

Targeted Assistance Grant (TAG)
FY23 Overview
September 13, 2022



Agenda

1. Eligibility and Requirements
2. Funding and Fund Use
3. Submission
4. Grant Review Process
5. Next Steps
6. Questions and Resources

What to Expect

This grant will look similar to last year, but even more streamlined to simplify the application process for districts.



Which Districts are Eligible for TAG Funding?

- Any district with one or more schools designated as broad/comprehensive or focused/targeted support by the Massachusetts District and School Accountability System in 2021.
- Schools that were eligible in 2021-2022 are eligible this year
- More schools might become eligible based on 2022 accountability data
- Any school eligible in 2021, but not in 2022, will still be considered eligible for 2022-2023 TAG.

Not eligible: school served by the Strategic Transformation Office, charter schools, and virtual schools.



Requirements for Districts Accepting TAG Funding

Districts and schools receiving TAG funds commit to:

- Engaging in DESE's district prioritization and implementation processes
- Engaging in meaningful collaboration with SSoS Regional Team
- Submitting updated district prioritization submissions to DESE
- Taking part in a DESE-sponsored progress monitoring processes

Monitoring and Targeted Site Visits (MSVs and TSVs)

- It is important to note that we have phased out the MSV/TSV process that ran from 2014-2022
- DESE contracts with AIR and SchoolWorks ended on June 30, 2022
- We are developing a new progress monitoring system to align to the Coherence Guidebook, with soft launch in SY22-23, and full implementation in SY 23-24
- More information on this year's progress monitoring expectations will be forthcoming

TAG Funding Sources

TAG is comprised of two funding sources totaling \$3,575,000 (level funded from 2021-2022):

1. Title I School Improvement funding (FC 325): \$2,560,000
 - All federal funds must be expended by **August 31, 2023**
2. State targeted assistance funds (FC 222): \$1,015,000
 - All state funds must be expended by **June 30, 2023***

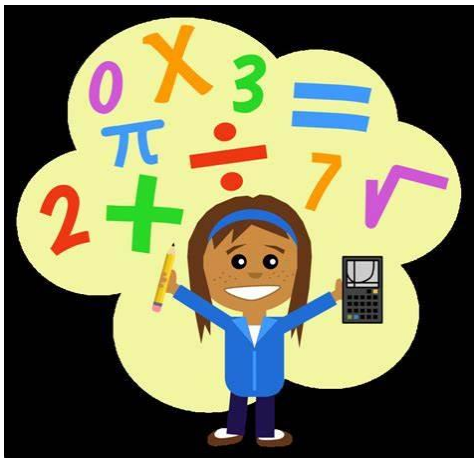
* Districts receiving state funds will have the option to extend the grant to 8/31/23



TAG Fund Use Example

Primary Purpose: to support the implementation of strategies in your district prioritization submission and monitor the progress of its implementation and outcomes

Let's say your school is focusing on strengthening Tier 1 Mathematics instruction



- Stipends/substitutes
- External contractors and PD providers
- Instructional materials, technology, and supplies*

FY23 TAG Fund Use Alignment

- TAG funds should be aligned to each district's [District Prioritization Submission](#)
- Fund use recommendations have been aligned to core agency priorities: [CSDP Coherence Guidebook](#), [HQIM](#), [Mass Literacy](#), and [culturally responsive practices/student agency](#)
- Within those priorities, there are flexibilities in expending TAG funds

TAG Funding Uses

- TAG resources are intended to support district level initiatives that benefit all TAG eligible schools
- TAG Priorities:
 - Promoting a sense of belonging
 - Grade appropriate instruction using high-quality instructional materials
 - Strategic planning and coherence
 - Improving equity and racial equity for students and educators

When is the TAG Application Due?

Application Deadline:
Monday, October 3, 2022

Districts are welcome to submit TAG applications
in EdGrants prior to this deadline

Reminder: District Prioritization submissions are emailed to
SSoS1@mass.gov.

What Gets Submitted in EdGrants?

1. Enter budget directly into EdGrants template

2. Attach the TAG Narrative

3. Attach scanned copy of signed Cover Page

TARGETED ASSISTANCE GRANT: FUNDED ACTIVITIES/STRATEGIES

In the table below please list each activity/strategy TAG funds will support. If necessary, rows may be added to this table.

Activity (ex. Professional development to all elementary teachers to support implementation of new curriculum.)	Connection to District Priority (ex. High Quality Instructional Materials for literacy in elementary schools)	Description: Provide either a brief explanation for how the activity/strategy supports and/or enhances the implementation of the identified district priority (one paragraph maximum per activity) or direct us to the location in the district prioritization submission where the language is located (page or section).	Cost	Specific Schools Supported by this Activity (Ex. All schools, OR X Elementary School, Y Middle School, and Z High School)

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education STANDARD CONTRACT FORM AND APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM GRANTS



PART I - GENERAL

A. APPLICANT District Name: District LEA Code:

Contact Name:

Contact Telephone:

B. APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM FUNDING

Fund Code	Program Name	PROJECT DURATION		Total Allocation (enter total allocation below)
		FROM	TO	
Fund Code 325	Targeted Assistance Grants	Upon Approval	8/31/2023	\$0
Fund Code 222	Targeted Assistance Grants		6/30/2023	\$0
TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED:				\$0

C. I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE; THAT THE APPLICANT AGENCY HAS AUTHORIZED ME, AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE, TO FILE THIS APPLICATION; AND THAT I UNDERSTAND THAT FOR ANY FUNDS RECEIVED THROUGH THIS APPLICATION THE AGENCY AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICATION STATE AND FEDERAL GRANT REQUIREMENTS COVERING BOTH THE PROGRAMMATIC AND FISCAL ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT FUNDS

What Gets Submitted: Narrative

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What Gets Submitted: Signed Cover Sheet

**Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
STANDARD CONTRACT FORM AND APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM GRANTS**



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Grant Review Process

A DESE review team will review all submissions for:

- Alignment to district prioritization submission
- Technical requirements (e.g., budget details; signature pages);
- Focus on identified student groups, where applicable

Next Steps for Districts

1. Consult with your regional SSoS team
2. As you develop your application, make certain it aligns to strategies in your [district prioritization](#) submission
3. Upload application to EdGrants

Questions about TAG?

Substantive questions related to your application

Reach out to your regional SSoS team

Technical questions about completing grant forms:

Contact Michael Seymour michael.j.seymour@mass.gov

Questions about progress monitoring

Contact Erica Champagne Erica.Champagne@mass.gov

Links to resources referenced in this overview

- [Targeted Assistance Grant RFP](#) (includes district allocations, fund use examples, Part III Application/Narrative, and budget workbook with Cover Page)
- SSoS Web Resources
 - [District prioritization guidance](#)
 - [Contacts for SSoS Regional Teams](#)

Thank
you