. Schools can select to begin with a specific grade level or subject area and outline plans to implement additional grade levels and subject areas over time.
 - Create a training plan for district staff
 - Create intervention plans in the OKMTSS on EdPlan system
 - Create a tiered framework to support Tier 2 (approximately 10-15% of the student population) and Tier 3 (approximately 1-5% of the student population) including decision rules for Tier 2 and 3 supports.
(Evidence: Timeline and narrative of phased usage, documentation of trainings, evidence of student level intervention plans through the system.)
- **Must - Attend the OKMTSS Winter Conference (some members of the team)**
 - **January TBD**
(Evidence: Provide certificates of attendance for members who attended)

Districts may participate in the following activities to support the development and implementation of the district's MTSS plan.

- May - Participate in the MTSS post-conference book study
 - Integrated Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Kent McIntosh & Steve Goodman
(Evidence: Sign-in sheet of participants, agendas)
- May - Participate in the OSDE-led monthly Communities of Practice
(Evidence: Attendance certificates)
- May - Attend Data Based Individualization Training
 - TBD
(Evidence: Provide certificates of attendance for members who attended)
- May - Complete the SPDG OKMTSS Implementation: Year 1 modules on OSDE Connect
(Evidence: Provide completion certificates if completed individually; provide certificate and sign-in sheet if completed as a group)

Districts will submit evidence (as describe above) of team participation in the required and optional (if any) activities in order to claim these funds. Additional funds for

OKMTSS travel and substitute expenses may be available through projects 613 or 615. Contact Alexa Hudak, alexa.hudak@sde.ok.gov for questions about any of the above activities.

If you have questions about Projects 613, 615, or 619, please contact your finance specialist.

- Mitchell Kern: mitchell.kern@sde.ok.gov – 405-521-4857
- Carole Tomlin: carole.tomlin@sde.ok.gov – 405-521-2335
- Janet Felton: janet.felton@sde.ok.gov – 405-522-1578
- Karen Howard: karen.howard@sde.ok.gov – 405-521-358