***Year 2 [FY26] July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026***

## ***Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education FY2026***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Grant Program:**  Partnership for Reading Success – Massachusetts (PRISM) I | **Fund Code:** 0592 |

# PRISM I FY26 Continuation

# **Fund Use Details**

This attachment provides full details about how PRISM I funds may be used in FY26. This grant will provide funding as well as hands-on support from Department specialists and the PRISM I Leadership Coach for one year for recipients to improve early literacy teaching and learning and accomplish the activities listed in the RFP. Fund use will be based on the findings of the Literacy Systems Scan conducted in FY25. Not all grantees may need or be approved for expenses in every category listed below. Please note that continuation funding is dependent upon availability and is not guaranteed. Additionally, all purchases must be pre-approved by DESE before they are made.

|  |
| --- |
| **Important Note**  **Only districts who were awarded PRISM I in FY25 are eligible to apply for the FY26 PRISM I Continuation grant.** |

Please read the rest of this document for details on FY26 PRISM I funding. Please note that all PRISM I-funded purchases MUST be pre-approved by DESE before they are made by the district.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

## Funds Provided to Awarded Districts

As noted above, fund use will be determined by the findings of the Literacy Systems Scan conducted in FY25 and relative to the number of participating schools in each PRISM I district. Work with the PRISM I Leadership Coach to use information that has been collected so far through the Literacy Systems Scan along with the PRISM I Continuation Budget Calculator in GEM$ to build a proposed budget to apply for continuation. Upon completion of the Literacy Systems Scan, awarded districts will be asked to revise their proposed budgets based on the complete findings of the Literacy Systems Scan. Please note that not all grantees may need or be approved for expenses in every category listed below.

1. **Stipends for Educators to participate on the PRISM I Leadership Team:** The PRISM I Leadership Team will continue to work together to coordinate and enact the multi-year work of this initiative, across schools and community-based preschool providers. Funds may be budgeted for educators to serve on the PRISM I Leadership Team, to cover:
   1. Stipends for time beyond contractual hours to serve on the PRISM I Leadership Team (e.g., attend PRISM I Leadership Team meetings, work on plans, facilitate meetings and/or presentations)
   2. Stipends for representatives of community-based preschool providers to serve on the PRISM I Leadership Team
   3. Stipends for representatives of educator preparation programs (EPPs) to serve on the PRISM I Leadership Team\*
   4. Travel costs, if applicable (i.e., to visit a nearby PRISM I district or school). Please note that out-of-state travel is not allowable under this grant.

\*Please note that for some districts, stipends for partners (e.g. representatives from community-based preschools or education preparation programs) will require the development of a contract between the district and the partnering provider. This may require the district to budget for and pay stipends to partners out of the contractual services line.

|  |
| --- |
| **GEM$ Budgeting Note**  On GEM$, please enter the amount listed in cell 4C in GEM$ under Object Code 01: Professional Salaries (non-MTRS) for Function Code LDRS (Instructional Leaders), Function Code TCHR (Teachers), and/or Function Code PARA (Paraprofessionals) depending on who is or will be on the PRISM I Leadership Team.  If budgeting funds for stipends to be paid to contracted community-based preschool and educator preparation program partners on GEM$, use Object Code 04C if under $25,000 or Object Code 04MC if over $25,000 for Function Code TCHR (Teachers), and/or Function Code PARA (Paraprofessionals) or depending on who is or will be on the PRISM I Leadership Team. |

1. **Stipends for Educators to support PRISM I work beyond contractual hours or duties:** All educators working on early literacy (e.g., classroom teachers, community-based preschool teachers, special educators, ESL teachers, administrators, leaders of community-based preschools, coaches) will contribute to PRISM I work in FY26. For instance, these educators might be asked to compile and share data, respond to surveys, participate in focus groups, share lesson plans, submit student work, etc. These funds may be budgeted to provide stipends to educators, including educators from community-based preschool partners or education preparation program partners, for their PRISM I-related work beyond contractual hours or duties, if needed. The following educators can receive stipends from this grant for their work outside contract hours:
   1. Teachers, including general education teachers, special education teachers, ESL teachers, including teachers working in community-based preschool providers
   2. Paraprofessionals and teaching assistants, including those working in community-based preschool providers
   3. Instructional coaches, reading specialists, reading interventionists, including those working in community-based preschool providers
   4. Educator preparation program faculty, program supervisors, and teacher candidates

A portion of these funds will be used to stipend leaders and educators from community-based preschool programs and educator preparation programs so that they can fully participate in professional development, action planning, etc. Please note that for some districts, stipends for partnering providers will require the development of a contract between the district and the partnering provider. This may require the district to budget for and pay stipends to partners out of the contractual services line.

|  |
| --- |
| **GEM$ Budgeting Note**  On GEM$, please enter the amount listed in cell 5C on your budget calculator on GEM$ under Object Code 01: Professional Salaries (non-MTRS) for Function Code LDRS (Instructional Leaders) for Function Code TCHR (Teachers), and/or Function Code PARA (Paraprofessionals) depending on who will need stipends to complete FY26 PRISM I grant programming  If budgeting funds for stipends to be paid to contracted community-based preschool and educator preparation program partners on GEM$, use Object Code 04C Contracted Services if under $25,000 or Object Code 04MC: Contracted Services (major) for Function Code TCHR (Teachers), and/or Function Code PARA (Paraprofessionals) depending on who will need stipends to complete FY26 PRISM I grant programming. |

1. **Substitute Coverage funding for educators to support PRISM I work during contractual hours:** For the work described above, if substitutes rather than stipends are a more practical approach to engaging all educators in the work of PRISM I. Substitute coverage funding may be budgeted for *in place of or in addition to* stipends for educators to support PRISM I work beyond contractual hours or duties

|  |
| --- |
| **GEM$ Budgeting Note**  You may divvy up the total amount between stipends and substitutes as needed or may elect to budget the total amount for stipends or for substitutes depending on the need of your district. If budgeting funds for substitute coverage on GEM$, use up to (but not over) the amount listed in cell C5 on your budget calculator in GEM$ under Object Code 03: Other Salaries for Function Code TSER (Other Teaching Services). |

1. **Salary Support:** The PRISM I grant will fund a significant portion of the cost of up to one position for each participating public school in the roles of literacy coach, reading specialist, reading interventionist, or similar. The need for early literacy-based positions will be determined by the Literacy Systems Scan. Districts should use the PRISM I Continuation Budget Calculator to determine the appropriate amount the budget for salary support. Please note that districts who budget for salary support may not budget for high-dosage tutoring (see *Planning for PRISM I High-dosage Tutoring or Salary Support* section below for more information)

|  |
| --- |
| **GEM$ Budgeting Note**  On GEM$, please budget the amount listed in C18 on your budget calculator under Object Code 01: Professional Salaries (non-MTRS) for Function Code TCHR (Teachers). |

1. **Vendors and Partners:** To enact the Early Literacy MTSS Action Plan, districts may need to work with approved external providers or collaborate with PRISM I partners such as professional development providers, community-based preschool providers and/or educator preparation programs to engage staff in early literacy professional learning. A scope of work must be provided with the application for all proposed vendor and partner services for FY26.

|  |
| --- |
| **GEM$ Budgeting Note**  When budgeting funds for professional development related to a screener, please enter the amount listed in cell C13 (K-3) and C14 (PreK) in your budget calculator on GEM$ under Object Code 04C: Contracted Services for Function Code PDEV (Professional Development)  When budgeting funds for general professional development, please enter the amount listed in cell C15 in your budget calculator on GEM$ under Object Code 04MC: Contracted Services (major) for Function Code PDEV (Professional Development)  When budgeting funds for to stipend stakeholders from educator preparation programs and/or community-based preschool providers, please refer to the notes under “Stipends” on your budget calculator. On GEM$, use Object Code 04C: Contracted Services if under $25,000 or Object Code 04MC: Contracted Services (major) if over $25,000 for Function Code PDEV (Professional Development) and/or for Function Code SERV (Pupil Services). |

1. **High-dosage Tutoring:** districtsmay find through the Literacy Systems Scan that high-dosage tutoring for public school students is an area of need. Please note that districts who budget for high-dosage tutoring may not budget for salary support (see *Planning for PRISM I High-dosage Tutoring or Salary Support* section below for more information). A scope of work for FY26 from the DESE-approved tutoring partner must be provided with the application.

|  |
| --- |
| **GEM$ Budgeting Note**  On GEM$, please enter the amount listed in cell C17 on your budget calculator on GEM$ under Object Code 04MC: Contracted Services (major) if over $25,000 for Function Code SERV (Pupil Services). |

1. **Materials and Assessments:** PRISM I districts may need to purchase materials and assessments to enact the Early Literacy MTSS Action Plan. The need for specific materials and assessments will be identified through the Literacy Systems Scan. These may include, but are not limited to:
   * Tier 1 reading foundational skills curriculum materials (preschool and K-3)
   * Early Literacy assessments, including approved screening assessment, for preschool and for K-3 as needed.
   * Other assessments as needed (preschool and K-3) for Tier 2/3 instruction
   * Tier 2/3 and other supplemental instructional materials (preschool and K-3)
   * Purchase, transadaptation, and/or development of high-quality curricular materials for dual language programs/schools
   * Tier 1 language and literacy instructional materials for public and community-based preschool providers
   * Additional licenses for HQIM teacher portals across tiers and access to assessments for faculty, program supervisors, and teacher candidates in partnering Educator Preparation Programs.

|  |
| --- |
| **GEM$ Budgeting Note**  Enter the amounts in cell C8, C9, C10, and C11 (depending on which materials and assessments are being purposed) on GEM$ under Object Code 05: Supplies and Materials for Function Code MATL (Instructional Materials and Technology). |

## Planning for PRISM I High-dosage Tutoring or Salary Support

As mentioned above, districts will be able to plan and budget for **either** high-dosage tutoring **or** salary support starting in FY26. Districts may not plan and budget for both high-dosage tutoring and salary support. High-dosage tutoring or salary support may only be budgeted for participating PRISM I public schools. In collaboration with the PRISM I Leadership coach, use the flow-chart below to support budgeting choices in this area of PRISM I programming.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Did the data collected through the Literacy Systems Scan show that the district currently has enough literacy-based staff to meet the needs of all students within an early literacy multi-tiered system of support?* | | |
|  |  |  |
| **Yes** |  | **No** |
|  |  |  |
| The district may choose **one** of the following options:  **Option 1:** contract with a high-dosage tutoring partner.  **OR**  **Option 2:** salary support for up to one literacy-based position for each participating PRISM I school (literacy coach, reading specialist, reading interventionist, or similar). |  | The district should budget for one literacy-based position for each participating PRISM I school (literacy coach, reading specialist, reading interventionist, or similar) |

*Please note that the PRISM I grant, pending funding availability, will fund the cost of the high-dosage tutoring or salary support component at a decreasing annual proportion over the remaining 4 years, beginning with 100% of the cost in FY26, 75% of the cost in FY27, 50% of the cost in FY28, and 25% of the cost in FY29. Districts will be expected to take these costs on as part of regular operating budgets to fulfill grant expectations and to continue in the program for the maximum 5 years. This requirement may be waived by the Commissioner in exigent circumstances.*