Regional Project Descriptions

The Greater Boston DSAC has identified two regional DSAC Grant priorities:

1. **Leadership Development**: There is a need to develop and provide support for teacher leaders that participate in instructional leadership teams or who serve as grade level leaders in a professional learning community.

   $12,500 is available. Districts may apply for up to $11,500 for stipends and materials. And districts may apply for up to $1,000 to act as the lead agency for a regional partnership. Funds may be used for expenses related to a regional network.

   a. **Objective**: Develop and support teacher leaders in Level 3 schools
   b. **Outcomes**: Current and potential teacher leaders will be identified and supported in order to increase the effectiveness of instructional leadership teams.
   c. **Participants**: Teachers in Level 3 schools.

2. **Supporting High Quality Core Instruction and Interventions**: There is a need for supporting high quality core instruction and interventions in Level 3 schools. Work sessions and follow-up coaching support will focus on high quality core instruction and move through intervention strategies for students who need more support in order to succeed.

   $12,500 is available. Districts may apply for up to $3,500 for stipends and materials. And districts may apply for up to $9,000 to act as the lead agency for a regional partnership. Funds may be used for consultant support and related expenses for a regional network.

   a. **Objective**: Improve core instruction in classrooms in Level 3 schools, and support identification and implementation of effective intervention strategies
   b. **Outcomes**: Level 3 schools are improve their capacity to develop, monitor and support high quality core instruction and interventions.
   c. **Participants**: Educators in Level 3 schools.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING FOR REGIONAL FUNDS**

**GENERAL GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS**

- All Level 3 districts and districts exiting Level 3 in 2014-2015 that are served by the Greater Boston DSAC are eligible to participate in these priorities and opportunities.
District participation in regional priority projects is optional.

Eligible districts may apply to participate in one or both priority projects.

Individual districts may apply for funding in order to participate in Regional Priorities 1 and 2.

A single district, acting as lead agency for a partnership of districts, will apply for funds on behalf of the partnership for Priority 1 and/or Priority 2. If your district is acting as lead agency for this project, please see the instructions below for specific guidance on applying for these funds.

Districts may submit a single grant application that includes both their base district DSAC grant allotment, funds for Priority 1 and/or funds for Priority 2. Additional instructions on preparing the narrative and budget workbook for each priority area are detailed below.

Districts may also choose to submit partial applications. That way a district or partnership has the flexibility to get school year activities funded immediately and make decisions about how any remaining funds will be used at a later date. Districts exercising this option will subsequently amend the appropriate budget workbook(s) and need to do so by the DSAC grant deadline of March 13, 2015.

For instance, a district acting as lead agency for Priority 2 may want to submit a narrative and budget workbook in early December in order to get the project launched during the school year. If the district plans to use its base DSAC grant allotment for summer activities, it could take additional time to plan how it will use its base DSAC grant allotment and submit a budget workbook amendment and revised grant narrative closer to the March 13, 2015 deadline for submission of completed DSAC grants.

The actual amount of additional funding awarded for each priority project will depend upon the number of districts and partnerships submitting applications that meet the criteria for funding.

Once you complete your grant application, the DSAC Regional Assistance Director will review the forms to ensure that they reflect the plan agreed upon during the collaboration process. If the agreement differs substantially from the plan originally agreed upon during the collaboration process, the DSAC Regional Assistance Director may contact the district for further information and, if necessary, ask for a revised plan.

The DSAC Regional Assistance Director will send an e-mail indicating approval of the plan. The DSAC Regional Assistance Director will also send a copy of the forms, along with a copy of the approval e-mail, to ESE’s Regional System of Support. This completes the process for submitting your regional priorities grant proposal.

If you have questions about completing the application materials, please e-mail or call Karen Johnston, the Regional System of Support Coordinator, for assistance (kjohnston@doe.mass.edu; 781-338-3539).

**REGIONAL PRIORITIES: APPLYING FOR INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT FUNDS**

Individual districts may apply for stipend and materials costs related to participation in this opportunity.
• Proposed budget expenditures for Priority 1 and/or Priority 2 may be incorporated into the same 220-E budget workbook you are using for your district’s DSAC grant allotment.

• Complete the Regional Priorities worksheet in the 220-E workbook:
  o Select Leadership Development Supporting Teacher Leaders and/or Supporting HQ Core Instruction and Interventions from the dropdown menu for Projects
  o Indicate the amount of funding you are requesting for Priority 1 and/or Priority 2.

• Provide details on proposed expenditures in the Budget Summary worksheet.
  ▪ Wherever possible, use the Regional Priorities categories in the budget worksheet

**REGIONAL PRIORITIES: APPLYING FOR FUNDS AS THE LEAD AGENCY**

Districts planning to apply as the lead agency for regional priority 1 and/or priority 2 should note the following expectations and funding priorities for this project.

Applicants will be expected to:

• Work in partnership with the regional District and School Assistance Center (DSAC) to facilitate professional learning across the partnership and region; and
• Identify a vendor to coordinate and facilitate achievement of all objectives articulated above for the project.

**Funding Priorities for Greater Boston DSAC Regional Priority Projects**

Priority will be given to proposals that demonstrate:

• Partnerships of multiple Greater Boston DSAC Region districts;
• Selection of a vendor with appropriate expertise for the regional priority project being funded;
• A viable timeline for achieving project objectives; and
• Appropriate use of funds.

*Please use the following guidance and instructions if you plan to participate in this project.*

• Select one district in the partnership to act as the lead agency for the regional priority project. This district will submit a narrative and detailed budget for the project on behalf of the partnership.

• Superintendents of districts committed to taking part in the project should send an e-mail affirming their participation in the network to the lead agency and the Greater Boston DSAC Regional Assistance Director. Copies of these e-mails should be included in the grant application.

• The narrative for the priority project should be appended to the lead agency’s Part III: Plan for Grant Fund Use form. Part III, Section B does not need to be completed for Regional Priorities.

• The grant narrative should:
  o Briefly describe how the network will address the objectives articulated above. Your proposal may include goals and objectives in addition to those above.
  o Include a list of all districts and schools committed to taking part in the partnership. Please indicate those schools that are Level 3.
- Lay out a realistic timeline for the activities of the network.
- Identify the vendor your partnership has selected for the regional priority project and briefly describe the vendor's capacity to fulfill its goals and objectives (Resumes of the individuals who will be coordinating and facilitating the work should be submitted in the grant application).
- Provide a detailed budget of proposed expenditures.

- Guidance on completing 220E budget workbooks for district acting as Lead Agency for Regional Priority 1 and/or Priority 2
  - Proposed budget expenditures may be incorporated into the same 220E budget workbook(s) you are using for your district's base DSAC grant allotment (i.e., School Year and/or Summer)
  - Complete the Regional Priorities worksheet in the 220E workbook
    - Select Leadership Development Supporting Teacher Leaders: Lead Agency and/or Supporting HQ Core Instruction and Interventions: Lead Agency from the dropdown menu for Projects
    - Indicate the amount of funding you are requesting on the appropriate line.
  - Add the proposed expenditures to the Budget Summary worksheet in the appropriate 220E budget workbook(s)
    - Wherever possible, use the Regional Priorities categories in the budget worksheet