

Professional Development Grants

The Eastern Michigan University (EMU) Charter Schools Office offers “Professional Development Grants” to its charter schools. The total value of the grants, as well as the dollar amount available to individual schools, will vary based on charter school enrollment levels and EMU Charter Schools Office budgetary needs.

Professional Development Grants are offered to EMU’s Charter Schools to provide opportunities for improvement for the instructional and administrative staffs and that enhance student learning and student success. The intent is to improve the overall effectiveness of the each charter school by providing professional development opportunities that encourage innovation, stimulate continued professional growth, and enhance the learning and working environment of EMU’s Charter Schools. This will be accomplished by providing ongoing opportunities to improve the knowledge, skills, and well being of all instructional and administrative staff of the Charter Schools.

The Professional Development Grants provide EMU Charter Schools with the opportunity to fund professional development activities for their instructional and administrative staffs.

In determining how to best utilize the Professional Development Grants, the Charters Schools should be mindful of the Michigan Department of Education’s position that “a quality acceptable professional development activity is a planned and purposeful activity that is directly related to one’s teaching assignment and is specifically designed to enhance the practitioner’s capacity to meet and support the learning and developmental needs of all students.”

Typical uses of the Professional Development Grants include:

- Attendance at K-12 education related conferences and seminars
- Training for teachers and other school staff in the use of new education related technologies and/or equipment
- Education related continuing education opportunities
- Tuition and fees for college courses related to teacher certification or other K-12 education programs.
 - Professional Development Grant monies used to pay a staff member’s tuition and fees must be limited to a one half (1/2) match of the tuition and fees paid by the employee for one class in any two semesters per school year.

Professional Development Grants shall not be used for:

- Purchasing equipment or computer software
- Transportation, lodging, or meal costs of any kind
- Funding instructional or administrative staff positions