



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

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To: Religious and Independent School Administrators

From: David Frank, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Education Policy

Date: June 11, 2024

Office of Religious and Independent School Services (ORISS)
Mathematics, Science & Technology (MST) Teacher Reimbursement Grant

Purpose: The Mathematics, Science & Technology Teachers (MST) Grant provides New York State (NYS) religious and independent schools with reimbursement for teacher salary expenditures related to Mathematics, Science, and Technology.

Governance: The MST program is governed by Section 3037 of Education Law and administered by the New York State Education Department (NYSED)

Eligibility: Institutional Eligibility

1. Religious and independent schools (non-profit or not-for-profit schools only)
2. Currently open/operational (at the time of application)
3. 853 and 4201 schools are not eligible
4. Possession of (or will obtain) a valid Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) Vendor ID
5. New York State Education Department (NYSED) issued Basic Education Data System (BEDS) code
6. BEDS enrollment data for 2023-2024 school year for grades 3-12

Teacher Eligibility

1. An eligible teacher is categorized as one of the following:
 - a. Certified to teach in New York State pursuant to Section 3004 of Education Law;
or
 - b. Holds a master's degree or Ph.D. in one or more of the following subject areas:
 - i. Mathematics
 - ii. Science
 - iii. Technology
 - iv. Education; or
 - c. Holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics, science, technology, or education and is currently enrolled in a master's or Ph.D. program in mathematics, science, technology, or education within five (5) years from the date of April 10, 2019, or the employment start date with the religious or independent school.
2. Teaches mathematics, science, or technology in any grade from three (3) through twelve (12) using curricula that support the New York State learning standards.

3. Does not provide non-secular (religious) instruction in any capacity.
4. Is employed by a religious or independent school during the 2023-24 school year.

Application: Guidance, application and other related information are available at:

<https://www.nysed.gov/nonpublic-schools/mathematics-science-technology-teachers-mst>

Deadline: In accordance with Education Law § 3037(2)(a) ORISS must receive the complete submission and accompanying documents by **August 1, 2024**.

Contact: For all questions regarding the MST Grant, please contact:

MST-ORISS@nysed.gov

Phone:(518) 474-3936

For the purpose of the MST grant, the following definitions will apply:

Non-Secular Instruction

Pursuant to Education Law Section 3037, teachers providing instruction in mathematics, science, or technology and providing non- secular (religious) instruction in any capacity for all or part of the school day are not eligible.

Teacher

An employee of a religious or independent school whose responsibility is to create and instruct students using a research-based curriculum guided by the New York State learning standards in mathematics, science, or technology.

Please note that non-primary, instructional support, and non-classroom educators are not eligible teachers for the MST grant and include:

- Consultant Teachers
- Teacher Aides or Teacher Assistants
- Librarians or Library media specialists
- Speech Language Pathologists
- Physical or Occupational Therapist/Therapist Aids
- Tutors
- Substitute Teachers

Technology Education: Definition

Commissioner’s Regulations Part 100.4 (a)(1) defines technology education as defined as a program of instruction designed to assist all students in meeting state intermediate standards for technology. Technology education uses concepts of science, mathematics, social science, and language arts in a hands-on, systems-based approach to problem solving that guides students in the understanding, design, and development of systems, devices, and products to serve human needs and wants.

NYS Budget Appropriations-MST

Grant Year	Division of Budget Appropriations	Fiscal Year (FY)	School Year (SY)	Application Year	MST Reimbursement Rate
1	\$5M	2017-18	2017-18	2018	06.2%
2	\$15M	2018-19	2018-19	2019	20.6%
3	\$30M	2019-20	2019-20	2020	40.4%
4	\$30M	2020-21	2020-21	2021	33.4%
5	\$40M	2021-22	2021-22	2022	38.3%
6	\$58M	2022-23	2022-23	2023	TBD
7	\$73M	2023-24	2023-24	2024	TBD

Reimbursement Methodology

In accordance with Education Law § 3037(2)(b), reimbursement for eligible teachers shall be the average comparable teacher salary and personal service, per subject area, of public-school teachers in the school district in which such nonpublic schools are located, multiplied by the percentage of full time equivalent secular instructional hours completed in the school day per subject area. Reimbursements shall not be provided for eligible teachers who provide instruction in mathematics, science, or technology, if such teachers also provide non-secular instruction in any capacity.

Per Education Law § 3037(2)(c), in the event that the total reimbursements requested exceed the appropriation available for this program, then each applicant shall only be reimbursed an amount equal to the percentage each such applicant represents to the total of all applications submitted.

Applicants should keep in mind; eligible teacher salaries have historically exceeded their reimbursement rate (last column of the chart above). Employing religious and independent school must support the remaining expenses and should not plan to receive additional reimbursement.

Dataset

NYSED's Information and Reporting Services (IRS) collects and reports annual data on public school districts and schools. For Y7 of the MST grant, the 2023-2024 School Year data will be used for the calculations.