



**Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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**TO:** Members of the State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.  
**DATE:** January 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** 2019-2020 Identification of “Comprehensive Needs” Schools for the Purpose of Awarding the Quality Teacher Stipends to Certain Teachers and Non-administrative School-Based Employees

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**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this item is to request approval of the identification of “comprehensive needs” schools for the purpose of awarding the Quality Teacher Incentive Grant. Specifically, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is requesting approval to identify Title I schools as “comprehensive needs” schools for the purpose of awarding Quality Teacher Incentive Grants.

**BACKGROUND:**

Education Article §6-306 currently provides for the distribution of stipends to all teachers and other non-administrative school-based employees who hold a certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). The stipend award is differentiated by the type of school that employs the individual. Awardees working in “non-comprehensive needs” schools will receive up to \$1,000 and those employed in a “comprehensive needs” school will receive up to \$4,000. During the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years, the State Board of Education approved the identification of Title I schools as “comprehensive needs” schools for the purpose of awarding the Quality Teacher Incentive Grant.

For the 2019-2020 school year, there are 423 Title I schools, representing all 24 local education agencies. The MSDE estimates<sup>1</sup> that 370 teachers and other non-administrative school-based employees holding a NBPTS certificate are employed in Title I schools and therefore, eligible to receive the \$4,000 stipend.

In an effort to ensure consistency, the MSDE is recommending that Title I schools continue to serve as the “comprehensive needs” schools for the purpose of this grant.

**ACTION:**

Request permission to identify Title I schools as “comprehensive-needs” schools for the purpose of awarding the Quality Teacher Incentive Grant.

Attachment

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<sup>1</sup> Rough estimate based on a five-year average of the number of recipients receiving the comprehensive needs stipend.  
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