Activity Sheet for Priority 1
Strengthen Curriculum and Instruction

In order for schools in Massachusetts to meet the needs of students with disabilities with diverse learning styles and their families, educators need to have access to ongoing training and technical assistance in the areas of instruction and curriculum development.

Professional Development activities funded under this priority will be designed to make improvements in educator effectiveness and in the equitable distribution of qualified teachers, para-educators, administrators, related service providers, and other personnel working with students with disabilities and their families.

Through participation in selected professional development, school personnel will enhance their skills in:
- implementing evidence-based practices that enable all students to access and make progress in the general curriculum;
- designing and implementing instruction that meets the needs of students with varied learning styles and abilities; and
- assessing student learning, monitoring progress, and using data to determine entry points into the curriculum.

Topics for evidence-based professional development may include:
- Inclusive Practices For Working With Students With Disabilities
- Accessibility Strategies for Learning Content
  - Differentiated Instruction
  - Project Based Learning/Service Learning
  - Multi-modal Learning Strategies
  - Cooperative/Team Teaching
  - Cooperative Learning
  - Universal Design for Learning
- Assessment
- Specially Designed Instruction for Students with Disabilities
- Use of Technology in the Classroom for Instruction and Assessment
- Current Research
  - as it relates to disabilities
  - as it relates to developing the academic skills of students with disabilities
- Educator Content Knowledge

Required Program Information – Narrative Component

Listed below are the required components in the order that they must appear in the proposal. Each application must include information on the following items.

I. OVERVIEW
   A. Provide the publicly funded special education student enrollment as of October 1, 2014: __________.
   B. Identify the topic area(s) within this priority in which your district will provide professional development. Why is the area a priority? Describe the current work and progress in this area in the district.
   C. How are you going to ensure that the professional development is high-quality and evidence-based? Identify the proposed individual(s) or organization(s) that will be providing professional development activities and training in the selected area(s).
   D. Explain how providing professional development in this area(s) will help school and district personnel improve their skills and build capacity to instruct and support students with disabilities. Include:
      1. Outcomes - What are the expected outcomes from this project?
2. Evaluation – How will you ensure you have achieved the expected outcomes?

Name of Grant Program: Special Education - Program Improvement  Fund Code: 249

II. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
A. List the individual(s) responsible for the oversight of this initiative and their positions.
B. Provide a detailed description of the professional development activities that will be offered and the specific follow-up and technical assistance activities that will be provided following the trainings. Describe how the professional development activities will be job-embedded.
C. Provide a proposed timeline for the professional development activities, including anticipated dates.
D. Identify the target audience that will be participating in the professional development activities. Include how the participants will be made available for the trainings (e.g., release time, stipends, designated training days, etc.).

III. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS
A. Stipends -- Amounts Allocated (Line 1 and/or Line 2 and/or Line 3):
   a. Administrators: $________.00
   b. Instructional/Professional Staff: $________.00
   c. Support Staff: $________.00
B. Contractual Services -- Amounts Allocated (Line 5):
   a. Consultants: $________.00  [Rate per Hour/Day:_______]
   b. Specialists: $________.00  [Rate per Hour/Day:_______]
   c. Instructors: $________.00  [Rate per Hour/Day:_______]
   d. Speakers: $________.00  [Rate per Hour/Day:_______]
   e. Substitutes: $________.00  [Rate per Hour/Day:_______]
   f. Supplemental Services – Contracted Provider: $________.00  [Rate per Hour/Day:_______]
   g. Other: $________.00  [Rate per Hour/Day:_______]
C. Supplies and Materials -- Amounts Allocated (Line 6): $________.00
D. Conference or Courses -- Amounts Allocated (Line 5 Other and/or Line 7):
   a. District reimburses provider (Line 5 Other) : $________.00
   b. Participant is reimbursed (Line 7) : $________.00
E. Travel (maximum of 10% of total grant award for the entire grant) Amounts Allocated (Line 7):
   a. Supervisory Staff: $________.00
   b. Instructional Staff: $________.00
   c. Other: $________.00
F. Other Costs
   a. Advertising: $________.00
   b. Rental of Space: $________.00
   c. Rental of Equipment: $________.00
   d. Memberships/Subscriptions: $________.00
   e. Printing/Reproduction: $________.00