

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of the State Board of Education Agenda Items
May 15, 2025

OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION

05.C. Action: Award grant to Mississippi School Boards Association to conduct basic and continuing education for local school boards as required by Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-4 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background and Purpose: To prepare and conduct a course of training for basic and continuing education for the local school board members of this state in order for board members to carry out their duties more effectively. The Mississippi School Boards Association shall be responsible for preparing and conducting a course of training for basic education for the local school board members of this state, in order for board members to carry out their duties more effectively and be exposed to new ideas involving school restructuring. The basic course shall be known as the “School Board Member Training Course” and shall consist of at least twelve (12) hours of training.

Scope of Grant:

- Grant Period: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026
(With a liquidation period ending July 12, 2026)
- Award Amount: \$ 62,500.00
- Method of Award: Legislative Mandate

Funding Source: State Funds (§37-3-4. School Executive Management Institute)

This item references Goals 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 of the *Mississippi Board of Education Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

West's Annotated Mississippi Code
Title 37. Education
Chapter 3. State Department of Education

Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-4

§ 37-3-4. School Executive Management Institute

Currentness

(1) There is established within the State Department of Education, the School Executive Management Institute. The director shall be appointed by the State Board of Education upon recommendation by the State Superintendent of Public Education. The State Superintendent of Public Education, with the approval of the State Board of Education, shall assign sufficient staff members from the State Department of Education to the institute.

(2) It shall be the purpose and duty of the institute to conduct thorough empirical studies and analyses of the school management needs of the local school districts throughout the state, to make recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding standards and programs of training that aid in the development of administrative and management skills of local school administrators, and to conduct such programs related to these purposes as they are implemented under guidelines established by the State Board of Education.

(3) The State Board of Education shall develop and implement through the School Executive Management Institute a program for the development of administrative and management skills of local school administrators under which all local school administrators employed by a school district shall be required to participate. Subject to the extent of appropriations available for such purpose, the School Executive Management Institute or the Mississippi School Boards Association shall be required to offer courses at least twice a year on the uses of technology to school district principals, superintendents and other administrative personnel. These courses shall relate to the application of technology to learning, as well as administrative problems.

(4)(a) The institute shall have an advisory board composed of ten (10) qualified members appointed by the State Board of Education after consultation with the State Superintendent of Public Education. This advisory board will offer recommendations to the institute on the types of training to be instituted and supported. The membership of the advisory board shall be composed of the following members, two (2) to be appointed from each congressional district: three (3) school administrators; one (1) representative of public community/junior colleges within the state; one (1) representative of a school of education in an institution of higher learning within the state; two (2) local school board members; one (1) classroom teacher; and two (2) laypersons. In making the initial appointments, three (3) members shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year, three (3) members shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years, two (2) members shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years, and two (2) members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years. The advisory board shall meet when called by the director, but in no event fewer than three (3) times per year. The members of the advisory board shall be compensated at the per diem rate authorized by [Section 25-3-69](#) and reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses as authorized by [Section 25-3-41](#).

(b) Board members of the Oxford-Lafayette Business and Industrial Complex shall be paid per diem and reimbursed for expenses and mileage from local funds in accordance with [Section 37-6-13](#).

(5)(a) Basic Education Course. The Mississippi School Boards Association shall be responsible for preparing and conducting a course of training for basic education for the local school board members of this state, in order for board members to carry out their duties more effectively and be exposed to new ideas involving school restructuring. The basic course shall be known as the “School Board Member Training Course” and shall consist of at least twelve (12) hours of training. The Mississippi School Boards Association shall issue certificates of completion to those school board members who complete the basic education course.

(b) Continuing Education Course. The Mississippi School Boards Association shall be responsible for preparing and conducting a course of training for continuing education for the local school board members of this state, in order for board members to carry out their duties more effectively and be exposed to new ideas involving school restructuring. The continuing education course shall be known as the “Continuing Education Course for School Board Members” and shall consist of at least six (6) hours of training.

(c) Additional Required Training. Effective July 1, 2009, local school board members and the local superintendent that serve in a district with one or more failing schools as determined by the Mississippi Board of Education accountability system as provided for in [Section 37-17-6](#), or serving in a school district that has a serious financial condition as determined by the State Auditor as provided for in [Section 37-9-18](#), shall annually attend additional training provided by the Mississippi School Boards Association.

The Mississippi School Boards Association shall, subject to appropriation, develop and conduct training specific to the local boards' role in improving learning outcomes and effective financial management. Such training shall be known as “Improving Student Outcomes and Academic Success” which shall consist of not less than six (6) hours of training and “Effective Financial Management In Local School Districts” which shall consist of not less than six (6) hours of training. Any local board members and the local superintendent that serve in a school district that meets the criteria for both of the training modules shall annually attend both training sessions for a total of not less than twelve (12) hours of training. At such time the school district is determined to no longer have failing schools; or no longer has a serious financial condition, such board member and the local superintendent shall no longer be required to attend the training as provided herein. The training as required under subsection (c) shall not replace, but is in addition to, the training required for new school board members and continuing board members as required under [Section 37-7-306](#).

The Mississippi School Boards Association shall issue certificates of completion to those school board members who complete the continuing education course. All costs and expenses for preparing and conducting the basic education course and the continuing education course provided for in this paragraph shall be paid out of any funds which are made available to the Mississippi School Boards Association upon authorization and appropriation by the Legislature to the State Department of Education.

(6) The Mississippi School Boards Association shall prepare and submit a report each year to the State Board of Education and to the respective Chairs of the House and Senate Education Committees describing the activities and providing an evaluation of the continuing education programs offered by the association each year.

(7) The School Executive Management Institute of the State Department of Education, or the Mississippi School Boards Association with the oversight of the State Board of Education, at least twice a year, shall prepare and conduct required courses of training for continuing education for the elementary and secondary school principals employed by the school districts of this state, in order for those principals to carry out their duties more effectively and be exposed to new ideas involving school management. The continuing education course shall be known as the “Continuing Education Course for Principals” and shall consist of at least six (6) hours of training. The content of the continuing education courses and the time and place such courses

are to be conducted shall be determined by the School Executive Management Institute or the Mississippi School Boards Association; however, to the extent practicable, such training sessions shall be held within geographical proximity of local districts in order that travel times and costs shall not be prohibitive.

The institute shall issue certificates of completion to those principals who complete such courses. All costs and expenses for preparing and conducting the basic and continuing education courses provided for in this subsection shall be paid out of any funds which are made available to the institute upon authorization and appropriation by the Legislature.

(8) School district principals and other administrators with career level certifications at schools meeting the highest levels of accreditation standards, as defined by the State Board of Education, are exempt from the requirements of this section, subject to approval of the local school district superintendent.

Credits

Laws 1982, 1st Ex. Sess., Ch. 17, § 11; [Laws 1991, Ch. 502, § 10](#); [Laws 1992, Ch. 519, § 3](#); [Laws 1998, Ch. 564, § 1, eff. July 13, 1998](#). Amended by [Laws 2002, Ch. 611, § 4, eff. July 1, 2002](#); [Laws 2006, Ch. 334, § 1, eff. July 1, 2006](#); [Laws 2006, Ch. 335, § 1, eff. July 1, 2006](#); [Laws 2006, Ch. 417, § 4, eff. July 1, 2006](#); [Laws 2008, Ch. 338, § 1, eff. July 1, 2008](#). Reenacted by [Laws 2009, Ch. 345, § 3, eff. June 30, 2009](#). Amended by [Laws 2009, Ch. 516, § 5, eff. from and after passage \(approved April 8, 2009\)](#). Reenacted and amended by [Laws 2009, Ch. 445, § 3, eff. July 1, 2009](#). Amended by [Laws 2013, Ch. 497 \(H.B. No. 369\), § 40, eff. July 1, 2013](#).

Editors' Notes

REPEALER AND REENACTMENT

<This section was amended by [Laws 2006, Ch. 417, § 4](#). Section 15 of [Laws 2006, Ch. 417](#) provides: “This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2006, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2009.” However, [Laws 2009, Ch. 445](#) amended and reenacted this section, effective July 1, 2009, [Laws 2009, Ch. 345 reenacted this section, effective, pursuant to § 38](#) of that legislation, on June 30, 2009, and [Laws 2009, Ch. 516, § 5](#) amended this section effective from and after passage (approved April 8, 2009). (For resolution of the multiple legislative actions affecting this section in 2009, see note, post).>

Notes of Decisions (4)

Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-4, MS ST § 37-3-4

The Statutes and Constitution are current with laws from the 2025 Regular Session effective through March 25, 2025. Some statute sections may be more current, see credits for details. The statutes are subject to changes provided by the Joint Legislative Committee on Compilation, Revision and Publication of Legislation.