# **Frequently Asked Questions**

*If you have a specific situational question that pertains to your local context, please email us at* *AcceleratingMath@mass.gov* *and we will get back to you!*

## **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

1. **If you have already selected a new resource on the list or are currently using a resource, can you still apply so the cost is covered for a year?**

Yes. You can still apply if you are already using a set of materials. We cannot pay retroactively or reimburse, however. There is a space to explain this in the application.

1. **Can we request a curriculum or PD from a vendor who is not on the approved list?**

No, we can only support vendors under contract with us.

1. **We were already planning to pilot some of these programs next year as part of our curriculum review process, but pilot materials are typically provided free of cost from publishers. Would there be a benefit to apply through this opportunity vs. just piloting? Do you know if more is included, or would that depend on the program?**

The benefit of this program would depend on the scale of the pilot and the professional development that is needed.

1. **Will any consideration be made to districts that received funds through this last year; are they less likely to receive funds this year?**

This is not a consideration within our competitive priorities. You will have the same access as someone who did not receive funds last year.

1. **Our middle schools are 5-8, so some of the products would not apply to the whole school. Can a school apply for only specific grades for a product at their school?**

Yes. This makes sense in this scenario. We support districts/schools to offer a cohesive math program for all its students. In the initial application you would list the same school on different lines to communicate the specific grade levels.

1. **If the district applies, is it for the same program for all their schools?**

You may apply for different programs for your schools. Many of the programs are not available K-12. We do encourage you to consider vertical alignment. We would like to support districts/schools in offering a cohesive math program for all its students.

1. **Could a district apply for both core math program and a supplemental program from a different vendor?**

Yes. There is an opportunity to indicate this on the initial application.

1. **What if the cohort of teachers is smaller than 25 (for PD requests)?**

If your district is smaller than 25 and it is a not a new implementation, you are eligible for up to $10,000 in professional development provided by the vendor.

1. **If we already work with the digital provider for a supplemental program, do we just limit the PD portion to teachers who are new to the program?**

This depends on the depth of the initial PD and how recently that PD occurred. Some vendors are offering different focuses for their PD, which would allow you to tailor it to the needs of your district. We want to make sure that all teachers feel supported in implementing these programs.

1. **For the core curriculum does it include both print materials and digital?**

We have worked with vendors to provide the materials they think will best support full implementation of their program. For some, that is both print and digital materials, for others that is just digital materials.

1. **Last year, paper-based materials for Eureka were added at the end – will they be available this year?**

Yes, we will continue to offer the option for print materials.

1. **Will Eureka^2 be available for funding?**

We are not able to add additional options to the approved programs at this time. Eureka^2 has not yet been reviewed by EdReports or CURATE.

1. **What are the reporting requirements to DESE for accepting these funds?**

We will be contracting with a third-party evaluator who will ask for data permissions to monitor data on use and impact.

1. **Are intervention materials available for funding?**

Only the products and resources listed on the Accelerating Math homepage are available through this funding.

1. **Can the funding be used for teacher stipends?**

No, only the products and resources listed on the Accelerating Math homepage are available through this funding. This is not a grant for the district, vendors will invoice DESE directly.

## **QUESTIONS ABOUT THE APPLICATION**

1. **Is there a set amount of funding available per school or per student?**

No. Also, reminder that this is not a grant, vendors will invoice DESE directly.

1. **What is the turnaround time from applying and being selected?**

Initial approval applications will be reviewed, and funds allocated based on the following dates:

February 25, 2022 and March 31, 2022 and then on a rolling basis. For the February 25th cycle, depending on the number of requests and a district’s competitive priorities, we may approve or defer applications to the later cycle. We do encourage districts to submit their application as soon as they are clear in their request.

1. **Do you have to re-apply within every approval window, or just once?**

Please only apply once. Applications may be submitted at any time and they will be considered at the first available cycle.  All applications will be submitted to AcceleratingMath@mass.gov.

1. **Can a district still participate with self-funding if not awarded priority status?**

Any district should apply. Even if you do not meet any of the competitive priorities, you are still eligible for funding, but may be deferred in the February 25th cycle of applications.

1. **If a district applies for all the schools could just some of them get funded?**

No. An application will be considered in its entirety. We will communicate directly with you if we are unable to fund the entire application.

1. **If we are asking for many programs, should we prioritize what we are asking for?**

No. We will communicate directly with you if we are unable to fund the entire application.

1. **If we already have a quote that includes multiple years, PD etc. do we need the vendor to make a new quote for just 1 year of licenses?**

Yes. You will need to communicate with the vendor to get a 1-year quote. This DESE offering is for 1 year.

1. **If I have 3 different quotes for 3 middle schools already- can I total the 3 to apply from the district or do I need to request a new quote?**

Yes. You may total the 3 quotes.

1. **Is it necessary to have quote from the vendor to submit the initial application?**

No. You may use our website, <https://www.doe.mass.edu/stem/accelerating-math/vendor-details.html>, to estimate the cost of the program for your district. It is not necessary to have formal quote from the vendor for the initial application. If approved, a formal quote from the vendor will be required.

1. **If you apply for funding in more than one category, do you submit a separate application for each or one application with all categories you are interested in getting funding for?**

Please submit only one application. The initial application will include an ability to list all programming you are applying for in one application.

1. **Are private schools eligible for the program?**

MA public districts/schools/charters may apply for this funding. Private schools are not eligible to apply directly. However, because some private schools also serve a population of publicly funded students they may be eligible, see #11 below. Please reach out to AcceleratingMath@mass.gov directly.

1. **Are approved special education (766) schools eligible for this program?**

Yes. 766 approved special education schools that serve publicly funded students may be eligible. Please reach out to AcceleratingMath@mass.gov directly.