

# Targeted Assistance Grant (TAG) FY22 Overview

# **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 quite similar to last year. To simplify the application process for schools and districts, DESE is keeping much of the TAG process the same as last year.



# Which Districts are Eligible for TAG Funding?

**Any district with one or more schools identified as in need of assistance or intervention by the Massachusetts Accountability System. This includes schools:**

- in percentiles 1-10;
- identified as underperforming;
- with one or more student groups in percentiles 1-5 relative to other students in the same student group across the state

***Not eligible:*** school served by the Strategic Transformation Office, charter schools, virtual schools, schools receiving SRG funding, and schools identified due to low participation in MCAS only.

# Requirements for Districts Accepting TAG Funding

Districts and schools receiving TAG funds commit to:

- Engaging in DESE's sustainable improvement planning and implementation processes
- Engaging in meaningful collaboration with SSoS Regional Team
- Taking part in a Monitoring Site Visit (MSV) or Targeted Site Visit (TSV)\*
- Submitting an updated sustainable improvement plan to DESE

# Monitoring and Targeted Site Visits (MSVs and TSVs)

SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION	MSV Conducted by AIR	TSV Conducted by AIR or SchoolWorks	Site Visit Flexibility
Receiving SRG funding OR designated as Underperforming	X		Required
All other schools in percentile 1-5		X	Optional
All other schools in percentiles 6-10 opting in		X	Optional
Schools above the 10th percentiles identified due to low performing student groups	NA	NA	NA

- \*MSVs required, TSVs optional in SY21-22
- DESE pays AIR and SchoolWorks directly for MSVs/TSVs
- Stay tuned for changes to MSV/TSV process and scheduling

# TAG Funding Sources

TAG is comprised of two funding sources totaling \$3,575,000:

1. Title I School Improvement funding (FC 325): \$2,560,000
  - All federal funds must be expended by **August 31, 2022**
2. State targeted assistance funds (FC 222): \$1,015,000
  - All state funds must be expended by **June 30, 2022\***

\* Districts receiving state funds will have the option to extend the grant to 8/31/22



# District Grant Allocations

**Each school is funded according to their percentile**

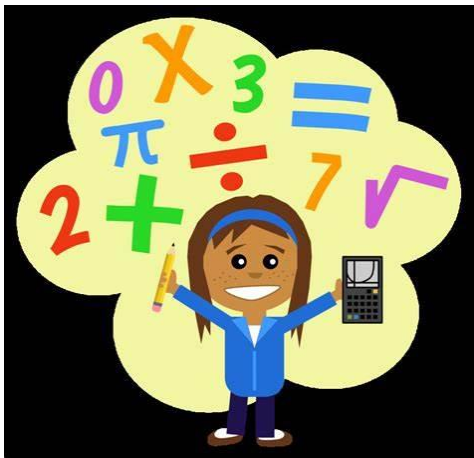
<b>School Percentile/Accountability Classification</b>	<b>Allocation per school</b>
<b>Schools in percentiles 1-5</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>
<b>Schools in percentiles 6-10</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>Student Group Only schools above the 10th percentile</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>



# TAG Fund Use Example

**Primary Purpose:** to support the implementation of strategies in your sustainable improvement plan 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\*

# FY22 TAG Fund Use Aligned to Agency Priorities

- TAG funds should be aligned to each school's [Sustainable Improvement Plan](#)
- Fund use recommendations have been aligned to core agency priorities: [Acceleration Roadmap](#), [Deeper Learning](#), [HQIM](#), [Mass Literacy](#), [MTSS](#), and [culturally responsive practices/student agency](#)
- Within those priorities, there are flexibilities in expending TAG funds

# TAG and Other Funding Sources

- Districts and schools are encouraged to consider how TAG funding can be aligned with new funding sources (COVID stimulus funding, Chapter 70 increases) to support sustainable improvement efforts
- TAG resources are intended to support schools directly

# When is the TAG Application Due?

**Application Deadline:**  
**Friday, October 15, 2021**

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

***Reminder:*** Updated Sustainable Improvement Plans are emailed to  
[SSoS@mass.gov](mailto:SSoS@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

**SUMMARY TABLE**

*Please indicate the district name and the total amount of funds being requested. List each school that will be receiving Targeted Assistance Grant funds, indicate the grades each school serves, and note the TAG grant category. If necessary, rows may be added to this table.*


District	<i>(insert name of district here)</i>		
Total Funds Requested:	5		
School	Grades Served	Grant Category <i>(Implementation or Subgroup-Only Implementation)</i>	

**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.*

District <i>(insert name of district here)</i>					
Activity/Strategy	What page number in the plan is the activity listed?	Description: Provide a brief explanation for how the activity/strategy supports and/or enhances the implementation of the sustainable improvement plan <i>(one paragraph maximum per activity)</i> .	Is this a District Strategy Yes or no?	If not a district strategy, list schools engaged in this activity/strategy?	Activity/strategy Cost?

**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	8/31/2021	\$0
Fund Code 222	Targeted Assistance Grants		6/30/2021	\$0
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED:</b>				<b>\$0</b>

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

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:  TITLE:

TYPED NAME:  DATE:



# What Gets Submitted: Narrative

## SUMMARY TABLE

Please indicate the district name and the total amount of funds being requested. List each school that will be receiving Targeted Assistance Grant funds, indicate the grades each school serves, and note the TAG grant category. If necessary, rows may be added to this table.

District	<i>(insert name of district here)</i>		
Total Funds Requested:	\$		
	School	Grades Served	Grant Category <i>(Implementation or Subgroup-Only Implementation)</i>

# What Gets Submitted: Narrative *(continued)*



District	<i>(insert name of district here)</i>					
Activity/Strategy <sup>1</sup>	What page number(s) in the plan(s) is the activity listed?	Alignment to Acceleration Roadmap	Description: Provide a <b>brief</b> explanation for how the activity/strategy supports and/or enhances the implementation of the sustainable improvement plan ( <b>one paragraph maximum per activity</b> ).	Is this a district strategy (yes or no)?	If not a district strategy, list schools engaged in this activity/strategy <sup>2</sup>	Activity/strategy Cost <sup>3</sup>

# What Gets Submitted: Signed Cover Sheet

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



**PART I - GENERAL**

<b>A. APPLICANT</b>	<b>District Name:</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>District LEA Code:</b> <input type="text"/>
<b>Contact Name:</b>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Contact Telephone:</b>	<input type="text"/>	

<b>B. APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM FUNDING</b>				
Fund Code	Program Name	PROJECT DURATION		Total Allocation (enter total allocation below)
		FROM	TO	
Fund Code 325	Targeted Assistance Grants	Upon Approval	8/31/2021	\$0
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<b>AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:</b>	<b>TITLE:</b>
<b>TYPED NAME:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>



# Grant Review Process

- A DESE review team will review all submissions for:
- Alignment to updated sustainable improvement plans
  - 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 [sustainable improvement plans](#)
  - Aligns to the [Acceleration Roadmap](#)
  - Aligns to other resources like [ESSER](#), [SOA](#), [Title grants](#) etc. when possible
3. Upload application to EdGrants
4. Email updated Sustainable Improvement Plans to [SSoS@mass.gov](mailto:SSoS@mass.gov)

# Questions about TAG?

## **Substantive questions related to your application**

Reach out to your regional SSoS team

## **Technical questions about completing grant forms:**

Contact Abi Slayton [Abigail.T.Slayton@mass.gov](mailto:Abigail.T.Slayton@mass.gov)

## **Questions about MSVs/TSVs**

Contact Erica Champagne [Erica.Champagne@mass.gov](mailto:Erica.Champagne@mass.gov)

## **Questions about School Redesign (SRG) Grants**

Contact Michael Seymour [Michael.J.Seymour@mass.gov](mailto:Michael.J.Seymour@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
  - [Sustainable Improvement Planning and Implementation Guidance](#)
  - [Contacts for SSoS Regional Teams](#)

Thank  
you