



OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents and Special Education Directors

FROM: Sherri Coats, Program Director, Special Education Services

DATE: June 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Project 619- OKMTSS Implementation

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) provides federal funding for the education of children with disabilities. IDEA allows funds to be allocated for various activities designed to improve results for children with disabilities. Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) is a framework that incorporates evidence-based practices with early intervention for all children.

This letter is to notify districts of a reserved funding project to provide a one-time allocation for the purpose of developing or improving an OKMTSS framework which will be implemented, with fidelity, using evidence-based academic and/or behavior continuum of interventions through tiered support. The Office of Special Education Services has identified MTSS elements to provide supplemental funding for MTSS implementation. The project funding serves to incentivize, through stipends to school personnel, time invested in developing or improving alignment to the essential components for implementing an evidence-based MTSS framework.

The districts selected for this project have been based on proficiency of their IEP subgroup for 4th and 8th, on the ELA and Math State Test in 2025. Schools selected have 0% proficiency for all four assessments. The State has allocated money for this project to be spent with a first-come, first-serve allocation. However, districts should read the memo entirely for limitations and expectations.

The district has the full discretion to determine how to disperse the stipends to MTSS school personnel working to lead the district in this endeavor. However, federal guidance prohibits Superintendents and/or persons acting in a Superintendent capacity of being paid with federal dollars. The application is in the Grants Management System (GMS). The 2026-2027 Allocations will be available July 1, 2026; budgets must be completed by February 28, 2027. All funds need to be claimed by August 1, 2027. These funds will not carry over to the next fiscal year.

Summary of Funded Opportunities:

- **Element 1: Screening: \$5,000.00 Allocated for:**
 - Eligible Purchases:
 - Math Screening K-12
 - Behavior Screening K-12
 - ELA Screening 7-12 (Amira is for K-6)
 - Professional development training from LEA's vendor
 - Add on tools within the screener
 - Eligible Artifacts:
 - Invoices or contracts
 - Professional learning certificates
 - Questions to consider:
 - What will you purchase to address screening deficits?
 - How much funding from the available amount will be requested?
 - How many students will this impact?

- **Element 2: Progress Monitoring: \$5,000.00 Allocated for:**
 - Eligible Purchases:
 - Progress monitoring tools
 - Curriculum-Based Measurement (CBM) tools
 - General outcome tools
 - Screener Add on tools, specific to progress monitoring.
 - Diagnostic assessments
 - Professional development from LEA vendor
 - Eligible Artifacts:
 - Invoices or contracts
 - Professional learning certificates

- Questions to consider:
 - What will you purchase to address progress monitoring deficits?
 - How much funding from the available amount will be requested?
 - How many students will this impact?

- **Element 3: Data-Driven Decisions: \$5,000.00 Allocated for:**
 - Eligible Purchases:
 - Professional development focused on data specific training
 - Coaching for MTSS implementation
 - Stipends for off-contract data meetings
 - Tools for real time data usage reports (surveys, video clicks, etc.)
 - Stipends for OKMTSS Needs Assessment Trainings held regionally in June 2027
 - Book Study Purchases for Data Driven Decisions
 - Eligible Artifacts:
 - Invoices or contracts
 - Professional learning certificates
 - Meeting sign-ins/ Agendas
 - Questions to consider:
 - What will you purchase to address data-driven decision deficits?
 - How much funding from the available amount will be requested?
 - How many students will this impact?

- **Element 4: Multi-Tiered Supports: \$5,000.00 Allocated for:**
 - Eligible Purchases:
 - Professional learning targeted towards instruction and intervention
 - Stipends for supporting interventionists
 - Consultation and coaching
 - Book Study Purchases for MTSS implementation
 - Eligible Artifacts:
 - Invoices or contracts
 - Professional learning certificates
 - Questions to consider:
 - What will you purchase to address multi-tiered support deficits?
 - How much funding from the available amount will be requested?
 - How many students will this impact?

- **Element 5: Infrastructure: \$10,000.00 Allocated for:**
 - Eligible Purchases:
 - Stipends for FTE staff working on MTSS
 - Stipends for instructional coaching
 - Stipends for off-contract meetings
 - Funds for community partner coordination
 - Funds for stakeholder engagement
 - Stipends for attending OKMTSS Summer conference (June 2027) & Winter conference (January 2027)
 - Book Study Purchases for MTSS implementation
 - Eligible Artifacts:
 - Professional certificates
 - Meeting sign-ins/ Agendas Coaching logs
 - Invoices or contracts
 - Questions to consider:
 - What will you purchase to address infrastructure deficits?
 - How much funding from the available amount will be requested?
 - How many students will this impact?

Each element is capped with a limit towards the eligible purchases. Districts will submit a budget request for one element at a time and **must submit a claim** before requesting additional elements. Elements do not need to be budgeted in order. Districts can claim a maximum of \$30,000.00 for eligible purchases. Invoices, contracts, and stipends are intended for unique purchases with the allocated money. For example, a district should **not** purchase \$15,000.00 of testing material submitting the same invoice three times for three categories.

Contact Alexa Hudak, alexa.hudak@sde.ok.gov for questions about any of the above activities.

For finance questions please contact your finance specialist:

- Mitchell Kern: mitchell.kern@sde.ok.gov – 405-521-4857
- Carole Tomlin: carole.tomlin@sde.ok.gov – 405-521-2335
- Janet Felton: janet.felton@sde.ok.gov – 405-522-1578
- Karen Howard: karen.howard@sde.ok.gov – 405-521-358